



# THE APPLETON SCHOOL

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Dear Parents/Guardians,

You will be aware that when I wrote to you last week I informed you that there was going to be a consultation on this summer's examination grades for GCSE & Advanced Level qualifications. The consultation is now open and will close on 29<sup>th</sup> January. The consultation link can be found here:

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/953000/6743-1\\_GCSE\\_AS\\_and\\_A\\_level\\_grades\\_should\\_be\\_awarded\\_in\\_summer\\_2021.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/953000/6743-1_GCSE_AS_and_A_level_grades_should_be_awarded_in_summer_2021.pdf)

The proposal is not the same as last year when in the end students were given grades based on teacher assessment of where staff thought students would be if they had set the examination; instead the proposal is that students take assessments in all subjects and these assessments alongside teacher marked tasks form their grades. This year they are not asking teachers to predict grades but give the grades which students have received in either the board set examinations or internal school examinations. These grades would be submitted by mid-June and students would receive their results by the end of July. A higher weighting is being proposed for any evidence from later in a student's course e.g. from now until the summer as opposed to tests taken earlier in the course. There is an appeals process.

I would encourage as many of you as possible to respond to this consultation. There are however 70 questions. My personal belief is that teacher assessments would be a better way to assess students and I have replied to this effect to the consultation. I have attached my answers should you wish to use these for your own response, however please could I draw your attention to Question 10 where the following wording from the line underneath "Strongly disagree" is missing and reads; "I do not believe students should be taking these exams". Please be aware that you should only use my responses if you agree with them. I have also attached the response to enable you to see the range of questions being asked. You can reply to the consultation using the link above and scrolling down to reply to the consultation.

Please can I encourage you to reply to this consultation.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs K Kerridge  
Headteacher

