



THE LONDON NAUTICAL SCHOOL
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Thursday 7th January 2021

Dear Parent/Carers,

I appreciate the announcement earlier this week that both GCSE and A level exams will be cancelled will have caused a huge amount of anxiety and left you with many unanswered questions. On Wednesday 6th January, Gavin Williamson the Secretary of State for Education, outlined the following:

- Students will not sit GCSE, AS and A level exams this summer
- A consultation will be launched next week and conclude swiftly to give certainty to schools, colleges and students
- Teacher Assessed Grades to be considered as a replacement
- Teachers will be given training and support to ensure these marks are awarded fairly and consistently

Although this announcement does not provide specific details around how the final grades will be determined, it does mean that your son / daughter has some certainty that they will not have to sit final exams having missed so much schooling over the course of the last year. I will of course write to you once the DFE provides further updates on GCSE, AS Level, A Level and all vocational qualifications.

I have written a separate letter to the students themselves to provide reassurance that all of their hard work and efforts will be recognised and the work that they are currently doing will count as evidence in some way. We will do all that we can to support your son / daughter achieve the grade that they deserve and which allows them to continue onto their preferred next destination. For our current Year 11, I hope that will be here at LNS sixth where they will have access to a range of academic and vocational courses.

Public Examinations Scheduled for the January Examination Series

Earlier this week Miss James sent a letter to all families outlining that all of the public exams over the coming weeks will run as scheduled. Later on that evening the DFE issued the following statement to all Headteachers:

'In light of the evolving public health measures, schools and colleges can continue with the vocational and technical exams that are due to take place in January, where they judge it right to do so'

Having considered this carefully we feel that we are able to go ahead with the examinations, having put in place a number of measures that attempt to make the environment as COVID secure as possible. I appreciate that your son/daughter will have been working incredibly hard preparing for these exams and we feel that we should offer students the opportunity to sit these exams at school.

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It must be added that I fully appreciate that many of you, as parents, will not want your son / daughter to come into school to sit these exams. If you and your son / daughter make the decision not to sit the examination please be reassured that this will not impact on their final result and the DFE has made it clear that non-attendance will not disadvantage candidates.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M Schofield', written in a cursive style.

Mr. M Schofield

Headteacher