



# Radyr Comprehensive School

**Ysgol Gyfun Radur**

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23<sup>rd</sup> March 2020

Dear Parent/Carer,

## **Re: GCSE and A Level Qualifications**

Thank you for your continuing support, patience and understanding at this time of unprecedented challenges. On behalf of all staff at Radyr we sincerely hope that you and your families are able to remain safe and well and that your children are able to access the learning resources which we have worked to provide. Please be assured that we will continue to support, from a distance, the learning of young people throughout the current crisis.

With regard to GCSE and A Level Qualifications, I have recently received correspondence from Qualifications Wales outlining how outcomes for students will be awarded this summer. Below you will find links outlining initial plans for issuing qualifications the WJEC and Pearson Qualifications.

- <https://www.wjec.co.uk/about-us/latest-news/issuing-grades-for-qualifications-summer-2020>
- <https://qualifications.pearson.com/content/demo/en/about-us/qualification-brands/btec/btec-information-hub.news.html?article=%2Fcontent%2Fdemo%2Fen%2Fnews-policy%2Fqualifications%2Fgeneral-news%2Fbtec-assessment-update>

At the moment, we are still assessing the implications of these announcement and awaiting further guidance as to how, when and in what format we provide examination boards with the information they need to be able to award final grades. Please be assured that *all* available evidence will be taken into consideration when we provide 'teacher assessed grades'.

Please also appreciate that the examination board, not the school, decides and awards final grades. Any information we provide to the examination boards will form part of a much wider national statistical exercise and with regard to the WJEC, monitored by Qualifications Wales. At the current moment in time we know no more than is contained in the Qualifications Wales statement and will update you as soon as we become aware of any further developments.

We are getting a lot of emails from pupils and parents asking if the work they complete at home will count towards their final grade, and asking if each individual piece of work they complete should be sent to their teachers. At the moment we do not know how final grades will be awarded, so I am afraid I am unable to answer this. Until we have been provided with a clearer steer, please tell your child to continue completing work sent to them, but do not send it to teachers for checking/marking as of yet. Of course, if your child has questions about how to

complete an individual piece of work, or does not understand something, then they should email their teachers for clarification.

Please also be aware that we are still awaiting further clarity regarding what will happen with Years 10 and 12. The announcement from the WJEC states that year 10 pupils cashing in will receive a qualification grade, and the only subject that cashes in at the end of year 10 at Radyr is English Literature. Therefore, both year 10 and year 12 students should continue to complete the work they were sent last Friday. For English Literature, pupils should continue to complete extract question work, as these skills are transferrable to English Language, which will be sat at the end of year 11. More skills based work will be sent to year 10 by the end of the week.

I appreciate that this continues to be a time of worry and uncertainty for everybody. There is no road map for the terrain we are currently negotiating and we will not get everything right. I am grateful for your patience and understanding thus far and all of us here at Radyr have been touched by the many messages of support and encouragement we have received from parents and other members of the local community. On behalf of all of us at the school, I wish you and your family well.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A D Williams', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Mr A D Williams  
Headteacher