

This is further information for some of the points on my letter to all year 11 students and parents.
The numbering match the numbering in the letter

1. Additionally, to grades being estimated, a rank ordering of students within each grade will be formulated to indicate to the exam board those whom we are most confident to those who we are least confident of achieving our estimated grade. I would like to reassure students and parents that we will be extremely meticulous in this process.

We will use a range of information including mock exams, class based assessments and teacher views on class work and any recent improvement in order to formulate this list. If a student has missed the second mock exam then this will not significantly disadvantage them, where they have sat the second mock exam we will treat this information very carefully and only use it where it indicated a significant recent improvement in attainment. Please be aware that the DfE has made it clear that we are not allowed to share these grades or the rank ordering until at least the time that grades have been awarded.

2. When we have uploaded our estimated grades and rank order the exam boards will scale the grades recommended by schools based on various factors including historical typical attainment and progress achieved by schools.

We are confident that at Highgate Wood School we are in a good position with the awarding of grades. Our predictions are generally very accurate even when we don't go through quite the level of thoroughness that will be required this time. Also, we have a long history of our students performing well above national average and we believe this will put our students in a very good position with the awarding of grades.

3. Year 10 students who were to be sitting exams (such as community languages) will have to sit them next year. I understand that students and parents will be anxious about what grade they will be awarded by the school and the exam board but in some ways this is true every year and I would advise students and parents to avoid trying to estimate their own grades.

If students and parents do decide to formulate their own view of what grade they are most likely to receive then the January predicted grades are the best starting point, albeit imprecise. We are likely to predict at least in line with the January predictions and many grades will be estimated that exceed these because many students have increased their efforts since these exams and this will be taken into account. We are very unlikely to recommend grades below those of the January mocks unless a student has decreased their efforts in a particular subject.

Please treat this information with the greatest of caution and only use it as a reassurance to reduce worry rather than a guarantee or a cause of concern in itself if you were disappointed by your January predictions. I reemphasise that if you have improved your efforts in some or all subjects you have a good chance of achieving above or even well above those predicted grades.