

NC/VM

3 April 2020

Dear Parent/Carer/Student

We have now been informed by the Department for Education (DfE) and The Office of Qualifications and Examinations Regulation (**Ofqual**) of the procedure to be used to determine the grades to be awarded to students this year for GCSE, AS and A level qualifications, further guidance will be issued relating to vocational technical qualifications later. A letter from OFQUAL relating to GCSE, AS and A levels including Extended Project Qualifications is included to outline this process.

More detailed guidance from OFQUAL is provided for Heads of Centre (Principals) at each UTC to ensure a rigorous, objective and fair process is in place, using a range of evidence, to support all our students in achieving the grades they deserve. We will be putting in place a secure multi-level moderation process involving sign off by teachers, Curriculum Directors, Senior Leaders and Heads of Centre before submitting grades and rank orders of students to the examination boards. It is expected that this data will be submitted to examination boards no earlier than 29 May 2020.

Can I assure you in my role as Chief Executive Officer and Executive Principal, I will be working closely with each UTC Principal to ensure consistency of good practice to ensure all students are awarded the grades they fully deserve. It has been made clear to all schools and colleges that they cannot communicate with parents or students about the grades being awarded or the ranking of students within subjects. This has to remain confidential to ensure Centres must not, under any circumstances, share the centre assessment grades nor the rank order of students with students, or their parents/carers or any other individuals outside the centre, before final results have been issued. This is to protect the integrity of teachers' judgements, and to avoid teachers, heads of department, senior leaders or Heads of Centre being put under pressure by students and parents, to submit a grade that is not supported by the evidence.

Yours faithfully



Nick Crew
Chief Executive/Executive Principal

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