



Diocese of St. Albans



ST MARY'S
CE HIGH SCHOOL

7th December 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

Important information for parents/carers of students in Y11, Y12 and Y13 taking public exams in 2021

At the end of last week the government shared with us some important changes to exams for 2021 that will affect your child in Y11, Y12 or Y13 if he/she is taking public exams.

These measures are designed to reduce unfairness in awarding grades at a time when all schools were fully closed for three months in the last academic year, and many schools have had to send students home because they had been close to someone who tested positive for Covid-19.

I want to be **really clear** to you and your child, these measures **will not allow students to reduce their work rate** over the rest of the year. Because the measures will be applied **nationally** all children will benefit to the same extent, and a **lack of effort will still be shown in lower grades**. What these measures ensure is that the class of 2021 are not discriminated against in relation to children in previous years, and in future years.

The Government have issued advice to all parents/carers here: [ADVICE](#) with a Q&A document here: [Q&A](#). Please take some time to read this over the coming days.

Yours faithfully

Nicholas Simms
Headteacher

WE BELIEVE EVERYONE IS EQUAL: EVERYONE DESERVES THE BEST

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'Students feel happy and safe at school' OFSTED 2019
'An exceptionally inclusive and caring community' SIAMS Inspection 2020

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