



St. Malachy's College

36 Antrim Road, Belfast BT15 2AE



22 April 2020

Dear Year 14 Pupils and Parents,

We understand that, as pupils and parents, this continues to be an uncertain and challenging time for you all. You will have received correspondence from Mrs Stewart at the end of last week, regarding the awarding of A2 grades this summer. Hopefully, you have had the time to read carefully through the guidance that Mrs Stewart attached from CCEA, along with the message from the CCEA Chief Executive. If you have not had the opportunity to read these documents, we would strongly advise you to peruse the detail and ensure you are clear about the content.

As per the guidance from CCEA:

For A level, we anticipate that a calculated grade, which uses statistical predictions based on previous student performance combined with centre assessed grades and centre rank orders, will provide a reliable grade outcome.

The most important thing to remember is that the process that is being used is designed to ensure that each pupil is treated fairly and is not disadvantaged by the current situation. Please be assured that the College staff will carry out their responsibilities professionally, meticulously and compassionately for each of our pupils. Teachers already have all the information necessary, so there is no requirement for you to contact individual teachers of the school regarding this process.

CCEA also stated:

Students will not be required to take A level examinations through an additional sitting, such as an autumn series. If they wish, they may sit examinations as part of the Summer 2021 examination timetable.

Therefore, in the event of pupils not being happy with the outcome, the opportunity to sit the examination will be in the summer of 2021. This is one reason why it is so important for pupils to complete A level courses using the materials that have been provided by their teachers via Google Classroom.

Exam time this year will be a totally different experience, but we realise it also comes with a different form of anxiety and stress for many of you, as pupils and parents. Information has been communicated via the College website and Parent App, regarding the Safer Schools App. This includes invaluable information and support during these times when children and people can be at home for extended periods and are perhaps experiencing anxiety about the ongoing situation.

CCEA have also stated that they are working hard to ensure results are published on the 13th August, but will confirm this as soon as they can. We will communicate details about procedures for the collection of A2 results, as the situation evolves.

Please be assured that you continue to be in our thoughts and prayers. Keep yourselves busy, with a good balance of positive mental stimulus and physical activity. Most importantly, keep safe and look after your loved ones!

Yours sincerely

Mrs S Rayot
Head of School KS5