

Ref: LFATQ-ParentCarer-Let0550 (SO)  
Date: 17/03/2021



Ashby Road  
Tamworth  
Staffordshire B79 8AH

01827 301820  
post@lfatq.org.uk  
lfatq.org.uk

Dear Parent/Carer

## Trial Examinations

As you will be aware the examinations for 2021 were cancelled in January following a government announcement. With this in mind we would like to explain our approach to calculating and awarding grades for your son/daughter this year. We have produced a short video to explain the process which can be found on our website and social media channels.

Upon return after the Easter break all students will sit a suite of trial examinations for GCSE and A Level courses based on the specification content that has been taught. These will be held between Monday 12 April – Friday 23 April in the theatre (A level)/sports hall (GCSE) and full timetables will be issued to students. The outcomes of these assessments will give us crucial evidence to support the grading of your son/daughter. It is important to add that these will not form the only evidence used by staff and your son/daughter's grade will not be decided solely on the outcomes of these assessments. For Level 2/3 BTEC qualifications some subjects may choose to offer additional assessments as many have already completed the examination units. These will be indicated on the timetables along with the specific unit. All examination access arrangements will be followed allowing your son/daughter to perform to the best of their ability.

Students will then have further opportunity to demonstrate their knowledge and skill during a second assessment window (Tuesday 4 May – Friday 14 May) where we will provide further assessment opportunity using the exam board mini assessments. These will be conducted in class and therefore we will not issue any timetables for these assessments.

It is vital that your son/daughter prepares for these trial examinations as though they were the real summer exams in order to prove the grade and standard they are currently performing along with providing us strong evidence to support the grades awarded.

Further information can be found via the link <https://dfemedia.blog.gov.uk/2021/02/25/what-you-need-to-know-about-grades-in-2021/> as well as the Ofqual website.

Below are some useful links as well as summary graphic

A level/GCSE grading -

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/964613/Infographic\\_-\\_how GCSEs AS and A levels will be awarded in summer 2021.pdf?utm\\_source=Heads+of+6th&utm\\_campaign=cf8e692dc8-22+February+issue+-+heads+of+6th\\_COPY\\_01&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_term=0\\_36c44588b4-cf8e692dc8-116064609&mc\\_cid=cf8e692dc8&mc\\_eid=1e730e0597](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/964613/Infographic_-_how_GCSEs_AS_and_A_levels_will_be_awarded_in_summer_2021.pdf?utm_source=Heads+of+6th&utm_campaign=cf8e692dc8-22+February+issue+-+heads+of+6th_COPY_01&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_36c44588b4-cf8e692dc8-116064609&mc_cid=cf8e692dc8&mc_eid=1e730e0597)

Cont.../



Landau Forte Charitable Trust  
A company limited by guarantee  
Registered in England No. 2387916

Registered Office:  
Landau Forte College  
Fox Street  
Derby  
DE1 2LF

An exempt charity

BTEC/VTQ grading

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/964614/Infographic\\_-\\_how\\_vocational\\_and\\_technical\\_qualifications\\_will\\_be\\_awarded\\_in\\_2021.pdf?utm\\_source=Heads+of+6t+h&utm\\_campaign=cf8e692dc8-22+February+issue+-+heads+of+6th\\_COPY\\_01&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_term=0\\_36c44588b4-cf8e692dc8-116064609&mc\\_cid=cf8e692dc8&mc\\_eid=1e730e0597](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/964614/Infographic_-_how_vocational_and_technical_qualifications_will_be_awarded_in_2021.pdf?utm_source=Heads+of+6t+h&utm_campaign=cf8e692dc8-22+February+issue+-+heads+of+6th_COPY_01&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_36c44588b4-cf8e692dc8-116064609&mc_cid=cf8e692dc8&mc_eid=1e730e0597)

Working out your grade	Evidence	Results and appeals
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Graded by teacher judgement</li> <li>Not graded by an algorithm</li> <li>School and college assessments can continue</li> <li>You'll only be assessed on what you've been taught</li> <li>Your teacher will tell you what evidence is used to grade you</li> <li>Private candidates to work with a school, college or exam centre to provide evidence for them to be graded</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mocks, tests and work already done can be used as evidence</li> <li>Non-exam assessment should continue</li> <li>Non-exam assessments can be used as evidence even if incomplete</li> <li>Art &amp; design grade based only on your portfolio</li> <li>Teachers can use question banks provided by exam boards if they want to</li> <li>Results will be based on completed and future work, so keep doing your best</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Results days</b> AS and A level 10 August GCSE 12 August</li> <li>If you're unhappy with your grade, you can appeal it. First step is to submit an appeal to your school or college.</li> <li>You can find out more details from your school, college or exam board, or by visiting the Ofqual website</li> <li><a href="http://www.gov.uk/ofqual">www.gov.uk/ofqual</a></li> </ul>
<p><b>Qualifications most similar to GCSEs and A levels</b></p> <p>e.g. BTECs and OCR Cambridge Technicals</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Taken only in schools or colleges</li> <li>Do not assess occupational skills</li> </ul>	<p><b>Qualifications not similar to GCSEs or A levels</b></p> <p>e.g. Functional skills and ESOL Skills for Life</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Taken in schools, colleges or other places</li> <li>Do not assess occupational skills</li> </ul>	<p><b>Qualifications with occupational skills or proficiency assessments</b></p> <p>e.g. construction, plumbing and electrical qualifications</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Taken in schools, colleges or other places</li> <li>Assess occupational skills</li> </ul>
<p><b>Your results</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Graded by teacher or lecturer judgement</li> <li>Various sources of evidence used</li> <li>Results no later than for GCSEs and A levels</li> </ul>	<p><b>Your results</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Assessments should continue where possible</li> <li>May be awarded using other evidence or judgements</li> <li>Awarding organisations decide the evidence needed</li> </ul>	<p><b>Your results</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Assessments can continue as normal where possible</li> <li>Assessments may be delayed</li> <li>Assessments can be adapted if needed</li> </ul>

We will of course be in further communication when more information is released by the DFE, this will include a leaving date for Year 11 and Year 13.

In the meantime we wish your son/daughter every success in their upcoming trial examinations. Should you require any further information please contact [exams@lfatq.org.uk](mailto:exams@lfatq.org.uk) where one of the team will be happy to support.

Yours sincerely

*amhhl.*

**Mr A Murdoch**  
**Interim Vice Principal (Assessment & Examinations)**