



19th April 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

**Re: Additional INSET Day 30th April 2021**

As you will know, formal GCSE and A Level examinations have been cancelled this summer. Instead, students will receive grades based upon evidence that they have produced during their courses.

The examination boards have now published a rigorous set of standards that schools must meet during the evidence gathering process and, as such, there is a great deal of work involved for staff to ensure that these standards are met so that the students receive the grades that they deserve. As such, the Trust Board have granted our secondary academies an additional INSET day on Friday 30th April to enable these complex and time consuming processes to take place. Time during the day will be used for the following purposes:

- To allow meetings between departments across the Trust to review the assessment evidence being collected for each qualification and to review the grades in the data capture for a sample of students based on the evidence collected. This review will allow subject leaders to ensure that interpretation of the grade descriptors is being made in similar ways at each academy across the Trust.
- To make sure that any training determined to be necessary by the awarding bodies can take place.
- To confirm the final assessments, determine how they will be marked and what the boundaries might be.
- An opportunity to review summary information from the most recent data capture.

We are aware that our students have already spent a significant amount of time away from school during the past year and we apologise that we are asking them to have an additional day at home. Unfortunately, information regarding the awarding of grades to students has only recently been released so this additional time is essential for us to ensure that it is done in a robust and fair manner. To minimise the impact on our students, teachers will set remote learning on 30th April in the usual way.

Many thanks for your ongoing support. Please do not hesitate to contact the academy if you have any questions or queries.

Yours faithfully

Paul Cooper  
Executive Principal Secondary

