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**KING EDWARD VI SCHOOL**  
SOUTHAMPTON

Dear Parents,

The internal summer exam results for your son or daughter have now been published and are available to view on the KES Parent Portal, accessible [here](#). Please note, however, that it is important to view these through the unique lens that pupils have found themselves in over the last year. Some pupils may have received quite varied results from one subject to another, while others may be initially concerned by their grades. We recognise and would stress to you and the pupils, however, that the end of year exams this year are far from normal. Some pupils struggled more than others with the periods of remote learning, and some subjects have had to move content in their courses where this has been necessary due to school lockdowns. Further, the exams themselves had to be brought forward a few weeks due to the changing demands and expectations on the school to deliver public examination results for the Fifth Year and Upper Sixth.

Despite the additional challenges faced, it was important that we ran examinations - primarily to ensure that subjects had a clear picture of where additional support and catch-up might be required next year. Whilst we are hopeful that 'normal' GCSE and A Level examinations will take place next Summer, if we do find ourselves in a position of having to assign teacher assessed grades, as per this year, I can assure you that subject staff will be collecting evidence throughout the coming year that positively supports genuine likely final outcomes, and will not be basing decisions on one internal exam.

Fourth Year and Lower Sixth pupils have also been assigned, as per usual, an end of half-term progress grade. These are not based purely on the exam sat at the end of last half-term, but reflect progress from all aspects of learning this Half Term. These progress grades, published every half-term, give a very useful indicator of likely direction of travel. In addition, Lower Sixth students will have recently received their UCAS grades which offer a view of potential outcomes based on a favourable interpretation of the evidence we have and an allowance for continued development and progress.

We are looking forward to a less interrupted year of schooling in 2021/22, and are confident that our pupils will have every opportunity to work successfully towards the grades that reflect their true potential. We will continue to monitor individual pupil progress and will contact parents directly where we have significant concerns.

Finally, I wish all the pupils a restful summer after what has been a significantly challenging year, and I wish them every success as they approach the final year of their GCSE and A Level courses.

Yours sincerely,

Dr Waymark  
Deputy Head (Academic)

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