

23rd March 2020

## Covid-19 (Coronavirus) Update – Working on your behalf!

As you now know Gavin Williamson MP, Secretary of State for Education, announced on the 18<sup>th</sup> March 2020 that whilst exam paper sittings will not take place this summer, the DfE are ensuring that all candidates will receive a grade this August.

Awarding Bodies would like to make it clear that: “Ofqual and the Awarding Bodies are working tirelessly to ensure that grading is rolled out robustly and fairly **[as are we]**. More information will be available this week with exact details on how things will move forward for Home Educated and Private Candidates.”

Three solutions were put to a Pearsonplc representative in order to facilitate the grading of as many Home Educated and Private candidates as possible. Whilst we won’t divulge these solutions just yet; please rest assured things are at the very highest level. The representative will now approach their board and then go to the joint awarding body consultation group.

Please continue to follow our advice:

### **JCQ Candidates (GCSE’s, A Level’s, Pearson iGCSE’s)**

Awarded Grades by using the following evidence:

- Previous attainments – for same subject
- Previous attainments – for other subjects
- Ongoing assessments for your subject
- ANY mocks or practice questions answered for your subject tutor letters (headed and signed) detailing how you have progressed and how you have performed in your assignments
- Any assignments that you have tasked yourself, even if they are not marked.

If you do not have all this evidence or cannot obtain it, then we still may be able to assist you. We are in the process of contacting all our Tutors who may be able to work with you to obtain this (there will be a charge for this, payable directly to a preferred partner Tutor).



If you don't want to use your current predicted grade or work with a Tutor, then

Deferment:

We will defer your entry (at no charge to the next available season). It is possible and has been indicated that it could be as early as September/October of 2020.

However, at the moment the seasons are as follows:

October/November 2020 – CAIE (most subjects)

November 2020 – GCSE English and Maths (normally only open to over 16 years old, however, age limits for November 2020 may be relaxed)

January 2021 – Pearson iGCSE's English, Maths, Science and Economics.

Summer 2021 – All subjects, all Awarding Bodies

**If you wish to make the decision to defer now, please let us know by 7<sup>th</sup> April 2020.**

#### **CAIE Candidates**

CAIE (Cambridge Assessment International Education) have confirmed that where UK centres are closed, exams will not take place. CAIE are currently engaged with the UK Government about grading.

We are extending deferment to CAIE learners.

#### **[DfE Guidance](#)**

Thank you for your understanding during these unprecedented times.

Chris

Chief Executive