

FAO All boys in V Book and VI Book 1

Firstly, your dons and I congratulate you on dealing so calmly with Mocks I over the course of the last week. We all appreciate that this has been a challenging experience, whether at Winchester or within the remote proctoring set-up, and the exams team have commented on the level of courtesy and consideration shown by boys.

You will return up-to-books tomorrow morning and will start to receive feedback from your dons on your completed papers. It is useful to lay out what you can expect from your dons and how you should respond to it:

- Each department will have a standard approach to the marking of papers and Heads of Department have been working hard to ensure consistency.
- Your dons and Heads of Department have worked hard to turn around these papers very quickly – those subjects whose papers were completed on Saturday and Monday may not be available for immediate feedback – suitable moderation needs to take place.
- Most subjects, but not all, will provide marks alongside feedback. Grades and grade boundaries will not be provided – please do not ask your dons for them. Some departments will return scripts in electronic format, others in hard copy. All departments will be letting you see their scripts so that feedback can be most effective.
- Concerns/questions/queries WRT marking - errors can happen and, given the rapid timeframe for the turnaround of papers, there may be isolated examples. If you feel that you have identified an error please highlight it to your don. Where it is obvious then your don will pass the information back to the Head of Department so that it can be remedied. If it is not clear then it will need to be reviewed by the Head of Department.
- Respond positively to the feedback – take on board what your dons are saying and look to improve over the Easter break. Many of you have performed strongly, for others there is work to do and you should think carefully as to how this is best approached.

What should your approach be over Easter and into next term?

The picture is starting to become clearer from the exam boards as to what will, and what will not be acceptable evidence, for the generation of TAGs but we will not have formal guidance on how evidence should be combined into a portfolio until the end of this month.

The school will then publish its overall approach (alongside a summary of how each department will approach the generation of TAGs) but our view has not changed and we will look to be as supportive as possible in our TAG assignments. Dons and Heads of Department will not be in a position to engage with boys on the detail of what constitutes acceptable evidence at this stage so please do not ask them to comment on this. All of the information that we currently hold from the boards is attached.

What can I expect from my dons so that I can prepare for Mocks II?

Mocks II will be taking place during the window from 4th May-15th May.

To aid boys in helping to prepare for Mocks II, all departments will be laying out the material that will be covered in a standard format. These will be combined into a single document that will be sent to all boys at the end of this term and will include direction to suitable revision resources.

Any questions/queries please let me know.

All best wishes

Dr Thomas

Guidance from the exam boards:

Domestic boards – GCSE and A-level

The guidance from OFQUAL is still in draft and can be found here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/consultation-on-the-general-qualifications-alternative-awarding-framework>

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/965648/6749-3 Summer 2021 GQs - Info for Heads of Centre.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/965648/6749-3_Summer_2021_GQs_-_Info_for_Heads_of_Centre.pdf)

The consultation ended on 11th March – We await confirmation that this draft guidance will not change. The domestic boards will then respond to it.

We do know that we need to retain all of the evidence used to support a TAG:

<https://www.aqa.org.uk/exams-administration/exams-administration-updates/keeping-students-work-for-the-summer-2021-series>

What we currently have from the domestic boards:

OCR: <https://www.ocr.org.uk/everything-you-need-to-know-for-summer-2021/teachers/>

AQA: <https://www.aqa.org.uk/news/what-it-means-summer-2021-consultation-decisions-explained>

Pearson: <https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/campaigns/summer-2021-support.html>

We expect to have guidance from the domestic boards and supporting materials by the end of March.

CAIE – Pre-U and IGCSE

Pre-U results day has been brought in line with that of A-level:

[Update for Cambridge schools about the June 2021 series - 12 March 2021 \(cambridgeinternational.org\)](https://www.cambridgeinternational.org/updates/for-schools/about-the-june-2021-series-12-march-2021)

[Collecting evidence to support school-assessed grades \(cambridgeinternational.org\)](https://www.cambridgeinternational.org/updates/for-schools/collecting-evidence-to-support-school-assessed-grades)