

MONDAY 06 JULY 2020

Dear parents / carers and staff,

Ofqual consultation on 2021 exams and assessments

On Thursday 03 July, Ofqual published its consultation proposals on arrangements for GCSEs, AS and A levels in 2021.

For your information the documents on this can be found via this link:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/proposed-changes-to-the-assessment-of-gcse-as-and-a-levels-in-2021>

Within this page there are details of the consultation for exams for 2021 and a chance for you to contribute to this consultation. Please note the questions need carefully interpreting.

At the bottom of the page there is a link: [Respond online](#)

The deadline for responses to the consultation is 16 July

Many parents and staff have already approached the school, concerned about what exams 2021 will look like and how / when they will run, so I know that some will want to respond and I want to give parents and staff this opportunity.

The focus for the SLATrust will always remain on being determined to do everything possible to make sure that no student is prevented from fulfilling their potential, despite this current pandemic.

The consultation is on proposed changes to the way some GCSEs, AS and A levels are regulated and examined in summer 2021 and to the arrangements for non-exam assessments undertaken by students who will be taking exams next summer. The proposals are made in the context of the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic. This has resulted in loss of education during the spring and summer terms of the academic year 2019/2020. In line with the government's policy intentions Ofqual are planning for exams and assessments to be taken by students next year.

They are seeking views on the proposals to change the assessment requirements for some subjects to:

- free up teaching time and, in some instances, reduce what needs to be taught; and
- take account of any public health restrictions relating to coronavirus (COVID-19) that might be in place during the next academic year

This consultation includes proposals and questions on the following areas:

- adaptations to exams and assessments that could free up teaching time
- adaptations to exams and assessments to address obstacles that could be created by any public health safeguards
- sampling of subject content
- the use of more optional questions in exams
- changing the length of exams
- changing the exam timetable

Thank you in advance for looking at this consultation process.

Kind regards,

Lucy Conley

Executive Headteacher

SLATrust