



Walderslade Girls' School

Specialist College for the Arts

Mrs L McGowan BMus (Hons) MA NPQH FRSA
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Dear Parent/Carer

Grading of examinations taken at the end of Year 11 in 2018.

As you may be aware the grading system for GCSE subjects is changing from this year onwards. Starting in summer 2017 and continuing over the course of three years, the traditional letter grades of A*-G will be replaced by number grades from 9-1, with 9 being the best grade. When your daughter finishes Year 11 in summer 2018 all her GCSE results will be number grades unless she has chosen either psychology or media as an option subject. These two subjects will still have letter grades.

As a guide to understanding the number grades the government has given the following advice.

Number grades 9 and 8 will be the equivalent of the current A* grade.

Number grade 4 will be the equivalent of a low C grade.

Number grade 5 will be the equivalent of a low B grade and be deemed a 'good pass'.

Vocational subjects such as BTEC, CTEC and Cambridge Nationals will be unaffected and continue to be awarded as Distinction* to Pass. These are equivalent to the new GCSE grades as follows:

New GCSE	Vocational
8&9	Distinction*
7	Distinction
6	Merit
5	Pass

This information is obviously being given well in advance and will be discussed further at the Year 11 information evening to which you will be invited in September 2017. If you have any questions about this at present please do contact me through the school office or by e-mail at fcampbell@waldersladegirls.org.uk

Yours faithfully,

Dr F Campbell
Deputy Headteacher



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