



Moat House Messenger

Newsletter 9

Exams Q+A with Mrs Cooney



It's been a testing year for us all and as we gradually move out of Lockdown it is important to make it clear what the changes to GCSE are. Mrs Cooney takes time to answer the questions

students have about their GCSE grades.

Will exams be happening this Summer?

The GCSE exams will not be going ahead as planned this summer. However, Functional Skills exams and some other qualifications will go ahead as planned. You will also be completing some assessments within school which will help determine your final grade

So how will my grade be decided?

Grades will be determined by teachers, based on evidence which will be provided by the students. The idea is that this will allow students to only be assessed on what they have been taught and not what they may have missed during the last year.

What evidence will I need to provide?

The important thing to make clear is that you are still in the driving seat and can influence your grade. Teachers will use a range of evidence, which will include mock exams, practice papers and other work completed as part of your course, such as essays or in-class tests. Exam boards will also provide optional sets of questions for teachers to use to help them gather evidence.

What are the timings for this?

Your teachers will submit grades to exam boards by Friday 18 June 2021, so there is still plenty of time for you to prove what you are capable of.

When do I get my results?

Results day for GCSEs will be on Thursday 12th August 2021.

What if I think my grade is wrong?

As in any other year every student will have the right to appeal their grade. If they believe their grade is wrong, they can ask their centre to check for errors. If the student still believes their grade is wrong, their centre can then submit an appeal to the exam board on their behalf. There may also be opportunities to resit your qualification in the autumn term, as there have been in previous years.

I'm doing a Functional Skills qualification – What does it mean to me?

Exams and assessments for Functional Skills will continue where they can be. At Moat House, we can safely deliver these qualifications so they should be sat by the students.

What advice could you give to me to improve my grade?

You will still be doing assessments in your lessons set by the teacher so make sure you are prepared for them. Revise as you would for an actual GCSE exam. Your grades may be submitted by the teachers but it will be your effort that determines what you get!

Celebrating Success

In a year where there are few exams, Moat House and its students still continue to achieve. We would like to congratulate students for their efforts and recognise their success:

- **GCSE Maths** - 2 successful candidates in the November GCSE exam series
- **Functional Skills Maths** - 1 successful student has achieved a Level 2 pass in Functional Skills Maths
- **Functional Skills English** - 1 successful student achieved a Level 1 pass in Functional Skills English
- **Functional Skills ICT** - 3 students have successfully passed their Functional Skills ICT at Level 1
- **Award in Number and Measure** - 1 student successfully achieved a Level 1 pass in Number and Measure
- **Award in Statistical Methods** - 1 student successfully achieved a Level 1 pass in Statistical Methods

Skills North West

Skills North West is a jam-packed event full of inspiring and informative activities.

Wed 21 April 2021 – 9:30am-6pm

This year Skills North West is taking place virtually. This free event brings young people from the North West into contact with employers, training providers, colleges, universities and professional bodies.

The event offers free insight and impartial advice from all of the exhibitors. This is your opportunity to find out more about what the future has to offer you.

John Muir Award



Moat House School have been successful in its application to deliver the John Muir Award to its students.

Four Challenges lie at the heart of the John Muir Award.

Discover: Identify a wild place on which to centre your activity.

Explore: Consider how to experience, enjoy and find out more about your wild place.

Conserve: Care for your wild place, take personal responsibility, make a difference and put something back .

Share: Let others know what you've done and celebrate your achievements!

Census Day 2021

The census is a survey that happens every 10 years and gives us a picture of all the people and households in England and Wales .

As we prepare for the census on Sunday 21st March 2021, students at Moat House School have been learning more about the census in their lessons.

Students have received lessons in PHSE, Statistics and Mathematics relating to the importance of the census and the data collected to inform decisions in the local community.

Students in GCSE Statistics analysed data from a local census and using their data interpretation techniques considered how it might affect future decisions for planning and investment within the local authority.



Remember: It is every household's responsibility to complete the census. If you live independently you should be completing it.

World Book Day 2021

Reasons to Read



Research shows reading can:

- It can reduce stress and help you to relax
- You can visit new places and worlds
- It can boost your brain power
- It improves concentration
- You will learn more words

Remember you can listen to audio books too; you can listen to these for free using the BorrowBox App. And YouTube has lots of Percy the Park Keeper cartoons, amongst many others, with subtitles. Why not give them a try?

Attendance Award

It has been a strange year for staff and students at Moat House, and has brought about challenges to the way we have had to deliver lessons to the students. In spite of these challenges students have continued to learn both online and in the school.

Special mention should go to 2 students; Kallie Dooley and Kelsie Hughes who have managed to maintain 100% attendance throughout lockdown and beyond.

Diary Dates

Sunday 21st March 2021 - Census Day

Friday 26th March 2021 - Easter Holidays

April 2021 - Stress Awareness Month

Monday 12th April 2021 - School Returns

Wednesday 21st April 2021 - Skills NW

Monday April 26th 2021 -

National Gardening Skills Week

What's the best way to celebrate all things books on World Book Day? Why, with the much loved character of Percy the Park Keeper, of course!

This year for World Book Day, we, as usual, brought babies and their mums together for activities designed to highlight the joy and pleasure we can all find in a good story. Reading with your child is a great way to bond with your baby, and will help with their language development too.

We began with story time on the mats, reading One Stormy Night, with a range of furry helpers, then watched an animated version of The Treasure Hunt, with subtitles; recent research has revealed that shown that 'watching your favourite TV show with the subtitles on might double your chance of becoming a good reader!'



On the day, we then moved into the Moat House garden for a Percy themed treasure hunt, which led students to discover a pack of books, colouring books, crayons and goodies!

