



1st February 2021

Year 10

Dear Parent / Carer,

We hope this letter finds you and your family well during these challenging times. I write to update you on the latest announcement from the Education Minister.

Schools will now be tasked with issuing '**Centre Determined Grades**' for pupils completing GCSE courses this year. There will be no internal or external examination board assessment, however all teachers and departments will be building their evidence base so that they can accurately award a fair grade to the pupils.

I want to clarify what this means for pupils in Year 10 as some pupils will be looking to sit a full GCSE in English Literature and many others will be planning to sit various unit examinations which would contribute to their GCSE award when they complete Year 11.

A number of subjects require pupils to sit unit examinations at the end of Year 10. Examples would be Science, ICT, History, Geography and a number of others. The examinations would test particular units and the marks would contribute to the full GCSE award in Year 11.

These examinations have been cancelled. Pupils will not be required to sit them this year or next year, they will just sit the examinations that are planned at the end of Year 11.

English Literature is slightly different because this is a full GCSE course that is studied and assessed in Year 10. Pupils in Year 10 have been studying hard for this qualification and a 'Centre Determined Grade' will be awarded. The English department will finalise their assessment plans to award the grades to pupils and this will need to be supported by specific pieces of evidence.

Pupils will be set an essay this week, and this will be used as part of the evidence needed to award the grades.

Pupils will study English Language through Year 11 so it is very unlikely that there will be a chance to resit English Literature.

As we would expect, some pupils are in a better position than others and some pupils have quite a bit of work to do if they are going to be awarded a grade at all, let alone a grade that they will be happy with. All I can do is urge pupils to engage fully with their teachers and ensure that they complete the tasks that they have been set. We will only be awarding specific grades if there is evidence to support it.

It is not too late for any pupil and if they engage fully, I am sure they will be successful.

HEADTEACHER:

MR. S. CLARKE

BERTHA ROAD
MARGAM
PORT TALBOT
SA13 2AN

www.ysgolcwmbrombil.co.uk

TEL: (01639) 760110

EMAIL: ysgolcwmbrombil@npt.school

[@ysgolcwmbrombil](https://twitter.com/ysgolcwmbrombil) 



Over the past year, pupils would have received interim and full reports which would indicate a target grade and a professional prediction. The target grade is based on past attainment with input from teacher and pupil. The professional prediction is the grade that the teacher feels is within the pupils grasp based on their level of engagement, attitude and ability. The professional prediction is used in a 'normal' system where there are generally large end of year examinations.

The system we find ourselves in currently is very different to normal. The Centre Determined Grade is not the same as a target grade or professional prediction as it must be evidence based. Teachers have to have the evidence of a particular grade criteria being met before that grade can be awarded. Much of that evidence will be finalised over the coming months.

I accept that things can seem very confusing and we are still waiting for the high level information to come to school. As we get updates, I will communicate them to you as soon as I can.

In terms of Year 10 going into Year 11, I am sure there will be further updates from the examination board to inform us of any changes to the specifications or assessment procedures in various subjects. Again, I will communicate this as soon as I receive it.

This letter has been sent through our School Gateway and through ClassCharts. As we move forward, ClassCharts will be our main method of communication with parents. This means we are using one App to communicate with pupils and parents alike on all aspects of school life. We would urge you to ensure that you and your child have downloaded the app and accessed your accounts. If you are unsure of access details, please contact the main school office.

As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to ring the school.

Kind Regards

Shaun Clarke
Headteacher



**Please download the ClassCharts app (for free) on Google Play or Apple Store.
If you are unsure of your access code, please contact the school.**

HEADTEACHER:

MR. S. CLARKE

BERTHA ROAD
MARGAM
PORT TALBOT
SA13 2AN

www.ysgolcwmbrombil.co.uk

TEL: (01639) 760110

EMAIL: ysgolcwmbrombil@npt.school

[@ysgolcwmbrombil](https://twitter.com/ysgolcwmbrombil) 