



Dear Fifth Form Boys (and families)

I hope this finds you safe and well – and that you are finding a good balance of rest and revision this week.

Please see a [letter](#) from Cambridge International (CIE), which explains their approach to their Summer 2021 qualifications (so for Bedford School our IGCSE exams in Modern Languages, ESL and DT). There is information in this letter that relates to other CIE exams, as well, so please see below a summary as relevant for our CIE IGCSEs:

- CIE IGCSE examinations will run as normal according to the usual timetable of exams – this means, for example, that you will have some Modern Languages exams early in May, rather than in June (and we will schedule study leave prior to each of these exams accordingly)
- There will be no further adjustments to the CIE IGCSE qualifications that we run at Bedford School – and as outlined at the end of my [letter](#) to your families about subject adjustments
- The grading of CIE exams will reflect the standard of the 2020 exam series
- The grading of CIE exams will also be in line with the 2021 GCSE exams
- Unlike GCSE (where we might be given advance notice of some topics for certain subjects) there will not be any prior indication of content in exams for CIE papers
- Unlike GCSE (where there are contingency papers set for July), if you miss all your exams in a CIE IGCSE subject you can take the qualification in November 2021

In all, I think this information from CIE is highly reassuring as it means that you and your teachers will be able to continue to plan for your exams as expected - but will also know that, following your exams, steps will be taken by the awarding boys to align grading with GCSE standards. Please note that Pearson IGCSE (i.e. English, Sciences, History) have not yet confirmed their approach and I will be in touch as we learn more.

With best wishes for the festive season,

Sam Baldock
Deputy Head (Academic)