



**John Dowler B.Sc. Hons, NPQH**  
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9 October 2018

Dear Parent/Carer Year 12 student and Year 12 students,

Students will be receiving their A-level predicted grade information over the next week. Student predicted grades are based on their average GCSE points score across all subjects, not just those subjects they are studying in the Sixth Form. The predicted grades are accompanied by chances graphs, which illustrate the % chance of a student achieving each grade. This is based on comparison with prior performance of students nationally, with the same GCSE average points score.

Due to the way predicted grades are calculated, they may well be lower than students would be looking to achieve at the end of Year 13. It is important to note that the predicted grade is neither a guarantee of achievement, nor a ceiling on aspiration. We encourage students to discuss their predicted grade with their subject teachers and tutors, and, where appropriate, to set themselves higher targets which will challenge them to exceed their predicted grade. In 2018, 30% of all our A-level entries were above predicted grade.

It is crucial to note that this predicted grade is NOT the predicted grade which we share with universities. During Year 13, staff will make a professional prediction of performance which will form the basis of our university application predicted grades. Where students are working hard and making excellent progress, this may very well be higher than the predicted grades students are receiving now.

We do not yet have predicted grades for the BTEC subjects (Engineering/IT/Business) or for our Level 3 courses in Performing Arts, Health and Social Care or Criminology. We will clarify the predicted grades in those subjects over the next week.

If you have any queries regarding the predicted grades, please don't hesitate to contact me, or alternatively, both Mrs Robinson and I will be available to speak with you at the pastoral consultation evening on Wednesday 17 October. [iduffell@helsbyhigh.org.uk](mailto:iduffell@helsbyhigh.org.uk)

Yours sincerely

**I Duffell (Mr)**  
 Director of 6<sup>th</sup> Form