



BORDEN GRAMMAR SCHOOL

Borden Grammar School
Avenue of Remembrance
Sittingbourne
ME10 4DB

16 December 2020

Dear Parents and Carers of Year 11 MFL Students

MFL GCSE Speaking Endorsement 2021

I am writing to you with some information about how speaking will be assessed for the 2021 exam series and how your son can prepare for this.

Formal speaking exams have been cancelled as a result of the pandemic and replaced by what is known as an endorsement. This is a teacher assessment reported alongside the GCSE 9-1 grade and will be graded as 'pass, merit or distinction'.

Teachers will assess speaking mid-way through Term 3 during lesson time, with students coming out of their French/Spanish class to have a 1-2 minute conversation with their teacher in a quiet space (COVID compliant, of course).

Students have been permitted to select 3 questions they would like to be asked and the process of thinking about and preparing the kind of language they will use has already begun in lessons. Students may make notes to help them prepare but will not have access to these during the assessment.

I will confirm the date of this assessment in the first week of term 3 but wanted you to be aware that pupils should be working on their responses over the Christmas break.

If you or your son is concerned that they have been absent and may have missed key information in class please do not worry. All relevant resources and a slide show which explains the process have been put on google classroom and, if necessary, we will postpone assessments for students who have had large periods of absence.

In short, this assessment is designed to reduce the stress of a normal speaking exam (15 minutes long) and allow the pupils choice over what we talk about. We really want them to show off what they can do, rather than feel under pressure to answer questions they do not feel comfortable with.

If you have any questions about speaking endorsements in MFL, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Yours faithfully

Mrs J Frost
Head of MFL



Headteacher: Mr A Tomlin MA NPQH

