

14 July 2021

Dear Parent /Carer

GCSE Results Day

I would like to congratulate all the Year 11 pupils in advance of the results they will receive, which reflect a tremendous amount of hard work and dedication in very difficult circumstances during this academic year.

The 'GCSE Results Day' this year is on **Thursday 12 August 2021**. Year 11 pupils can collect the results from the main school entrance between **9am – 10am**.

If you are unable to collect your results in person then your results will be posted out on Thursday 12 August 2021, to your home address.

Please note that under no circumstances will results be available by telephone or email.

COVID-19:

This year we will still need to ensure COVID secure protocols including the use of face coverings and strict social distancing.

Yours sincerely

Lee Thompson
Head of Curriculum

How were my child's grades determined this year?

Grades this summer were based on Teacher Assessed Grades (TAGs). TAGs were submitted to the exam boards by the class teacher as a holistic assessment of pupils' performance in a subject, following a rigorous process of assessment, moderation and quality assurance. The relevant exam board, following external quality assurance checks, then approved these grades.

What do I do if I'm not happy with my / my child's grade?

All pupils have the opportunity to appeal their grade if they meet the eligibility criteria (see below). It is important to note that an appeal may result in a grade being lowered, staying the same, or going up. **Therefore, if a student puts in an appeal and their grade is lowered, they will receive the lower mark.**

What are the grounds for appeal?

There are five main grounds for appeal, as dictated by the Joint Council for Qualifications (JCQ). They are:

- You think we have made an **administrative error**: an example of this would be putting the wrong information into a spreadsheet.
- You think we have made a **procedural error**: this means we have not properly followed our own process, as approved by the exam board. An example of this would be where you have been told you should have received extra time for assessments but this was not given in a certain subject.
- You think the **academic judgement on the selection of evidence was unreasonable**: you think the evidence used to grade you was not reasonable.
- You think the **academic judgement on the grade you were given was unreasonable**.

What does 'unreasonable' mean?

'Unreasonable' is a technical term in this context and means that no educational professional acting reasonably could have selected the same evidence or come up with the same grade. This means that just because other forms of evidence may have been equally valid to use, the selection of evidence is not unreasonable. Because of the flexibility of the approach this year, every school and college will have used different forms of evidence. It also means that the independent reviewers will not remark or grade pupils' evidence. Instead, they will look to see whether any teacher acting reasonably could have arrived at the same grade.

What should I do before appealing?

Pupils must read the JCQ Student and Parent guide before appealing, which will be available on the JCQ website by results days.

How do I make an appeal?

On results day and in the days afterwards you will need to access the form (see web address) and it will need to be completed and handed into the school reception for the attention of Mr Sam Hodgson

https://www.jcq.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/06/JCQ_Appeals-Guidance_Summer-2021_Appendix-B.pdf

What are the deadlines for appeals?

The deadline for submitting a centre review is **Friday 3 September 2021**; and the deadline for submitting an awarding organisation appeal is **Friday 10 September 2021**.