



GCSE results

20th August 2020

We're delighted to be able to share your GCSE results with you today. These are a testament to your hard work and perseverance over many years.

I wanted to take the opportunity to explain how your results were determined this year. We share your frustration at the constantly changing information about your grades and the uncertainty this brings and we hope your final set of grades will fairly represent your hard work and, most importantly, allow you to successfully progress on to the next stage in your education.

As you know, this year's GCSE results had to be awarded differently from usual, after exams were unable to go ahead due to Covid-19. Schools and colleges were asked to use their professional experience to make a fair and objective judgement of the grades they believed a student would have achieved had they sat their exams this year, and to submit these centre-assessed grades (CAGs) to the relevant exam board.

Teachers, Heads of Department and senior leaders worked together to award the centre-assessed grades for each student. They took into account a wide range of available evidence, including class work, PPE exams, assessments and other records of student performance, as well as their professional experience and excellent knowledge of the examination specifications and requirements.

The intention was that the exam boards would then moderate the CAGs, to check that schools and colleges had approached this task consistently, before providing students with their final calculated grades. Unfortunately, as you will no doubt be aware, the method they used to do this proved problematic, and was likely to lead to many grades being unfairly downgraded.

On Monday, the government therefore made the decision that **GCSE students would be awarded whichever was higher for each subject – their CAG or their calculated grade from Ofqual.**

Next steps

If you would like to discuss your Sixth Form options or next steps, please enter your details on the sign up sheet in the plaza, and you will be contacted via a telephone call to your parents by a member of the Senior Leadership Team later today or on Friday. If you are not staying with us next year, please let us know by writing on the same sheet. You may also want to talk to the sixth form or college you plan to attend. They may well be flexible about their entry requirements and we are also happy to contact them on your behalf.

We advise that your focus now turns to the start of your Sixth Form studies, however, if you want to 'resit' any of your exams, the current plan is for a full series of exams to take place in November. Details of how this will work are still being confirmed, but please let us know as soon as possible as we will need to arrange entries during early September.

Congratulations again for everything you've achieved in this most difficult of years.

With best wishes to you all,

Mr Jones
Head of School