



Tuesday 18 August 2020

FAO Student, Parents and Carers of students in Year 11, 12 and 13

### **Examination Results – Update following Government Announcement**

Yesterday, Ofqual announced a complete change in the way GCSE, AS and A Level results will be awarded this year.

Students will now be awarded their Centre Assessed Grade (CAG) that the school had submitted to Ofqual *unless* their final calculated grade is higher.

This change will bring some comfort to many of our sixth form students who received results last week, and some reassurance to our year 11 students anxiously awaiting their results on Thursday. It has not removed all uncertainty, however, so I have summarised the position for our students below:

#### **AS and A Level**

For all AS and A level students we will send a new statement of results, showing the calculated grade originally allocated and the CAG awarded, with the higher grade clearly highlighted. This will provide *provisional* results for students while we await formal re-issuing of results from government. We hope to send these today via school email: unfortunately, schools in the South West of England are currently experiencing an internet outage which must be resolved first. We will send this statement as soon as possible.

The Sixth Form Team will continue to offer support to students seeking confirmation of places at University. Although the government has lifted the cap on places, some courses will be full and some Universities will be offering students deferred places for 2021.

The changes announced *do not* apply to CTEC qualifications. We are anxiously awaiting clarification on if there will be any change to how those qualifications have been calculated and how any appeals will work. The Exam Boards are under pressure to make similar adjustments to how grades in these subjects will be calculated - if there is not a major change, we will be considering a centre appeal against results in certain CTEC subjects. We are also investigating whether the changes affect students who took Applied Science and those students who took an 'Entry Level' qualification in English or Maths.

#### **GCSE**

We are preparing to give Year 11 students their Centre Assessed Grade scores on Thursday. At the moment, the government has suggested they will not receive their official results until a week later. It is not entirely clear why. This means that results on Thursday will be *provisional* with the chance of a small number of grades going up (but not down) when the government reveals the calculated grades.

#### **Appeals**

The changes announced by government mean that it is no longer possible to appeal on the basis of a Mock Exam result or to challenge the way final grades were calculated. Therefore we will not be further processing any of the appeals requests we have received.

Up to now it has *not* been possible for students to appeal on the basis of their CAG score. If there are any new rules on appeals, we will share them with you.

## **Centre Assessed Grades (CAGS)**

Given that Centre Assessed Grades will now become the final result for most students, here is a reminder of how they were calculated:

- Class teachers were asked to consider what was the most likely final grade for each student in their class. They based their forecast on all their knowledge of the students over the period of the course including, but not solely based on, performance in trial exams. They also ranked the students within each grade.
- Heads of department then moderated the scores given to them by class teachers to ensure a consistent and fair approach within each subject. They ensured that CAGs reflected all relevant information about a student, including whether they would have had exam access arrangements and whether their prior performance had been affected by illness or other significant disruption.
- The Senior Leadership Team of the school then undertook a further moderation to ensure that the overall CAGs passed on to the board were the fairest and most robust reflection of students' likely performance had exams taken place.
- Finally the Trustees of the LSP met with Mr Nunes and other senior leaders of the school to verify and approve the methods used in forming the CAGs .

We will continue to keep you informed by emailing students and their parents/carers.

Jon Nunes  
Headteacher