

DMA/LFA

15th July, 2020

Dear Parents and Students

A Level Results 2020

As we approach the summer holidays, we wanted to update you on the process that is taking place for the awarding of A Level grades this summer.

Students' results will be available from 9 am on Thursday 13th August. Students are very welcome to come into school to collect their results but please be reminded that social distancing will be in operation and group photos etc will not be allowed. If parents wish to accompany students, we ask that you limit this to one parent per student. Below I have outlined your allotted time:

Surname (First letter)	Time for collection
A-H	9:00 am – 9:30 am
I-M	9:45 am – 10:15 am
N-Z	10:30 am – 11:00 am

Please note that any student who do not collect results on results day can arrange collection in the autumn term. Any Year 12 students who were due to receive modular exam grades this summer will have these results sent out via email or post.

As you will know, due to the COVID-19 lockdown, no A Level exams have taken place this term. This means that grades will be directly awarded by Ofqual (the exams regulator) who will award grades based on a centre assessment that each school has submitted for every student in each of their relevant subjects. This centre-assessed grade is what subject teachers have judged, in their professional expertise and experience, would be the most likely grade each student would have received had they sat an A Level exam in that subject.

Across the school, staff have worked very hard to be fair in their assessments of what grades they believe each student would have received. They have looked at a broad range of factors in making this assessment, including students' coursework, mock exams and other work that took place before the lockdown period began. In each subject, teachers have then had to place students in a rank order for each subject along with their likely grade. These have been assessed by the Senior Leadership Team, checked and re-checked and then submitted to Ofqual. Across the country, each school has done this for every subject. Ofqual are currently assessing this information and using statistical modelling based on each school's previous performance at A Level, and the typical proportion of students getting different grades across the country, to generate the final grades that each student will actually be awarded.

The results that students receive on Thursday 13th August will therefore be those generated by Ofqual and will count as their A Level grades for the future. We would hope that these grades will be in line with those we identified in the centre assessment, but we currently have no way of knowing if that will be the case as this depends on the statistical modelling that Ofqual uses.

After 13th August, there will be a process in place for students who wish to know the details of their centre-assessed grades. Ofqual has been clear, however, that we are not able to provide these until after the official results are released. Students who would like this information are asked to email examqueries@rrca.org.uk after they have received their results.

As you are aware students will have the opportunity to sit an A Level exam in the Autumn Term if they wish to. This would be marked by the exam board and a grade awarded in December 2020. If these results give a higher grade than received in August, it would become the student's award for that subject. You will receive more information on this process in your results day pack.

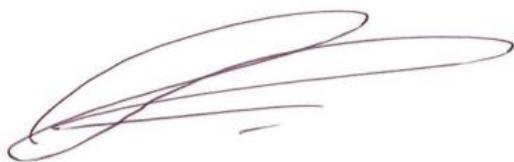
Everyone in the education sector – from government ministers to exam boards, your teachers and everyone at the Academy – realises that this way of awarding exam results this year is far from ideal. We very much hope that each of them receives grades that they believe are fair and which help them move on successfully to the next stage of their education.

We expect that universities across the country will be understanding about the predicament that some students may find themselves in if the grades they receive from Ofqual do not match their university offer. We know how important this is for each student's future and staff across the school will be available to support students in helping them make the right decisions, and discussing with them their options, following the awarding of the grades.

We will do everything we can to help students take up appropriate university places. However, every good school across the country will be doing exactly the same so there is likely to be some disappointment, as indeed there is every year, as places on some courses may ultimately be limited.

We know how hard our students have worked across the year and we very much hope that this commitment will be successfully rewarded in their results.

With best wishes

A handwritten signature in dark ink, consisting of several overlapping loops and a long horizontal stroke, positioned above the printed name.

Mr D Markham
Vice Principal - Academic