

DMA/LFA

15<sup>th</sup> July, 2020

Dear Parents and Students

### **GCSE Results 2020**

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

Students' results will be available from 9 am on Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> 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. You can find your allotted time below:

<b>Surname (Letters)</b>	<b>Collection time</b>
A-B	9:00 am – 9:30 am
C-F	9:45 am – 10:15 am
G-J	10:30 am – 11:00 am
K-M	11:15 am – 11:45 am
N-S	12:00 pm – 12:30 pm
T-Z	12:45 pm – 13:15 pm

Any students that do not collect results on GCSE Results Day may arrange collection early in the Autumn Term.

As you will know, due to the COVID-19 lockdown, no GCSE 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, based on their professional expertise and experience, would be the most likely grade each student would have received had they sat a GCSE 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 achieved. 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 GCSE, 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 20<sup>th</sup> August will therefore be those generated by Ofqual and will count as their GCSE 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 20<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:examqueries@rrca.org.uk) after they have received their results.

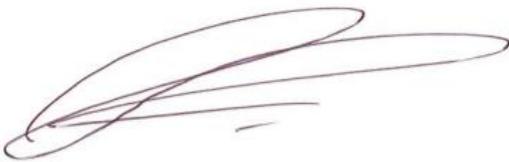
As you are aware students will have the opportunity to sit a GCSE exam in the Autumn Term if they wish to. This would be marked by the exam board and a grade awarded in January 2021. If these results give a higher grade than received in August, it would become the student's award for that subject. You will receive more information on this process in your results day pack.

Once you have received your results on 20<sup>th</sup> August, students intending to stay on for our Sixth Form should speak to Mr Howarth either in person or by email at [Simon.Howarth@rrca.org.uk](mailto:Simon.Howarth@rrca.org.uk) . We will be looking very carefully at every student who wants to join the Sixth Form, even if your GCSE grades are not as expected, and decisions will be made on an individual basis. We will be running a 6<sup>th</sup> form Recruitment Day on Friday 21<sup>st</sup> August for any students considering Central Academy, who have not applied or would like to discuss their 6<sup>th</sup> form options further. More information about this will be published on the school website over the summer.

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. Our students have worked hard throughout their time with us and 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.

Staff across the school will of course be available to support students after 20<sup>th</sup> August in helping them make the right decisions and discussing with them their options following the awarding of the grades.

With best wishes

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be 'D Markham', written in a cursive style.

**Mr D Markham**  
**Vice Principal - Academic**