



5 July 2020

Dear Parent/Carer,

I hope you are all well.

This week Ofqual have confirmed the details about appeals against summer 2020 calculated grades and also autumn examinations: <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/ofqual-publishes-more-details-on-appeals-and-confirms-autumn-exam-arrangements>

These are summarised as the following.

Summer 2020 Appeals

Ofqual has confirmed the following details about appealing calculated grades this summer:

- Appeals will only be allowed where a **school** believes it has made an error when submitting its information - or if the **school** believes an exam board made a mistake when calculating, assigning or communicating a grade.
- This includes cases where a school believes that significant changes in this year's cohort haven't been properly taken into account during the standardisation process. However, Ofqual says these cases will be rare, as the changes would have to be very big to affect calculated grades.
- A student with concerns about bias, discrimination, or any other reason why a school didn't fairly assign a grade or ranking, should normally raise this with the school in the first instance. However, if they have evidence of serious malpractice by the school, it may be appropriate for them to go directly to the exam board.

Exam boards are working with Ofqual to explain the appeals process and guide schools, students and parents through it; as soon as that guidance is produced I will send it to you.

Autumn 2020 Examinations

Ofqual has published its decisions on how the autumn 2020 exam series will work. The main points are:

- Exam boards will offer a full suite of exams for both A Level and GCSE with the same number of papers, length of exams etc... that would have taken place this summer
- Non-exam assessment (NEA) will not form part of the grading process for the autumn exams, apart from in Art
- Ofqual will confirm timings in due course but is aiming for AS and A-levels mainly in October and GCSEs mainly in November

At this point we don't know any further details of the exams and how they will run. For example, one option that the Department for Education are considering is creating local hubs to host exams rather than every school running exams for very small numbers of students.

Results Days

As previously stated the Year 13 results day is Thursday, 13 August 2020 and Year 11 Thursday, 20 August 2020. We are currently planning the format of the days, which will both enable students to receive support while minimising the number of students having to come into school. I envisage that we will send out results to all students and then have availability of staff in school for students who, for example may not have attained a place at university. Please be assured that students who need support and guidance on the results days will receive the help they need. Further details will be shared in due course.

Thank you again for your patience and understanding in what will still be an uncertain time for you and your son/daughter. As soon as I have any more information about appeals, results days or autumn exams, I will be in touch.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'D Watson', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Mr D Watson
Headteacher