

*'We value the power of education to change lives.'*

July 2020

Dear Parents/Carers and Students

A Level Results Day

## Centre Assessed Grades

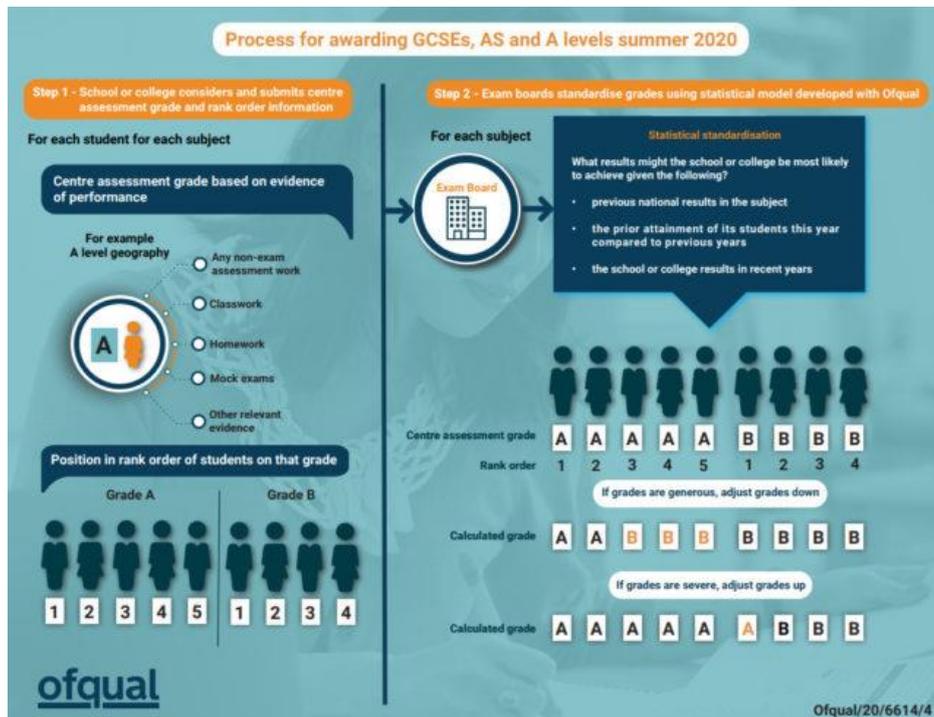
With no examinations being held for Years 11 and 13 an alternative process was put in place by Ofqual and Examination boards for the awarding of grades this year. This process included the school being asked to provide Centre Assessed Grades for each student for each subject as one part of the overall process.

Schools were asked to use all available information to arrive at the Centre Assessed Grades including:

- Records of each student's performance over the course of study, including for example assessment data, and/or participation in performances in subjects such as Music and Drama
- Performance in any non-exam assessment (NEA), even if this has not been fully completed.
- Performance in any class or homework assessments and mock exams taken over the course of study
- Teachers' evaluation of progress being made by each student towards examinations over the weeks before school closure

OfQUAL have released a video outlining this process which is available on Youtube at

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fRTyGmUJlRw> and the infographic below also explains the process being followed.



## A-Level and KS5 Results Day - Thursday the 13<sup>th</sup> of August

With updated guidance around social distancing we have taken the decision that unless anything changes, we will be holding results days in school. Where you wish to be accompanied by a member of family we are asking that you limit this to one person.

When you arrive at school please follow the signage and adhere to our social distancing guidelines.

8am – 9am: Early results available in IT4

9am – 10am: Results Collection onsite by all students

10am – Results published to MyHighcliffe

We will also be running our Future Pathway/UCAS results support in IT4 from 8am.

Please be advised that if a student is unable to pick up their exam results then they should:

- View them on MyHighcliffe from 10am if no other person will be picking up.
- Notify, in writing/email by the student, if they wish another person to collect their results on their behalf. This must be received by the Exams Officer before the end of the summer term by letter or email to [exams@highcliffeschool.com](mailto:exams@highcliffeschool.com)
- The nominated person collecting results MUST provide some photo ID.
- No results can be given out by telephone under any circumstances.

## Appeals Process

The usual procedures for appealing exam grades does not apply this year as the method for awarding grades is different. However, the exam boards are still responsible for awarding grades and not the school. The grades put forward to the exam boards will have been moderated and standardised by them and it has been confirmed by Ofqual: “that it is likely that all centres will see some adjustment to their centre assessment grades, however carefully schools have made their judgements.....It is important to accept that the centre does not have any influence on the standardisation or moderation process and that grades are awarded, ultimately, by the exam boards, not the school” (Ofqual blog).

This means that there is a very limited basis for appeals either by students or by the school.

Appeals cannot be made by individual students to appeal their grade on the basis that they are disappointed with their results. They may only be made if the student believes they have been unfairly discriminated against by the centre and this should be raised with the school in the first instance and information on this will be provided in the exam results pack received by students.

The school may only appeal in the event that it believes that the results have not been standardised correctly by the exam board, or if a clear administrative error has been made, but due to the strict moderation process applied, schools have been advised that this is unlikely to provide any changes.

## Autumn Exam Series

For students who are confident the grade they would have achieved by sitting the exams would have been higher than the one the exam board awards them this summer, there will be an opportunity to sit the exams in the Autumn and it will be the higher of the two grades that will count. You may not enter for an exam that you would not have sat this summer, had they been running as normal. The exam boards are currently working on putting together the process for entering students who wish to sit these exams and on the timetable for them, but we do know it will be in the Autumn term over October and November.

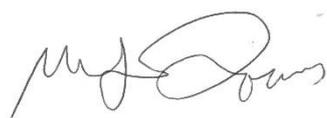
Again, as more information will be received over the forthcoming weeks, we will provide more information on this in the exam results packs received by students but there are few points that have already been published by Ofqual to make you aware of:

- All subjects will be assessed by exam only. This means that there will be no non-examined assessment (NEA), coursework and in the case of modern foreign languages, no speaking exams
- The grade will be based 100% on the exam sat in the Autumn and any previous non-examined assessments, coursework or speaking exams will not count towards this grade
- This applies to all qualifications across all exam boards with the exception of GCSE and A Level Art and Design. For these qualifications, again no previous assessments will count towards the Autumn exam series, instead a new task will be set by the exam board which will be carried out under the usual supervised conditions and it will also be assessed by the exam board.

As many students will be studying towards new qualifications at this time, choosing to sit this exam in the Autumn will require careful thought and we will of course still be here to give you advice and guidance at this time, if it is something you consider following results day.

If there are any further updates to our plans for results days or any information changes we will use text messaging to alert you. We very much look forward to seeing you all for results days.

Yours sincerely



Mathew Downs

Assistant Headteacher