



GCSE results day letter

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope that this letter finds you and your families well in these most unusual times. We appreciate that the cancelling of the summer examination series has led to many questions and I wanted to take the opportunity to update you on the current position before the summer break.

As you aware, schools were asked to generate a Centre Assessed Grade (CAG) and a ranking for each student, in each subject. As a school we have followed the OFQUAL and exam board guidance thoroughly to ensure that all of our students are treated fairly and consistently. This guidance was clearly communicated with staff to ensure that a full range of robust assessment data, not just mock performance, and our knowledge of each student was taken into account.

All grades and rankings then underwent a rigorous quality assurance process led by subject leads and the senior team to ensure that all students were treated equitably. Our head teacher, Mr Shannon, also had to confirm that the process has been robust and fair for all students. Mr Shannon has been in regular contact with the deputy director of policy of ASCL (Association of School and College Leaders) who has been the main link between schools nationally and OFQUAL to ensure that our approach at Great Sankey was the very best that it could be for our students. In line with OFQUAL guidance these grades and rankings have now been submitted to the exam boards. They are confidential and cannot be shared with students or parents during the awarding process.

Currently, exam boards are standardising these grades using a statistical analysis process developed by OFQUAL. The standardisation process applied by the exam boards ensures grades awarded this year are consistent with those awarded to other cohorts in other years and was the fairest possible approach available under extreme circumstances. It is a rigorous process which means that grades awarded this year are as valid as in any other year and will allow pupils to progress to the next stage of their lives in the normal way. All exam boards will be using the same methodology to ensure consistency, the following link contains a document produced by OFQUAL explaining the process [https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/887041/6614-4_Infographic -
_Process for awarding GCSEs AS and A levels summer 2020.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/887041/6614-4_Infographic_-_Process_for_awarding_GCSEs_AS_and_A_levels_summer_2020.pdf)

Results day for year 11 students will take place on Thursday 20th August and will be held in Barrow Hall College. Due the current situation, there will be appropriate social distancing measures in place. Firstly, results morning will be staggered with each house being allocated a time slot as indicated below.



House	Time slot
Austen	8.00 – 8.30 am
Bannister	8.30 - 9.00 am
Newton	9.00 - 9.30 am
Parks	9.30 - 10.00 am
Stephenson	10.00 - 10.30 am
Thompson	10.30 - 11.00 am

Please arrive via the green gates adjacent the Livewire building at the rear of school and make your way to Barrow Hall College maintaining social distancing. Students will be asked to queue outside the building initially to restrict the number of people within the building. Upon entering the building students will be asked to use hand sanitiser and will be directed to desks where they will be able to collect their results. Parents/siblings/friends will NOT be allowed to accompany the students onto the site to avoid large gatherings.

Please note that the results are the student's and therefore **CANNOT** be collected by any other person unless a third party collection form is completed and provided on results day alongside appropriate documentation.

Alternatively, if you are unable to attend results day you may provide a stamped addressed envelope to our exams officer in advance of results day. Further guidance is provided on the exams section of our school website.

If your child has applied to Barrow Hall College they will receive a letter accompanying their results either confirming their place or inviting them to a one to one meeting to discuss their course options in more detail.

As always on results days there will be mixed experiences, the majority of students are typically elated with their results, but a minority may be disappointed. This year, unlike in previous years the options available to students if they are unhappy with the grades awarded are different as typical processes such as requesting a remark of an exam paper are unavailable. There is also an altered appeals process. Schools and colleges will be able to appeal if they believe an error has been made when submitting information or if we believe the exam board have made a mistake when calculating, assigning or communicating a grade. Students will only be able to appeal if they have evidence based concerns, regarding bias in the assignment of grades by the school. More information regarding the appeals process can be found here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/ofqual-publishes-more-details-on-appeals-and-confirms-autumn-exam-arrangements>

OFQUAL have confirmed that any students who are unhappy with their results will be able to sit exams in the autumn, should they wish. The proposed dates for the GCSE exam series are the 2nd – 23rd November. At the time of writing, there are still many details regarding the resit exams that have not been shared by OFQUAL with schools. We will use our school website and twitter feed to share updates with you over the summer as appropriate.

Yours faithfully,

Mrs C Kane

Deputy Headteacher