



Information regarding Subject Access Request for Centre Assessed Grades and updated information regarding the appeals process

Dear Parent/Carer and Student

You will be aware that this year's GCSE and A Level grades have been arrived at by a very different process compared with other years. This process, in brief, is outlined below:

- Centres were asked to create a 'Centre Assessed Grade' for each student, in each subject and to make their best assessment of what grade a student would be most likely to receive, and to then place candidates in rank order. The purpose of this ranking was to allow adjustments to take place to ensure the distribution of grades at a national level was similar to previous years.
- Centre Assessed Grades were subject to a robust and detailed internal quality assurance process involving subject teachers, Heads of Faculty and the Senior Leadership Team. This process involved reviewing every student's grade in every subject to ensure the Centre Assessed Grade was appropriate and fair. No Centre Assessed Grade was arrived at solely based on the judgement of an individual subject teacher.
- The statistical model developed by Ofqual and the awarding organisations was then applied to all Centre Assessed Grades. This standardised process ensures grades awarded this year are consistent with those awarded to other cohorts in other years. Therefore, the final grade awarded to a student may not necessarily reflect the grades submitted by the centre. You will already have had a letter and diagram explaining this but if you are unsure a copy can be found on the website.

This process has never been attempted before and was forced by circumstances which nobody could possibly have foreseen. Staff worked diligently to provide grades for students and to place them in rank order as fairly and accurately as possible. This was the fairest possible approach available under the circumstances and we hope it will ensure the grades awarded this year are as valid as in any other year.

There is certain to be some mismatch between Centre Assessed Grades and the final grades awarded by exam boards to ensure consistency in grade distribution between years, and this was recognised in the process that was used. Under the Data Protection Act 2018, you have the right to access a copy of your Centre Assessed Grades for any given subject(s) that you have studied. As a school we want to be completely transparent and allow students to access their Centre Assessed Grades quickly and with minimum fuss.

If you would like to do this, you must formally request access to your Centre Assessed Grades by completing and signing a Subject Access Request form. This form will be available on Results Day, tomorrow, and after the form has been completed you will be provided with your Centre Assessed Grades immediately.



Update on appeals process - updated 12/08/2020

You may be aware the Government has made some last minute changes to the appeals process and have introduced a 'triple lock' system. Given this change has happened so late in the day, it is difficult to provide any concrete information about this at the time of writing.

In brief, it would seem a student now has three choices with regard to the grades they receive on results day:

1. Accept the grades they receive on results day
2. If they are unhappy with the grade they receive, they can appeal to the exam board to have it replaced with the grade they received in internal mock examinations ran by their school.
3. They can sit actual exams in the Autumn term (details on this below).

Point 2, above, is the major change, and I am sure you will have lots of questions. We do too, and given the speed at which the Government seems to be moving the goalposts, it will likely be the case the information in this letter will be out of date by the time you receive your results tomorrow.

Rest assured, when we have more information we will communicate this with you at our earliest opportunity.

Regarding point 3, above, there will be an opportunity to sit these examinations in the Autumn term. The deadlines for submitting entries for these examinations are:

- Thursday the **3rd September 2020** for all A Level and AS Level examinations
- GCSE (except English Language and Mathematics) – **16th September 2020**
- GCSE (English Language and Mathematics) – **30th September 2020**

If you wish to sit an examination in any of your subjects please make this request, via email, using the following email address, stating the candidate name, and the subject(s) they wish to be entered for: exams@svf.org.uk

Yours sincerely

Mr J Barnes
Executive Head Teacher

