

**Headteacher:** Dr. J Bartlett – NPQH, PGCE, D.Phil, M.Chem **Specialisms:** Mathematics

21<sup>st</sup> July 2021

Dear Parent/Carer,

## Year 11 Results Day 2021

As you are aware, all the Centre Assessed Grades are now with the exam boards and they are carrying out their process of moderation. We are unable to share with you any details of the grades but please be assured that the academy has done everything that we can to provide Centre Assessed Grades as fairly and as accurately as possible for each student.

Looking forward to the results day on the 12<sup>th</sup> August 2021, I would like to share with you our plans. Please remember that these are subject to change depending on government guidelines at the time.

Please ensure that a Lateral Flow Test is completed on the evening of 11th August 2021. If a positive test is reported, please ensure that you, or your close contacts do not attend the academy. Instead, please email [ben.moy@e-act.org.uk](mailto:ben.moy@e-act.org.uk) and we will arrange a Teams meeting to deliver the results

If the Lateral Flow Test is negative, from 9-11am, students should enter through the main gate and then walk up the path and enter the school via the main entrance, once inside they should then walk to the canteen area. Results envelopes will be issued in the canteen by Shenley Academy staff. **Please ensure that your child attends with details of their intended destination for September 2021 e.g. college place.**

Once they have received their results envelope they will have two options:

1. They can take their results away and open them off site, preferably at home with family. If academic or careers support is needed after the results have been opened students should contact [Elizabeth.Stevenson@E-ACT.org.uk](mailto:Elizabeth.Stevenson@E-ACT.org.uk).
2. They can open their results in the Dining Room Courtyard with the support of members of the Shenley Academy teaching staff- including myself and members of the school's senior leadership team.

If your child wishes to have someone else collect their results, we require they can email Mr Wiredu, our exams officer at [Paul.Wiredu@e-act.org.uk](mailto:Paul.Wiredu@e-act.org.uk), nominating someone to collect the results on their behalf. If your child or a nominated person are unable to collect their results then we can arrange for results to be emailed to your child's Shenley Academy email address. Please email [Paul.Wiredu@e-act.org.uk](mailto:Paul.Wiredu@e-act.org.uk) if you would like to receive your results via email, alternatively if you would like results posted home please inform us on the same email address. Mr Wiredu must receive emails by the by the 10<sup>th</sup> August

**How were my child's grades determined this year?** Grades this summer were based on Teacher Assessed Grades (TAGs). TAGs were submitted to the exam boards by us as a holistic assessment of students' performance in a subject, following a rigorous process of assessment, moderation and

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quality assurance. These grades are then approved by the relevant exam board, following external quality assurance checks. In some cases, the TAGs we submitted may have been reviewed by the exam board. This year no grades have been changed as a result of an algorithm.

**What do I do if I'm not happy with my child's grade?** All students have the opportunity to appeal their grade if they meet the eligibility criteria (see below). It is important to note that an appeal may result in a grade being lowered, staying the same, or going up. So if a student puts in an appeal and their grade is lowered, they will receive the lower mark.

**What are the grounds for appeal?** The main grounds for appeal, as dictated by the Joint Council for Qualifications (JCQ) are:

- You think we have made an administrative error: an example of this would be putting the wrong information into a spreadsheet.
- You think we have made a procedural error: this means we haven't properly followed our own process, as approved by the exam board. An example of this would be where you've been told you should have received extra time for assessments but this wasn't given in a certain subject.
- You think the academic judgement on the selection of evidence was unreasonable: you think the evidence used to grade you was not reasonable.
- You think the academic judgement on the grade you were given was unreasonable.

**What does 'unreasonable' mean?** 'Unreasonable' is a technical term in this context and means that no educational professional acting reasonably could have selected the same evidence or come up with the same grade. This means that just because other forms of evidence may have been equally valid to use, the selection of evidence is not unreasonable. Because of the flexibility of the approach this year, every school and college will have used different forms of evidence. It also means that the independent reviewers will not remark or grade students' evidence. Instead, they will look to see whether any teacher acting reasonably could have arrived at the same grade.

**What will be the outcome of an appeal?** At either stage of the appeals process (see 'What are the two stages of an appeal?' below), a student's grade may go up, stay the same, or go down. When placing an appeal the student will have to sign a declaration saying that they accept the fact their grade may go down and they may get a lower grade than their original grade.

**What should I do before appealing?** Students must read the JCQ Student and Parent guide before appealing, which will be available on the JCQ website by results day and a copy will be available to collect on results day. We may not be able to offer as much advice and guidance on the likely success of an appeal this summer as we would in normal years, as we have already moderated and quality assured all the grades ourselves.

**What are the two stages of an appeal?** All appeals, on any of the grounds above, must first go through a centre review. At this stage, we will check for any administrative errors, and check that our policies and procedures were followed correctly. Our policy has already been approved by the exam boards, so we are only ensuring that we followed this properly. The outcome of the centre review will be communicated to students when made.

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At the centre review stage, if we find that a grade should go up or down, we will ask the exam board to change it. They will then consider this request. Following the outcome of a centre review, students may still choose to pursue an awarding organisation appeal. They must fill in the form below, which we will then send on their behalf to the exam boards. Students and parents cannot send appeals directly to the exam board themselves – it must come from us. The outcome of the awarding organisation appeal will be communicated to students when made.

**How do I make an appeal?** Following results days, students should fill in the first section of the JCQ form [here](#) and send it to [Paul.Wiredu@E-ACT.org.uk](mailto:Paul.Wiredu@E-ACT.org.uk)

**What is the deadline for appeals?** The deadline for submitting a centre review is 3rd September; and the deadline for submitting an awarding organisation appeal is 10 September. Appeals received after these dates may still be considered.

**You know my child's grades. Why can't you tell us?** We are forbidden from disclosing the Teacher Assessed Grades to any third party, including students and parents, until results day. Any teacher or member of staff who does this is committing exam malpractice. Although students may have been given marks or grades on single pieces of evidence, we cannot disclose the final submitted TAG.

During the external quality assurance process taking place in June or July, our submitted TAGs may be moved up or down (although this will always be done through human agency, not by an algorithm).

**Further questions?** If you have any questions or queries or would like some additional information about the above, please do not hesitate to contact me on Ben.Moy@E-ACT.org.uk or the aforementioned members of staff for specific queries.

This has been a year unlike any other in memory, and the Year 11 students deserve an incredible amount of praise for the resilience they have shown completing this process- they will undoubtedly go on to thrive in further education.

Yours faithfully

Ben Moy

Assistant Headteacher for Progress- Y11