



HENLEY-IN-ARDEN SCHOOL

Achieving Excellence Together

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10 July 2020

Dear Year 11 Parents, Carers and Students,

1. **Key Stage 4 Results Day 2020 – How will it work?**

The government has announced that this year's results for Year 11 Key Stage 4 examinations, including GCSEs, will be published on **Thursday 20th August 2020**.

As you are already aware, final GCSE grades will be calculated by Awarding Organisations (AOs), not schools. The AOs will calculate grades with reference to students' previous attainment, national grade distributions and previous GCSE performance trends. This information will allow Ofqual and the AOs to standardise grades across schools and colleges nationally, to make sure that, as far as possible, results are fair and objective.

Ofqual are clear **schools are not able to provide any information or speculation on grades prior to their official publication**. Detailed information from *Ofqual* is available here: <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/how-gcse-as-a-levels-will-be-awarded-in-summer-2020>

In deference to the current government guidelines on public health and social distancing, **we will be sharing students' results via email on Thursday 20 August 2020**. Results will not be released prior to 8.00am but **you should have received them by 9.00am** at the latest. We will also post out copies of your results on this day. Results will be sent to students' school email accounts and their 'priority one' parent email address (the one to which School Gateway messages are usually sent).

I realise this situation will be disappointing for those students who might have hoped to see their friends on this day, but as a state-funded organisation it is our obligation to follow the government's protocols and advice in minimising opportunities for large groups of people to gather in one place at one time.

Please ensure your priority one contact details are up to date with school. We will send your results to students' own, individual school email addresses AND the priority one parent email address on School Gateway.

We have consulted with local post-16 providers, who have confirmed that they will accept the email attachment we send you as evidence of the grades secured. This should help those of you who need to send on this information quickly and electronically as confirmation of the grades you have achieved.

In the interests of everyone's safety, the school will follow current government guidelines in relation to coronavirus and **not allow visits to our school site**, which will be locked as staff will be issuing your grades from our systems remotely. However, **you will be able to call school after 9.00am to speak with a team of staff** should you require support, advice or guidance with your results. Mr Insley (Progress Leader Y11), Mrs Kelly (Examination Officer) and I will all be available to take your calls from 9.00am. Please just call the school number (above) in the usual way to speak to someone and your call will be routed to us remotely.

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2. Post 16 activity – what do I do about speaking with my college or sixth-form?

Many Year 11 students will already know where they wish to continue their education in September. These institutions will be ready to advise students on 20th August following the receipt of your GCSE results. **Please consult with your destination institution on how they will operate on results day** with regard to discussion of results and confirmation of places and courses for September.

All students have been impacted by the coronavirus and the closure of schools, but we recognise the unique experience of Year 11. When you receive your results, be assured that these qualifications represent your work in Years 9, 10 and 11, and are valid grades to take forward to the next stage of your study.

3. Autumn GCSE Examination series opportunity.

The *Joint Council for Qualifications (JCQ)* and *Ofqual* have now confirmed that there will be a full GCSE series in all subjects available in Autumn 2020. Optional **GCSE examinations will start on Monday 2 November and finish on Monday 23 November 2020.**

The autumn series will be available for young people for whom it was not possible to issue a grade or who wish to improve the calculated grades generated by the AOs based on having an opportunity to take an examination. Further details of how these examinations will be offered will be sent out nearer the time when we have received further guidance from central government.

Finally, may I please take this opportunity to wish all of our students a happy summer holiday. We are just as disappointed not to have been able to run our annual leavers' prom or results day processes this year, but must be led by the guidance issued from Public Health England. Mr Insley will be writing to you separately regarding arrangements for Year Books and Leavers' 'hoodies'.

Yours faithfully

Mr Michael McCulley
Deputy Headteacher

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