

**Childwall Sports & Science Academy** 

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Headteacher: Ms J Vincent

www.childwallssa.org

18 June 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

As we approach the end of the summer term, we would like to provide an outline of our plans for the Summer Results Days in August. As originally planned, student results will be available on the dates shown below.

KS5 Results (Year 13) - Thursday 13th August 2020

KS4 Results (Year 11) - Thursday 20th August 2020

It is our intention that these results days will go ahead as planned with students being offered the opportunity to attend school and receive their results in the traditional way. We will, of course, adhere to the social distancing guidelines in place at that time and as such will be allocating a particular appointment time for your son/daughter to attend school and collect their results. There will be additional information about these slots and alternative ways to receive your results in a further communication from the exams officer.

There has been much national debate about the appeals process for this summer exam series as, unlike the normal season, there are no exam papers available to be re-marked if a grade is not as expected. Ofqual (the government body that oversee examinations) have decided that for summer 2020, students can ask their school to appeal their result if they believe that an error has occurred. Exam boards will not accept appeals directly from students. Further information and details on this process will be available with the results in August. Please note that the exam boards are currently planning the details for an autumn exam series which will allow any students who wish to have an opportunity to re-sit an examination, the opportunity to do so.

For information, please see below an extract from full guidance which can be found at:

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\_data/file/890 811/Summer 2020 grades for GCSE AS A level guidance for teachers students parents 09062020.pdf

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact any of the staff below:

Head of Sixth Form; Mr Tyrer:

Deputy Headteacher; Miss Wilde:

Exams Officer; Mrs Blanchard:

Head of Year 11; Miss Tomlinson:

Key Stage 4 Manager; Mr Rietdyk:

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Yours faithfully,

Ms J E Vincent Headteacher



## EXTRACT FROM OFQUAL GUIDANCE:

## Can students appeal these grades?

We are committed to doing all that we can to make sure students are not disadvantaged by these unprecedented circumstances, including allowing for an appeal where appropriate.

In line with the direction given to us by the Secretary of State for Education, appeals will be allowed in cases where a school believes it has made an error when submitting its information; or similarly, if the school believes an exam board made a mistake when calculating, assigning or communicating a grade. Additionally, a student who had evidence of bias or discrimination should raise this with their school. They could also pass such evidence on to the exam board who could investigate for potential malpractice.

Following our consultation, we have given serious consideration as to whether a student could appeal against their school or college's centre assessment grades and position in the rank order. On balance, we have decided it would not be in the interests of all students, or the fairness of the arrangements overall, for a number of reasons. Firstly, the appeal would have to be undertaken by someone better placed than the student's teachers to judge the grade they would likely have received if the exams had taken place – in the unique circumstances of this summer we do not believe there is any such person. An appeal would also require students to have access to the information their school or college put forward before being submitted to exam boards. This may compromise the reliability of this year's approach. Furthermore, if one student successfully appealed against their position in the rank order, it would have negative implications for other students who would, in turn, need to be given an opportunity to appeal.

We intend that students who feel that their grades from the summer do not reflect their ability will have the opportunity to take their exams in the autumn series or in summer 2021. If they choose to do this, students will be able to use the higher of the two grades for future progression.

