



7 May 2024

Dear Year 13

As we move towards the final A Level exams, this is an update regarding exam arrangements, Results Day and next steps. Much of this information was covered in our assembly on 1 May.

Study leave

As you know, Year 13 study leave begins on Thursday 9 May so your final day in school is **Wednesday 8 May** and we are looking forward to celebrating with you all on that day. Once study leave begins, you may revise at home and come into school only for exams. You are of course still welcome to come into school to study independently, and for some students this will be a sensible choice. You must sign in and out at the bottom of the Tower Block as usual. Staff will be available if you need any subject guidance or pastoral support during study leave and the exam period; we encourage you to arrange a mutually convenient time to talk to staff wherever possible.

A Level examinations

You can access your **individual exam timetable** on Edulink and the full schedule is also available on the school website [here](#).

You must ensure you are familiar with the **Candidate Exam Handbook**, which is available on the school website under Curriculum: Exams and linked [here](#).

You should arrive at the correct venue by 08:45 for a morning exam and 12:45 for an afternoon exam.

If you are going to be late for an exam, due to traffic or a late bus for example, or you are unwell on the day of an exam, you, or your parent/carer, should phone Reception to let the school know. If, for any reason, it is not possible to contact the school by phone but email is available, please email office@ahs.bucks.sch.uk. Please always phone if possible though as this enables us to update the Exams team quickly.

You must not bring any form of phone or watch into the exam room. If a student is found to have a phone/watch or any other electronic items during an external exam season, they run the risk of being disqualified from all exams.

Although the final A Level exams are scheduled to take place on 21 June, all students should be available to attend school up to and including 26 June as exam boards have allocated this period for contingency days.

Return of library books and textbooks

Please ensure that you return any library books or textbooks to the Library once you have finished using them. The final day to hand in books is Friday 28 June. Lost or damaged books will be charged for at cost price. Please contact Miss Adams if you are unsure whether you still have outstanding items or have any other queries.

A Level Results Day - Thursday 15 August

We will be uploading examination results to **EduLink** for students to view on Results Day. On Thursday 15 August, you will be able to view your exam results on EduLink from 8:00am. If you are holding university offers, your application should be updated in the **UCAS Hub** around the same time so you will be able to see if your place has been confirmed. It is important to remember that in recent years many universities have accepted students who have not achieved their entry requirements, so don't panic if results do not go the way you had hoped! **Staff will be in school to support you** if you want to explore Clearing, re-visit your plans or discuss priority reviews of marking. You can either come in to talk to us in person or request a Google Meet or telephone call to discuss your options. We will send you more information about these arrangements nearer the time.

The information available on EduLink will only show the final grade you have received for each examination and not a breakdown of marks. If you want to see your marks, you will need to come into school on the morning of Results Day, or provide a stamped addressed envelope for us to send the results to you if you are unable to collect them on the day. (Envelopes will be organised prior to students going on study leave).

Clearing

We all hope that A Level Results Day will bring what you wish for, but sometimes results do not go as anticipated and different plans have to be made. If universities do not confirm their offers, you can enter the Clearing process to look for a suitable course. More than ever, Clearing is a positive experience for students; there are often really good course offers available at some fantastic universities. Clearing can sometimes offer the opportunity to get a place on a course that would have been out of reach at the time you made your original UCAS application.

You can make use of Clearing if you change your mind on or around Results Day about what you would like to do. If your firm or insurance choice is confirmed on Results Day, but you decide that you don't want to go there, you can decline your place and go into Clearing.

You may have heard of **Adjustment**. In previous years, this allowed you to look for another course if you had met and exceeded the conditions for your firm offer. Adjustment is no longer available; however, you can still look for another course via Clearing.

We will provide you with our detailed guide to Clearing and will share other relevant resources before Results Day. We will be here to help you with Clearing on Results Day and in the days immediately afterwards.

Year 14 applications

If you want to make a UCAS application in the next academic year for entry in 2025, then we are happy to help you and to submit the application on your behalf, but you will need to ensure you communicate early and regularly with us. We would strongly encourage you to make an appointment to talk to us some time in September, once the school year is underway. Applications for 2024 entry will need to be with us by 4 October (Oxbridge, Medicine, Dentists, Vets) or 6 January 2025 (all other applications).

Not everyone will go to university or onto apprenticeships this year, of course, and we are very happy to help our former students whenever they want to submit applications for employment, apprenticeships or higher education. We will always do all that we can to support your applications. You have recently been asked to complete a Google Form which invites you to share your contact details so that the school can keep in touch with you in future.

As always, please talk to one of the Sixth Form team if you have any questions.

Kind regards

Dr Falls