



Dear Year 11 Students and parents/carers,

**RE: GCSE Results Day 2021 and the appeals process**

It has been particularly difficult this year with the GCSE examinations being cancelled. I would like to update you regarding arrangements for your child's GCSE Results Day, and the subsequent next steps guidance and advice we will be offering.

We hope that, despite the unusual circumstances surrounding this year's exam results, there will be much to celebrate and that students' hard work will be recognised.

**Collection of Examination Results Thursday 12th August 2021**

We are pleased to announce that the school will be able to hand out the GCSE results to Year 11 students on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> August 2021. We have had to organise the collection of results using the guidance we currently have on social distancing and being in an enhanced response area. Unfortunately, this does mean students will not be able to celebrate a traditional results day experience but we must put the health and safety of all first. This also means that we are not able to welcome parents/carers into buildings to collect results. Parents must not accompany their child into school, and should remain in their cars if they are on-site. Students need to arrive wearing a mask and the collection point will be signposted. **Collection times are allocated by first letters of surnames and in 15min slots. Ensure you arrive within your allocated time slot.**

**A – F** 10.00am – 10.15am  
**G – L** 10.15am – 10.30am  
**M – R** 10.30am – 10.45am  
**S – Z** 10.45am – 11.00am

Results will also be emailed to students' school email address. If you have trouble accessing this account please contact [enquiries@shevingtonhigh.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@shevingtonhigh.org.uk) as soon as possible.

Information regarding appeals is explained overleaf and is also available on the exams section of the school website. Should you have any queries, following the publication of results, please complete the google form found here and on our website <https://forms.gle/4T3ouCmCGaAkbHd27>, or contact [enquiries@shevingtonhigh.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@shevingtonhigh.org.uk), where myself and members of the senior leadership team will be on hand to respond. **Individual subject teachers will not be able to address your queries.**

You may also be aware that when GCSEs were cancelled this year, the Government advised that students would have the opportunity to resit their exams in an autumn exam series if they felt that the grade they were awarded did not reflect the one they thought they might achieve. Ofqual has confirmed that a full suite of exams will be offered in the autumn term. These exams will be scheduled in November and if you would like to more information regarding resits, please contact the Exams Officer.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate all students and parents on how well they have coped with what has been a very challenging time. We are sorry that our students did not get the chance to sit their examinations but we want you to know that we recognise how hard they worked and we hope that they will continue to be successful in the future.

Yours sincerely

Mr Grant  
Headteacher

National Support School  
designated by



National College for  
Teaching & Leadership



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## What happens next?

### Appeals

There will be an appeals system, as a safety net to fix any genuine errors that were not identified earlier on. If you believe an error has been made in determining your grade, you will have a right to appeal.

There are two stages to the appeals process:

#### Stage 1: centre review

If you don't think you have been issued with the correct grade, you can appeal and we will review whether we:

- made an administrative error, e.g. we submitted an incorrect grade; we used an incorrect assessment mark when determining your grade.
- did not apply a procedure correctly, e.g. we did not follow our Centre Policy, did not undertake internal quality assurance, did not take account of access arrangements or mitigating circumstances, such as illness.

To help you decide whether to appeal, you can request that we share with you the following information on results day, if not before:

- our Centre Policy (on the school website)
- the sources of evidence used to determine your grade along with any grades/marks associated with them
- details of any special circumstances that have been taken into account in determining your grade, e.g. access arrangements, mitigating circumstances such as illness

#### Stage 2: appeal to the exam board

If you still don't think you have the correct grade after the centre review is complete, you can ask to appeal to the exam board, who will review whether

- we made an unreasonable exercise of academic judgement<sup>1</sup> in the choice of evidence from which we determined your grade and/or in the determination of your grade from that evidence.
- we did not apply a procedure correctly, e.g. we did not follow our Centre Policy, did not undertake internal quality assurance, did not take account of access arrangements or mitigating circumstances, such as illness.
- the exam board made an administrative error, e.g. they changed your grade during the processing of grades.

At both stages of the process you will need to submit your appeal to us and give your written consent to conduct the appeal or submit it to the exam board on your behalf. It's important to remember that **your grade can go down, up or stay the same** through either stage of the process.

The timelines for non-priority appeals will be as follows:

- » **12 August to 3 September:** student requests centre review
- » **10 August to 10 September:** centre conducts centre review
- » **11 August to 17 September:** centre submits appeal to exam board

Finally, if you believe the exam board has made a procedural error in handling your appeal, you can apply to Ofqual's Exam Procedures Review Service to review the process undertaken by the exam board.

<sup>1</sup> A reasonable judgement is one that is supported by evidence. An exercise of judgement will not be unreasonable simply because a student considers that an alternative grade should have been awarded, even if the student puts forward supporting evidence. There may be a difference of opinion without there being an unreasonable exercise of judgement. The reviewer will not remark individual assessments to make fine judgements but will take a holistic approach based on the overall evidence.



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