

**August 17<sup>th</sup> 2020**

## **AS/A Results2020 – Updated Information for Year 12 and 13 students and parents**

It was a pleasure to see students in Years 12 and 13 receiving their results on Thursday.

For those of you in Year 13, I hope you find that the results overall are an accurate reflection of what you might have achieved in normal conditions, and that they have enabled you to progress to the next stage of your lives, whether it be into employment or higher education. These extraordinary circumstances certainly do not reduce either their worth or the validity of your achievement; they represent 13 years of school, and all the hard work that you have undertaken over those years. We are very proud of you, and thank you for your grace and patience during this difficult period. Year 12 will also have received their AS level results and it is clear WJEC has applied its standardisation algorithm at AS level as well.

A few students will have been disappointed by the grades awarded to them at AS or A level, particularly if they are different to those predicted by teachers. As you are aware, the school's assessment of a student's achievement is subject to a standardisation process which has been devised by the examining board and exams regulator. We strongly believe that the school's assessment accurately reflects achievement at both AS and A level

I am sure that you will have been following the news this weekend; Qualifications Wales has announced changes to the appeals process so that the grounds for an appeal will be widened, and the specific details of this will be published next week. This applies to this summer's GCSE, AS and A levels, and the Welsh Baccalaureate Skills Challenge Certificate qualifications.

### **Qualifications Wales published this statement on Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> August:**

“Earlier this week, the Minister for Education asked us to consider this summer's appeal process, taking into account changes by regulators in England and Northern Ireland. This was with a view to ensuring that learners in Wales are not placed at a disadvantage in relation to learners in those other jurisdictions. We have worked closely with WJEC and considered the changes being introduced in England to find the best way forward for Welsh learners. As a result, we are extending the grounds for appeal for this summer's GCSE, AS and A levels, and the Welsh Baccalaureate Skills Challenge Certificate qualifications.

### **Internal assessment evidence**

An appeal can now be made on the grounds that there is *evidence of internal assessment that has been judged by the school or college to be at a higher grade than the calculated grade awarded*. Internal assessment evidence will need to meet *specific criteria*, which is being finalised and will be published shortly. If the appeal is successful, the learner's grade will be revised to be the same as their internal assessment grade, but no higher than the Centre Assessment Grade submitted by the centre.

We are aware that some centres are concerned that the statistical standardisation model used to calculate the A level grades awarded, has not reflected the value added relationship that may exist



at the centre between performance at AS and A level. We believe that this new ground for appeal will address this issue.

WJEC will provide further details on the process to submit appeals which will be available early next week.

### **Grade protection**

*We can also offer assurance that all learners who are named in an appeal, whether they have provided consent or not, will not be at risk of having their grades lowered as a result of the appeal. Grades will only go up or remain the same as part of the appeals process."*

We are watching this developing situation very closely and will provide you with any additional advice and guidance as soon as we have it. We are aware of all students whose CAGs are above the awarded grade. As such it is not necessary for you to contact us at this time with a request for your CAGs or to appeal. In the meantime, we hope this information is of use to you.

Kind regards and best wishes,

Mr Pawar- Headteacher

