



Our ref: MME/HFT
Date: 18th August 2020

Dear Parent/Carer,

Dear Year 11 students and parents,

I do not normally write to students and parents before we issue the exam results but given the unprecedented times we are living in and the recent announcements, I wanted to contact you to clarify the situation. I am sure like me, you will be extremely pleased to see that the Government has clarified that all GCSE grades awarded this year will be the centre assessed grades. This is fair and reflects the hard work and effort you have all put in - we are confident that you would have achieved these grades if you had been given the chance to sit your exams in the summer. Unfortunately, at this point the Government has not clarified if the same process will be applied to any students who took BTEC courses. However, I am confident that your centre assessed grades for BTEC will become your actual results too.

I have been working hard behind the scenes on this issue since Ofqual announced their proposal for this year's results in May. We have had significant concerns that the system could result in students' actual grades not matching what they would have achieved. I chose not to share these with you all at the time as I knew it would cause anxiety. The Ofqual system (which has now been abandoned) involved the results being moderated by the exam boards to ensure they are similar to what students achieved in previous years. This is fair if (like the majority of schools) exam results do not change too much at a school each year. However, as you will be aware, we are one of the most rapidly improving schools in the country and as a result the trajectory of our previous results is extremely important in determining what this year's students could achieve. We raised the matter in our submission to Ofqual's consultation back in June but unfortunately they chose to ignore a school's results trajectory. I also raised this issue several months ago with Leeds City Council, the Association of School and College Leaders and with Stuart Andrew (who is our local MP). All supported our view that the trajectory a school is on is extremely important if the results are to be an accurate reflection of each students' ability.

Your centre assessed grades are truly that – grades which the school thought you would have achieved in your actual exams if you had sat them. The process of arriving at these grades was rigorous as I explained in my letter earlier this year and took into account a variety of sources of evidence. It also involved your class teachers, all Subject Leaders and members of the Senior Leadership Team. I am delighted that these grades will now become your official exam results as they reflect the hard work and effort you have all made.



We will provide students with a print out from our system which shows your centre assessed grades which will now be your official exam results. We do not expect the exam boards to be able to change their systems before Thursday as it is an extremely short timescale. As a result we will post out the official exam board print outs when they are made available to us. These exam board print outs will have identical grades to the print out from our system so what you receive from us on Thursday will be your official 2020 GCSE results.

Practicalities for Thursday 20th September

Some schools are choosing to issue exam results electronically this year. However, we want to ensure that our students receive their results in person in school whilst maintaining social distancing. We want to invite all of Year 11 into school to receive their results. **Please note that face coverings are compulsory on Thursday in the building for students and staff involved in distributing the results.**

To ensure that students are socially distanced we will be giving results out in two separate areas of the school:

- Main Hall
- Sports Hall

Students will be allocated an area by the first letter of their surname.

Surnames A-L: Main Hall

Entrance/exit to building: Main Reception Entrance

Surnames M-Z: Sports Hall

Entrance/exit to building: Sports Hall fire doors access via delivery gates on Mount Pleasant Road.

Results can be collected from: 9am till 11am

- Face masks/coverings are compulsory
- All students will sanitise their hands on entry to the building.
- To reduce numbers on site we will only allow students in (not parents).

Students will receive an envelope which will contain their actual GCSE exam grades. In the envelope, students will have a slip directing them to "Desk A" "Desk B" or "Desk C."

Desk A - Students who are returning to Sixth Form and are confirming their place/subject options

Desk B - Students who are returning to Sixth Form and require further discussion regarding their subject options

Desk C - Students who are leaving school to go to college/apprenticeship and must confirm their destination/course



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If you or your son or daughter has any questions about Results Day please contact Mr Sammons in the first instance (p.sammon01@pudseygrangefield.co.uk). Also, members of the Senior Leadership Team along with some Subject Leaders will be available to provide support and advice on the day.

We are looking forward to welcoming a record intake into our Sixth Form in September where all Year 12 courses will be taught on our site by our staff for the first time in over 30 years. This is an exciting new development and we are looking forward to working with all of our students to build on their successes at GCSE. We have invested heavily in the Sixth Form and will continue to do so. If you haven't applied or have changed your mind about a place you may have elsewhere we can arrange a discussion with you. Our priority on Thursday is to ensure that you get on a secure pathway of your choice for the next academic year. I am confident that we will be able to do this and we look forward to working with you to achieve this goal.

Yours sincerely,

**Mr M McKelvie
Principal**

