



THE THOMAS LORD AUDLEY SCHOOL

Part of The Sigma Trust

Headteacher: Helena Boast BA MEd

15 July 2020

Dear STUDENT

I am writing to you in these extraordinary times about the arrangements for this Summer's examinations. On the 18th March 2020, the Secretary of State for Education announced that the Summer 2020 GCSE exam series would be cancelled in order to help fight the spread of the coronavirus (COVID-19) and that students due to sit the exams would be awarded a grade based on an assessment of the grade they would have been most likely to achieve had exams gone ahead.

For this Summer's awards, Ofqual asked schools to make fair and objective judgements and provide centre assessed grades for their students. Schools calculated exam grades based on what they believe a student would have achieved had they sat their exams this year. Ofqual also asked schools to provide a rank order of students within each grade in a subject. For example, for all those students with a centre assessment grade of 5 in GCSE maths, were ranked in order, where 1 is the most secure attaining student and so on to the least secure. These grades were then sent to the exam boards to moderate and standardise grades across all schools to make sure that, as far as possible, results would be fair. These were then sent to Ofqual for further checking and statistical moderation. The exam boards will issue the final grades to individual students based on these procedures.

Exam Results Day

Ofqual have confirmed that the exam result dates will remain as originally planned for GCSE and Level 2 BTEC results for Year 11, this will be available on Thursday 20 August 2020. The social distancing measures currently in place in schools means that we are unable to invite students into school to pick up their results in the usual way. As previously outlined, in a letter sent to Year 11 in June, we have endeavoured to make the most appropriate arrangement in the current circumstances.

All students will be able to receive exam grades electronically. From 9.00am on Thursday 20 August 2020, students will be able to login to www.go4schools.com to download their grades. If you have not already done so, please login to Go4schools using your school email address. If you have forgotten your password, you can reset it directly on the Go4schools website using your school email account.

For a small number of students at a time, paper copies can be collected by appointment from the school Main Hall. Appointments will last for a maximum of 20 minutes and will be limited to ten students per session. The first session will start at 9.45am and then every half hour until the final session, which will start at 11.45am. If you wish to book an appointment for a session, you should email kate.humphries@tla.school clearly stating your full name, your tutor group and your preferred time. We will then confirm the appointment you have been allocated. You should not arrive earlier than your appointment due to social distancing rules. You should also note that there will not be very many teachers in school on this day so that health and safety guidelines can be adhered to. Further information about the arrangements will be provided when your appointment is confirmed.



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On Thursday 20 August we will update you on next steps regarding college applications and careers support should it be required. Mrs Green will be available via email and telephone.

Can students appeal the calculated grades awarded?

Where appropriate an appeals process will be available by contacting the school. Should any student or parent feel that the grade awarded in a specific subject was unfair or unjust, please be aware that there is no recourse to schools. There are two options:

- Follow the advice on how to challenge the grade awarded by exam boards (see link listed below), or
- re-sit the examination during the Autumn term of 2020.

Will students be able to sit all of their exams in the Autumn?

Ofqual are committed to doing all that they can to make sure students are not disadvantaged by these unprecedented circumstances and have allowed exam boards to provide an Autumn exam series. This will enable any student who does not feel their calculated grade reflects their ability, to have the opportunity to sit an exam at the earliest reasonable opportunity. If an exam is taken in the Autumn series both grades will stand. There is limited information about this process available currently.

For further information, please follow the links below:

- to a video produced by Ofqual explaining in detail how this process has been completed by schools. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VXuDOrtJY1Q&feature=youtu.be>
- to the Ofqual website where you can find all the information and latest updates about the summer 2020 examinations. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/how-gcses-as-a-levels-will-be-awarded-in-summer-2020>
- to further guidance on the calculated grade process for Vocational and technical qualifications. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/awarding-vocational-and-technical-qualifications-this-summer>

If you have any questions or require any additional information, please do not hesitate to contact Mrs Humphries, Exams Officer by email kate.humphries@tla.school.

Yours sincerely

Mr S Essex
Deputy Headteacher