



# In Partnership to Educate, Nurture & Empower

Abbey Grange C of E Academy

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Co-CEO: Ms Catherine Garrett

Co-CEO: Mrs Helen Pratten

Principal: Mr Jon Norden

16 July 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

Results day this year will be a little different. We do feel it important that students get the opportunity to attend school to collect results and have time to see staff and students, while being mindful of social distancing measures. We see results day as an important day in our students' lives and that we share in the successes and support with the next steps of their learning journey.

In order to ensure we are able to maintain social distancing requirements we will be allocating each student a time slot to attend the academy to pick up results according to their surname initial. We will have to follow a strict set of social distancing protocols in order to ensure everyone's safety. Please see the table below for your allocated slot time and read and adhere to the results day guidelines

Surname initial	Time slot
A	8.30 to 8.50
B to E	8.50 to 9.10
F to H	9.10 to 9.30
J to L	9.30 to 9.50
M	9.50 to 10.10
N to P	10.10 to 10.30
R to S	10.30 to 10.50
T to Z	10.50 to 11.10

## Who can collect results?

- ONLY the student can collect their results.
- If a student cannot attend they can leave a stamped addressed envelope at main reception prior to results day OR
- send another person on results day during the allocated slot time with written permission from the student to collect on their behalf. That person will also need photo ID.
- **If the student or parent or anyone else in your household has Covid-19 symptoms, you cannot attend to pick up results. This would also apply to anyone in quarantine. In these circumstances, results will be posted out.**

## Picking up your exam results:

- All exam results will be collected from the Hibret Hall entrance.
- 2 metre social distancing must be maintained at all times.
- Students to enter the bottom car park and stand on the allocated dots on the playground, as guided by a member of staff.
- Students will individually go up the Hibret Hall main steps and collect their exam results.
- Students will then be asked to walk along the pathway outside the food rooms to the main car park where they can meet their parents/carers and friends to open results.
- Staff will be in main playground.
- We will ask all students and families to leave the site at the end of their 25 minute slot.



### **Parents/carers:**

- No parking will be allowed at the bottom car park.
- Please keep family members that come with you to a minimum.
- Parents/carers can enter the bottom main car park ONLY and maintain 2 metre social distancing guidelines.
- Staff will be at the school gates monitoring numbers in the car park and if deemed too high, entry for parents/carers may be restricted.

### **Can I talk to my teachers about my results?**

- You can of course speak to teachers to celebrate your exam results while maintaining social distancing.
- However, the exam guidance clearly states that staff are not allowed to discuss your results day grades compared to Centre Assessed Grades with any student.

### **What if I did not get the results I expected to return to school and college?**

- Senior leaders and the Post 16 team will be available to speak to you in the courtyard/quad canopy area, if you wish to talk about your return to Post 16 in September.
- If you did not get the grades you were expecting for College, please contact your College via phone.
- Our Careers Advisor will also be on hand to support you in the Courtyard.

### **Centre Assessed Grades**

Centre assessed grades (CAGs) will not be released on results day. If students wish to receive the centre assessed grades for one or more of their subjects, they will be able to complete a form from the Monday following the results day.

- The form will be made available on the website on that day.
- Students themselves should complete the form using **their school email address only**, in order to verify the user. We will provide the CAGs to the students within 5 working days of receiving the request.

### **Moving into Year 12 arrangements:**

We are busy planning for next year and in particular the arrangements for Year 12 students. The information will be sent out when we have clarity on how school will run safely in September and beyond. If you haven't already done so, please can you confirm this via email at [sixthform@abbeygrangeacademy.co.uk](mailto:sixthform@abbeygrangeacademy.co.uk) if you intend on taking your place at our 6th Form. Those who do so will take priority over those who have not yet confirmed their place. If, after results day, you require further help with your choices in light of your GCSE results, you should make an appointment with Mr Golding or Mrs Goodier. Details of how to do this will be confirmed in the induction letter that will be sent out prior to September.

The first day back for year 12 students is planned for Tuesday 8 September 2020. The timings of the day and the rest of the induction week will be confirmed in the coming weeks. If you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact the 6th Form team via email at [sixthform@abbeygrangeacademy.co.uk](mailto:sixthform@abbeygrangeacademy.co.uk)

### **Understanding how Summer results work this year:**

We are aware that this year is very different to what we had anticipated and there has been lots of different information in the press about exam results and resits. New guidance was published by the government which gives detailed information on the decisions made about summer 2020 results and the link to this can be found below. In order to try and summarise the key questions you may have, we have summarised the guidance into questions below.

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/887048/Summer\\_2020\\_Awarding\\_GCSEs\\_A\\_levels\\_-\\_Consultation\\_decisions\\_22MAY2020.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/887048/Summer_2020_Awarding_GCSEs_A_levels_-_Consultation_decisions_22MAY2020.pdf)

### **Results and progression**

#### **When will results be released?**

- Results will be released on the published results days as originally planned.

- **These are 13 August for A level and 20 August for GCSE.**

**Will grades issued in 2020 have the same currency as grades issued in previous or future years?**

- The grades awarded to students will have the same currency as grades awarded in other years and should be treated in this way by universities, colleges and employers.
- On the results slips and certificates, grades will be reported in the same way as in previous years.

**Can students appeal these grades?**

- It has been decided that there should not be an opportunity for students to challenge their centre assessment grade or their position in the centre's rank order through an appeal.
- Exam boards should only consider appeals submitted by centres, not by students directly.

**Can I re sit my exams if I am not happy with my grades?**

- Yes
- Students who feel that their grades from the summer do not reflect their ability will have the opportunity to take their exams in the autumn series or in summer 2021.
- If they choose to do this, students will be able to use the higher of the two grades for future progression.

**Autumn exams**

**Who will be eligible to take exams in the autumn?**

- Entry to autumn exams will be open to all students who had entered for GCSEs, AS and A levels in the summer series or to those who the exam board believes have made a compelling case about their intention to have entered the summer series.
- Students who would normally be entitled to take GCSEs in English language and Maths in November should also be able to take exams in those subjects.

**When will the autumn exam series be held?**

- AS and A level exams to take place in October and GCSE exams in November.
- Exam boards will run a further series in January for GCSE English language and maths only – if there is demand for this.
- The exam boards will set the entry deadlines for students wanting to take exams in the autumn for a date in September.
- **Families should not make resit decisions on results day, this should be made when students return in September.**

**Which centres will enter students in autumn exams?**

- Where a student wishes to sit an exam in the autumn, the Department for Education has confirmed in their guidance that the centre responsible for entering the student in the 2020 summer series should enter the student in the autumn series and take overall responsibility for ensuring that they have somewhere appropriate to sit their exams.

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

- Yes. To ensure this is fair for all students, the exam boards will offer the full suite of GCSE, AS and A level qualifications in the autumn.
- This means any student who does not feel their calculated grade reflects their ability is given the opportunity to sit an exam at the earliest reasonable opportunity.

**If students are unhappy with a grade, do they have to take all their exams in the autumn or can they just take exams in the subject they are unhappy with?**

- Students will not have to sit exams in all subjects in the autumn.
- They may take exams in as few subjects as they would like to.
- If a student wishes to take exams in a particular subject in the autumn, they will need to take all the exam papers in that subject.

**Will the format of exam papers in the autumn series be any different to usual?**

- No. It is important that students take a style of exam paper which is familiar to them and allows them to demonstrate the full range of their knowledge.
- The format of exam papers in the autumn series will, therefore, be the same as those usually offered in the summer.

**To what extent will non-exam assessment be taken into account in the autumn series?**

- While it would be desirable for the autumn series to include NEA, in the current circumstances, the fairest option is for qualifications taken in the autumn to be based on students' exam performance only.
- The exception to this is in art and design, where exam boards will set a new task that students would need to complete under supervised conditions.
- This is because some students will have completed non-exam assessment before schools and colleges closed on 20 March, but others will not have done so.

**Will there be a cost for students taking exams in the autumn?**

- Fees for exams are set by the exam boards.
- They will share further information on fees for awarding grades this summer, and for the optional autumn exam series in due course.

**Will students choosing to take an exam this autumn still be able to go to university this year?**

- Students may still choose to take an exam even where their university or college place has been confirmed.
- However, it will take time for the results of these exams to be issued, so they will need to discuss with their higher or further education institution whether to start their course as planned or to delay their entry.
- Organisations that represent higher and further education providers have been asked to consider how they might be flexible in admissions decisions, considering delays to entry to courses, for any students choosing to take an exam this autumn.

**When will the results of the autumn exams series be released?**

- In usual circumstances the DfE does not specify when results must be issued and this year results days for the autumn series should also be set by exam boards, in consultation with other stakeholders. The DfE has spoken to the exam boards who believe that results for A level exams taken during October could be published before Christmas and results for GCSE exams taken in November could be published in February.
- The results for GCSE English and maths could be published in January, as usual. This is dependent on the final dates of the autumn exam series, however.

**If students take an exam this autumn, which will stand – the exam or centre assessment grade?**

- Students who feel that their grades from the summer do not reflect their ability will have the opportunity to take their exams in the autumn series or in summer 2021.
- If they choose to do this, students will be able to use the higher of the 2 grades for future progression.

**Will students be able to appeal the results of the autumn exam series?**

- The autumn series will replicate a normal summer exam series as far as is possible.
- The normal review of marking and appeal arrangements will therefore apply to the autumn series.

**How do I let school know if I want to re sit my GCSE exams?**

The Joint Council for Qualifications announced on 10<sup>th</sup> July that the Autumn Series exam timetable will run as follows:

- GCSE examinations start on Monday 2 November and finish on Monday 23 November.

With the deadline for entry being:

- GCSE (except English Language and Mathematics): 18 September 2020.
- GCSE (English Language and Mathematics): 4 October 2020.

We understand this year is different to any other year. If you feel you want to re sit your AS or A level examinations with us, there will be a form to complete on the school website. For any other exam related queries, please send an email to: [aga-exams@abbeygrangeacademy.co.uk](mailto:aga-exams@abbeygrangeacademy.co.uk) stating your full name and full course name/ unit name that you wish to re sit no later than Friday 10<sup>th</sup> September 2020. The academy will aim to reply to your email within 48 hours.

We look forward to seeing you on results day and then returning with us in September as year 12 students On Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> September 2020. If you are moving onto pastures new, we wish you all the luck in the world with your next step of your learning journey. Please let us know how you get on in the future and we hopefully will be able to see you at our presentation evening which will hopefully be held in December 2020, current COVID - 19 situation dependent.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "J. Thornton". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized initial "J".

Jenny Thornton  
Vice Principal