

14<sup>th</sup> August 2020

Dear Students, Parents and Carers,

### **KS5 results 2020: Official assigned grades and appeals process information**

Firstly, we would like to congratulate all our Year 13s on the results they received yesterday. Not only did many receive the grades they were hoping for, and indeed needed, in order to move onto their first choice university, but where students were disappointed they each showed commendable strength of character in dealing with this.

I am writing to set out the steps that the School will be taking to support the students over the coming weeks. There are situations where individual students have been left with grades below what they expected, and in some cases this has resulted in the loss of a place at a chosen university. The School is committed to supporting these students to secure a place on a degree that they are happy with and appealing any results where we believe there is a case that can be made in the student's interest. We will also be continuing to support those students looking for apprenticeships, jobs or traineeships in what is a challenging economic climate.

#### University offers

Students who did not secure a place at their firm or insurance choice should get the security of an offer from a university through Clearing now, even if they hope or expect their grades to move forward on appeal. If students then do meet their firm choice university's entry requirements following a successful appeal, we understand and expect that each university will honour their original offer of a place for the 2020-21 academic year. Students should, nonetheless, contact their firm choice university to explain that they are appealing their grade(s). The School has a list of the students to whom this applies and our team will be working with them until they secure a place.

#### Appeals process

Instead of the usual terminal exams, like all schools we were asked to complete the centre assessed grade process by the Government. We submitted our grades in June 2020 and this process has been outlined in previous correspondence, which you can read [here](#).

Ofqual, the independent regulator of exams in England, standardised the grades that all schools submitted with the desire to keep them roughly in line with previous years' data. As you may well be aware, it has been reported that nationwide approximately 40% of all grades submitted by schools were moved down.

Yesterday we asked all students to notify us if they wished to appeal a result that they were dissatisfied with. We have taken a record of all of these wishes and these students have signed consent forms allowing the School to appeal the result on their behalf.

The Government has suggested that grounds for a successful appeal will include mock exam results, and we are completing the process of comparing all of the most recent mock results against the actual exam results assigned to students. If a student has a higher achieved grade in their most recent mock

exam than they received in the final results, we will be appealing on behalf of that student, subject to their consent.

Ofqual will be publishing the details of the appeals process next week. As soon as we have the details, we will begin submitting our appeals. While we had many outstanding results yesterday, we want all of our students to receive the results that they deserve. The costs of all appeals will be taken by the School. We will be contacting all students who have requested appeals to confirm that an appeal is to be lodged once we have received full details of the process from Ofqual. Students do not need to take any further action at the moment.

### October exam series

If students are unsuccessful in their appeal, they can resit their final exams in October 2020. There are three key details in relation to this:

1. There is no cost to students who wish to sit these exams.
2. Students, parents or carers must notify us by 31<sup>st</sup> August if students wish to be entered for any of these exams.
3. Whatever the outcome of the exams, students will keep their best result. For example, if they were awarded a B grade yesterday and achieved a C grade in the October exam series, that October result would be disregarded and they would keep the B grade.

If you have any questions about any of the above, please do not hesitate to get in touch with Mr Barker by email at [barkerc@cfbs.islington.sch.uk](mailto:barkerc@cfbs.islington.sch.uk).

My very best wishes,

Mr Brownhill  
Headteacher