

## **GCSE RESULTS DAY: 20<sup>th</sup> AUGUST 2020**

I hope this letter finds you and your family in good health.

Although our surroundings are starting to open up again, we are still aware of the impact Covid-19 has and is still having on us all. Usually we would be reminding you about GCSE results procedures, but this year following local and national guidance, we have decided to change our process so you can receive your results safely. In line with many other schools we will be adopting a hybrid model this year with results issued online and support for students available on site. This model will help to minimise the risk of COVID-19 transmission by preventing large numbers of people coming on to the school site whilst still offering appropriate face to face support for the students who require it.

### **Students should log on to the AIM dashboard from 8am on Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> August 2020.**

The pdf document will be waiting for students in the documents section and will be titled 'GCSE Exam Results Summer 2020'. You will be able to download this sheet and see the grades issued to you by the Examination Boards from here. As in previous years, we cannot give out results over the telephone or to parents.

You should take some time to carefully read your results. If you have applied to continue your studies into the **Sixth Form at NSB**, and your grades match your entry requirements, the AIM Portal will be updated from 9:00am; you will see the status as "Place Confirmed." All you have to do now is complete your Induction work for each of your subjects, ready to submit to your class teachers in September.

If your grades mean that you have not achieved your subject specific entry (for some / all of your subjects) or your minimum entry requirements **we will tell you this in the Sixth Form Application Portal – please check in the 'Talk to Us' section.** If these circumstances apply to you, you will be able to arrange an appointment with a member of Senior Staff to discuss your options. Appointments with the members of Senior Staff can be booked by calling NSB Reception on (01604) 230240. We can also arrange conversations with Ms Shaeffer, our Careers Advisor. **Please do not come in to School without first booking an appointment on the number above.** The first appointments will be on Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> August from 9am, preferably by telephone or Microsoft Teams or in a few circumstances in person. Those students and parents who do come into school for an appointment will be expected to follow the measures in force to reduce the risk of transmission of Coronavirus. No student or parent displaying any of the symptoms of Coronavirus will be allowed to come into the school.

Further information from Ofqual is already available on the school website [www.nsb.northants.sch.uk](http://www.nsb.northants.sch.uk). This will be useful if you have questions about how GCSE grades have been calculated this year. If additional information is made available from the Awarding Bodies (AQA, OCR and Edexcel) we will also make that available on the website.

Ofqual have confirmed that there will be no opportunity for students to appeal an exam grade or their rank order position, however, if there is evidence that there has been a technical error by the school or by the exam board then the school will be able to make an appeal on the student's behalf. Students do have a right to appeal if they have evidence that a centre (the school) did not behave with care or integrity when determining the centre assessment grade and / or rank order information. These concerns should normally be brought to the school's attention in the first instance before an appeal is made to the Exam Board. Full guidance on

this process will be published in the exams section of our website before the results are released to schools.

From Monday 24<sup>th</sup> August, we will also be allowing students to request access to their Centre Assessed Grades submitted to the Awarding Bodies (AQA, OCR and Edexcel). This request should be made in writing to [exams@nsb.northants.sch.uk](mailto:exams@nsb.northants.sch.uk)

There will be an **Autumn exam series** should you wish to retake one or more of your GCSEs. Information about this series of exams will be shortly available on the school website in the Exams section, but the dates of these exams have been confirmed as Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> November through to Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2020. The exams will cover all of the normal written exam papers for the subject and will be entirely paper-based assessments (bar Art and Design and Photography qualifications), with no non-exam assessment – no coursework grades will be carried over for any subject. If you enter for an exam your final GCSE grade for a subject will be the higher of your summer / autumn exam grade. All of the exams will be sat at the school.

If you decide you do want to enter for these exams, please read the information on the school website when it is made available by us after results day and make contact with the Exams Office no later than Friday 28<sup>th</sup> August 2020 by telephone or by email. We are unclear about the cost of these exams, however, payment for entries will be requested at the time of requesting resits. We anticipate that we may be able to refund these fees if a student achieves a higher grade than the one awarded to them in August.

**Exam certificates** are usually dispatched to School by the end of November. We will put a method of collection in place which is dependent upon Covid-19 guidance at that time.

We appreciate that this is not the usual way we like to celebrate our students' successes. Whilst reacting to the global pandemic, we still want to offer as much support and help as we can. If you have any questions about this process, please contact me at the School.

Mrs H Topping Shaw

Assistant Headteacher (Examinations)