



# Wales HIGH SCHOOL

HEADTEACHER: MR. G. DI'IASIO

20 August 2020

Dear Parent / Carer

I am delighted to be able to share your child's GCSE results with them today. These are a testament to their hard work and perseverance over many years.

I wanted to take the opportunity to explain how results were determined this year. As you know, this year's GCSE results had to be awarded differently from usual, after exams were unable to go ahead due to Covid-19. Schools and colleges were asked to use their professional experience to make a fair and objective judgement of the grades they believed a student would have achieved had they sat their exams this year, and to submit these centre-assessed grades (CAGs) to the relevant exam board.

Groups of teachers and leaders in each subject worked together to discuss and agree the centre-assessed grade for each student. They took into account a wide range of available evidence, including class work, mock exams and other records of student performance.

The intention was that the exam boards would then moderate the CAGs, to check that schools and colleges had approached this task consistently, before providing students with their final calculated grades. Unfortunately, as you will no doubt be aware, the method they used to do this proved problematic, and was likely to lead to many grades being unfairly downgraded.

The government therefore made the decision that GCSE and A level students would be awarded whichever was higher for each subject – their CAG or their calculated grade. This is what the grades they are receiving today are based on.

If your child is unhappy with any of their results, I would encourage you in the first instance to contact either Miss Ludlam (Assistant Headteacher / Head of Exams), Mr Beardsley (Head of Year) or your post 16 provider (where appropriate) as they will be able to discuss concerns, and advise them on any next steps. Their post 16 provider may well be flexible about your child's entry requirements and so it is important that your child contacts them if they have any concerns about their next stage of education.

If your child wants to resit any of their exams, the current plan is for a full series of exams to take place in November. We don't yet have full details of how this will work, but please let us know if that's something they would like to discuss.

Congratulations again to all our students for everything you have achieved in this most difficult of years.

Pepe Di'Iasio  
Headteacher