

04/08/2020

Dear Parents/Carers and Students,

## **RE: Exam results Day – GCSE and A Level**

Following on from the information that you have already received with regards to results day please find below a summary of the process and some additional information regarding the appeals process and the additional autumn exam series.

There will be no on-site Results Day event at any WeST school this year due to the restrictions around large social gatherings. Results will be issued to students by email or post choice reflecting student choice and those who have applied to the 6<sup>th</sup> form will receive confirmation that they have been accepted. Even if they appear to not have met all of the entry requirements the acceptance is correct. Throughout both results day virtual appointments, via the [parents evening booking system](#), will be available to support students in the next steps of their educational journey.

### **Supporting student progression:**

There is a general view for A level students, that universities are likely to be more flexible about entry requirements this year because student numbers are lower. We will be happy to liaise with admissions tutors and share students' CAGs (centre assessed grades), with students permission, where this could be beneficial. This is replicated for GCSE students and their applications to local colleges or post – 16 providers.

Students may make a request to know their CAGs by submitting a form after Results Day; details regarding this will be made available on Results Day itself. This would enable those students who believe they have been disadvantaged by this year's process, particularly those who feel this has implications for their progress to the next stage of education or employment, to find out more information and make an informed decision about their next steps. CAGs will not be released on Results Day alongside final calculated grades.

### **Appeals and complaints:**

It has been made very clear by exam boards, Ofqual and the DfE that dissatisfaction with the grades issued by exam boards does not constitute grounds for an appeal. The **only grounds for appeal would be if there is evidence of a technical error by the school or the board itself**. Schools will receive instructions from exam boards when results are released and will be able to appeal if they believe there has been an error, either on their own part or that of the board and students, parents/carers will be informed if this is the case. Schools and colleges can only appeal, on students' behalf, against the process or the use of data, not against teachers' use of their professional judgement. There is no ability for individual students to appeal to exam boards directly, though they can raise issues with them if they wish.

Students who have a complaint about the actual process can complain to the school, though this will not change the final calculated grade.



# South Dartmoor Community College

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Interim Principal Kevin Dyke

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Where students remain dissatisfied with their final calculated grade, there will be an opportunity for students to sit exams in all subjects in the autumn term (October for A and AS level and November for GCSE). For **A Level, entry requests must be made to Mr Baldwin by Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> August** and for **GCSE, entry requests must be made to Mr Fox by Friday 11<sup>th</sup> September**. It is worth noting that for A level, results of these exams will not be available until late December and for GCSE, the estimated results window is mid-February. As such, a student would not be able to rely on sitting the exams in autumn as a progression pathway and our advice, after 6 months away from studying, would be against trying to combine new study at a higher level with the retaking of GCSEs or A levels. That decision will, however, be up to each individual student.

I appreciate that this is a lot of information to process however on results day a team of senior leaders and careers support staff will be on hand to support your child in the next steps of their educational journey and answer any questions that they may have. Further information will be available on our school website and on Results day itself but in the meantime, I hope that you have a restful summer break.

Yours sincerely

Mrs S McLelland  
Examinations Officer