

SMITHDON HIGH SCHOOL



Summer 2020 GCSE results guidance

WHAT IF MY RESULTS ARE NOT WHAT I EXPECTED?

The first thing to do is to discuss your options with your chosen sixth form/college. You may find that they will still offer you a place even if you haven't quite met their entry requirements. They may also be able to offer you alternative options/courses. If your chosen sixth form/college is unable to offer you a place you can then begin to make enquiries at different centres. The important thing to remember is that this year is unlike any other. Many students will find themselves in this situation and there are many options open to you.

I AM DISAPPOINTED WITH MY GRADES, WHAT CAN I DO?

Unfortunately, due to the way in which results have been calculated this year, the usual post results procedures and appeals do not apply. Appeals against grades can only be made due to one of the following:

- Where a centre believes it has made an error when submitting its information
- If the centre believes an exam board made a mistake when calculating, assigning or communicating a grade
- If a student has evidence of bias or discrimination.

See our appeals information on the school website for further details.

If you are unhappy with your grade, you have the opportunity to sit exams in the autumn.

AUTUMN 2020 EXAM SEASON

Following the cancellation of the GCSE examinations Summer 2020 due to the global pandemic of Coronavirus, Ofqual have put in place a full series of examinations to take place in Autumn 2020, for any students who feel they could achieve a higher grade than received following the centre assessed grade process.

Please view Ofqual's publication for more details; <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/ofqual-publishes-more-details-on-appeals-and-confirms-autumn-exam-arrangements>

JCQ quote;

“By the autumn, many young people will have entered further or higher education or started their careers. The autumn series will be available for young people for whom it was not possible to issue a grade or who wish to improve grades based on taking an exam. Full details on the autumn series will be available shortly from the exam boards.”

More information of the centre assessed grade process is available on Smithdon High School's website.

WHEN ARE THE AUTUMN EXAMS, WHERE WILL I SIT THEM, AND HOW MUCH DO THEY COST?

GCSE exams will take place between Monday the 2nd of November and Monday the 23rd of November. There will be no non-exam assessment (coursework) for these exams. For those subjects which would normally include this element, grades will be calculated based on exam/s only.

You will sit your exams at your original centre (school) unless you failed to achieve a standard pass (grade 4) in either English Language or Mathematics, in which case you may need to sit those exams at your new college/sixth form.

The school will pay for all exam entries and therefore there will be no charge unless you ask to be entered and fail to arrive for the examinations without good reason. If you wish to withdraw from any examination once entered, please advise the school as soon as possible.

If you wish to be entered as a candidate for the Autumn 2020 examination series, please complete the entry form enclosed with your GCSE results and also available on the school website and return to Miss J.Sadler, Examinations Officer, Smithdon High School, before **4th September 2020**.

WHAT IF I TAKE EXAMS IN THE AUTUMN AND MY NEW GRADES ARE LOWER THAN MY ORIGINAL ONES?

If this happens it will be the higher of the two grades that count. Examination certificates will be issued with higher grades.

FURTHER HELP AND ADVICE

The national results helpline The National Careers Service will be delivering the Exam Results Helpline during August 2020. Young people or their parents can contact the helpline on 0800 100 900 to speak to a professionally qualified careers adviser if they need advice on their next steps. The helpline will be open from 8 am to 10 pm from Thursday 13 August until Friday 28 August. After these dates, young people will be able to access ongoing support from the National Careers Service at any time by calling 0800 100 900, visiting nationalcareers.service.gov.uk/contact-us or searching for the National Careers Service on Facebook and Twitter.

You can always contact Smithdon High School for help and advice via email at office@smithdonhigh.org.uk