



GCSE Results August 2020

Dear Year 11 Students

I'm delighted to be able to share your GCSE results with you today. These are a testament to your hard work and dedication throughout your education at Winterhill, and you should all be very proud of everything you have achieved as a Winterhill Student.

Of course, this has been a year like no other, and therefore, I wanted to take the opportunity to explain how your results were determined this year. 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.

Your teachers alongside senior leaders considered a wide range of available evidence, including your class work, mock exam results and other records of student performance, to agree the centre-assessed grade for each student in each subject.

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 some of our students' grades being unfairly downgraded.

Therefore, the government made the decision that GCSE and A level students would be awarded whichever grade was higher for each subject – their CAG or their externally calculated grade. This is what the grades you're receiving today are based on.

If you have any questions with any of your results, I'd encourage you, in the first instance, to contact examresults@winterhill.org.uk. We will then be able to discuss your concerns, and advise you on any next steps. You may also want to talk to the sixth form or college you plan to go to. They may well be flexible about their entry requirements.

If you want to resit any of your 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 you'd like to discuss.

Congratulations again for everything you've achieved in this most difficult of years. It has been a pleasure have you all as our class of 2020 and on behalf of all staff, we would like to wish you the very best of luck in the next phase of your education.

Yours faithfully,

Mr Rhodes