



Principal: Dr Katharine Vincent

Tuesday 18th August 2020

Dear parents and carers,

I am writing to update you about the situation regarding the awarding of grades to Sixth Form students at Mulberry UTC this summer. Firstly, I would like to congratulate students and their families on an exceptional set of results, which are a credit to the hard work put in by students over the last two years. Secondly, I would like to explain how our students have been affected by the decisions made by the government and exam boards over the last few weeks.

A-level results

As you will be aware, Sixth Form students were given their A-level results on Thursday 13th August. We were delighted with the results awarded to our students and the destinations they were able to secure. The majority of students achieved their target grades and were accepted at their chosen universities, which is a huge achievement for students and their families. We are very proud of them and delighted they will now be able to take the next steps towards their future career goals.

In a small number of cases (11 in total), our students were affected by the downgrading of A-level results by the government-designed algorithm. As a result, these 11 students received A-level grades that were one grade lower than the Centre Assessed Grades (CAGs) submitted by the school.

Following yesterday's government announcement, these students will now have their grades increased in line with their Centre Assessed Grades (CAGs). Any students affected by this will receive a telephone call this week from the school to explain the situation.

This increase in grades may lead to students being able to secure a place at their first choice universities, if they have not already done so. We would urge any students in this situation to contact universities directly, to explain the situation and to provide copies of their Centre Assessed Grades. Please contact the school if you have any questions about this (info@mulberryutc.org).

Level 3 Cambridge Technical results

The results achieved by Sixth Form students taking Level 3 OCR Cambridge Technical qualifications were also outstanding and a real testament to the hard work of students and their teachers.

A small number of students (7 in total) had their Cambridge Technical results downgraded by the government algorithm. We have been informed by OCR that they have not yet decided whether



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they will revert to the Centre Assessed Grades, or maintain the results provided by the algorithm. If they decide to revert to Centre Assessed Grades, we will contact the students affected to explain the situation and inform them about the potential impact on their grades and university places.

A large number of our students (45 in total) are still waiting for their results to be issued by the exam board. The students affected were studying the Level 3 Diploma or Extended Diploma in Health and Social Care. Owing to errors by the exam board, these students' results were not calculated correctly and therefore could not be released to the school. We are still waiting for OCR to resolve these issues and release students' grades. They have not given us a date by which the grades will be released, but we believe this is likely to happen before the end of the week.

In the meantime, students' university places will remain on hold until their Health and Social Care results are released. I would like to reassure students and their families that this should not disadvantage students, since universities are legally obliged to accept students who meet the grades stated in their offer. We will contact students and their parents as soon as the results are received, and staff will be available to support any students who need it at that point.

GCSE English and Maths resit results

Any students who are waiting for resit GCSE results will receive these on Thursday 20th August. Following yesterday's government announcement, we anticipate that all students will be awarded their Centre Assessed Grades. School will be open from 9am on Thursday morning so that students can collect their results. Staff will be available to support any students who need to contact their universities at that point to confirm their places.

On behalf of the school, I would like to apologise for any additional anxiety or stress caused by the way in which results have been awarded this year. The school is doing everything it can to support students and to mitigate the impact of this situation. I am grateful for all your ongoing support for the school and for your understanding during this time.

Yours sincerely,

Dr K Vincent
Principal