

# Formby High School

'Determined to Achieve'



DMA/MHI

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Dear Student

You will find with this letter your Religious Studies GCSE result and you may also have a result for GCSE Astronomy. Whilst they have been arrived at through unusual circumstances, I am really pleased with the grades our Year 10 students have been awarded and feel they fairly reflect their effort and endeavour of the last two years.

This letter contains important information about your GCSE(s) grades – please take some time to read it carefully.

## How your grade has been calculated

When GCSE examinations were cancelled, schools were instructed to generate centre assessed grades for students. Schools were given clear guidance by Ofqual (the examinations regulator) and the examination boards on the process for producing centre assessed grades. Using a broad range of evidence (including performance in Pre-Public Examinations, in-class assessment data, homework tasks and attitude to learning indicators), the RAVE teachers generated grades for the students they taught and these were moderated by Mrs Wake (Curriculum Leader for RAVE) and members of the Senior Leadership Team. Moderation was rigorous in order to maintain consistency with performance in other GCSE subjects and to ensure the centre assessed grades submitted to the examination boards were realistic in comparison with historic results. As a consequence of the Government's U-turn over the grading of A Levels and GCSEs announced on Monday 17 August 2020, students have been given their centre assessed grades as the final GCSE grade. The exception to this is where grades were increased as a consequence of applying the Ofqual standardisation model – in these circumstances, students have been given the higher grade.

## GCSE Grades

GCSEs are graded from 9 to 1. As a point of comparison, particularly for parents who will be less familiar with the grading system, a grade 7 is similar in standard to grade A under the old grading system. Grade 4 is similar to a low / middle grade C and grade 5 is comparable to a high grade C / low grade B.





## Appeals

The appeal process is different this year to previous years. Dissatisfaction with the grades you have been awarded does not constitute grounds for appeal, unless there is evidence that there has been a technical error by the examination centre (school) or the examination board. In accordance with Ofqual guidance, only a centre may appeal to the examination board if it believes (i) the centre itself made an error when submitting centre assessed grade or (ii) the examination board made a mistake when calculating, assigning or communicating a grade. If you have a concern regarding the above or any other concerns about your grades, you should discuss it with Mrs Wake or another member of the Senior Leadership Team. Please also take the time to read the information relating to appeals in Ofqual's Student Guide (which can be found in the 2020 Examination Results area of the school website).

## Autumn Examination Series

Students who are disappointed with their grade will have the opportunity to sit GCSE examinations in Religious Studies (and/or Astronomy) during the Autumn. I would urge you to consider carefully the merits of sitting the examinations. To perform well, you will need to revise content studied in Years 9 and 10 and this will be in addition to completing school work set by your teachers in all other subjects. If you are considering taking examinations during the Autumn, please speak with an appropriate member of staff beforehand.

In order to register for examinations in one or more subjects you must download the relevant form from the 2020 Examination Results area of the website. The form must be submitted to the Examinations and Data Office (either by email at [exams.database@formbyhighschool.com](mailto:exams.database@formbyhighschool.com) or in hard copy). The deadline for requesting entry is 16 September 2020. Students will not be charged fees to enter examinations during the Autumn series.

I trust this information is helpful and if you have any queries please do not hesitate to ask.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D A Mackenzie'.

**D A Mackenzie**  
Headteacher