

Formby High School

'Determined to Achieve'



DMA/GPA

July 2020

Dear Parent & Student

Religious Studies / Astronomy GCSE Results

We are approaching the date on which Year 10 students will receive their results for GCSE Religious Studies and, for a smaller number of students, Astronomy. The purpose of this letter is to explain how results will be distributed and to help you understand the process used to determine grades.

Distribution of Results

Results will be sent home by post to Year 10 students on Thursday 20 August. Anyone who does not receive their result(s) by Tuesday 25 August should contact Mrs Hiller, Examinations & Data Manager, by email on exams.database@formbyhighschool.com.

Calculated Grades

As students have not taken examinations this year, the results awarded are Calculated Grades. During May 2020, teachers spent time generating Centre Assessed Grades – their best estimation, on the basis of the evidence available, of the grade a student would have achieved in their subject had he/she taken examinations. These were submitted to the examination boards and have been standardised using a model adopted by Ofqual to ensure consistency in the distribution of grades across all schools nationally and with previous years. The standardised grades are called Calculated Grades and these will be issued to students.

The process of arriving at grades is different this year to ever before and this will create uncertainty. You should, though, be reassured that the grades awarded are as fair as possible for several reasons:

- Our teachers know the students they teach very well and are able to assess with a high degree of accuracy.
- The Centre Assessed Grades that were submitted to the examination boards underwent thorough internal quality assurance and are not the sole responsibility of any individual teacher.
- The standardisation process applied by the examination boards is designed to ensure consistency with grades awarded to other cohorts in previous years.
- The overarching principle guiding the process of generating Calculated Grades is ensuring students receive grades that enable them to progress to the next stage of their lives in the normal way. Indeed, to better ensure this happens, I understand from Ofqual that in places students are to be given the 'benefit of the doubt' which means, overall, grades will be slightly higher this year than in previous years.

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We trust this is helpful in providing some reassurance. You will find further information about this year's examination results and other relevant information on the school website at the following [link](#). We encourage you to look closely at this information, particularly Ofqual's 'Student guide to post-16 results: summer 2020'.

A further letter will be enclosed with the examination results, containing information about appeals / review of results and the Autumn series examination entries.

If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact the Examinations & Data Office by email on exams.database@formbyhighschool.com.

Yours sincerely

Handwritten signature of Mr D Mackenzie in blue ink.

Mr D Mackenzie
Headteacher

Handwritten signature of Mrs G Parkinson in blue ink.

Mrs G Parkinson
Assistant Headteacher (Assessment)