



5<sup>th</sup> July 2021

Dear Parent / Carer

We write to update you on the latest situation regarding Teacher Assessed Grades, Results Day Arrangements, Appeals and Autumn Exams.

### Teacher Assessed Grades

A reminder of where we are in the process at the moment;

- Our Centre Policy for Teacher Assessed Grades has been approved by JCQ and can be found on the [school website](#).
- Students have completed the classroom-based assessments which effectively replaced the formal exams which were cancelled this year.
- Students have been told which evidence their grade will be based on.
- Teacher Assessed Grades were submitted to exam boards by the June 18<sup>th</sup> deadline.
- The school has provided assessment evidence to exam boards as part of the external quality assurance process and we are awaiting further contact from exam boards with regard to this.

### Results Days Arrangements

We can confirm the dates previously provided are correct.

**A-Level Results will be issued from 8.30am on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> August**

**GCSE Results will be issued from 8.30am on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> August**

The results embargo has been extended to 8.30am nationally, which means that this is the earliest that we are allowed to issue results this year.

We are planning to run results days as close to normal as we can, but with clear processes in place to reduce the risks relating to COVID.

- Students should take a lateral flow test on the day before results day and only come on-site if that is negative. Although we cannot insist on this, we ask that you do this for the safety of others on the day.
- Students who have COVID symptoms, test positive for COVID, or who are self-isolating must NOT come on-site. We ask that you contact the school on [examenquiries@gshs.org.uk](mailto:examenquiries@gshs.org.uk) to let us know, and we will issue your results via email to your school email address.
- Students who do not feel comfortable coming into school should also contact the school on [examenquiries@gshs.org.uk](mailto:examenquiries@gshs.org.uk), and again we will issue your results to your school email address. Please give us as much notice of this as possible in order to avoid delays in issuing your results.
- On arrival, students should follow the signed outdoor routes to 'the canopy' which is a covered outdoor space with good ventilation. They will then enter the Main Hall in small groups to collect their results before returning to 'the canopy' immediately afterwards, and then exiting the site using signed external routes. Masks should be worn whilst inside the building, except where students are exempt.
- Students should avoid close contact with others as much as they can and avoid gathering in large groups, either before or after getting their results, including on the way to and from school.

Southgate, Killingworth, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE12 6SA

T: 0191 216 1115

E: [enquiries@gshs.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@gshs.org.uk)

W: [www.gshs.org.uk](http://www.gshs.org.uk)

Headteacher: Ian D Wilkinson BA (Hons) MEd

Deputy Headteacher: Peter Douthwaite BSc (Hons)

Deputy Headteacher: Kathryn Williams BA (Hons)

In addition to receiving their results, there will be a small team of staff available to offer advice and support and there will be IT facilities available in C15 for students who need to use them for UCAS or 'Clearing' purposes. In addition, students can access support and advice from Jill and Emma at Connexions using the following contact details.

[Jill.anderson@northtyneside.gov.uk](mailto:Jill.anderson@northtyneside.gov.uk)

[Emma.williams@northtyneside.gov.uk](mailto:Emma.williams@northtyneside.gov.uk)

For students who are intending to join us in the sixth form there will be further information in your results pack.

### Appeals

JCQ recently issued more detailed guidance on appeals, and we have produced our own [Appeals Policy](#) based on this guidance to ensure transparency and fairness. This policy is included with this letter and is also on our school website. Although it is clearly important that students have the opportunity to appeal against the grade awarded, it is also important to recognise that the process is very different to that in a normal year, and that we will only deal with appeals submitted in line with this policy. We will not be dealing with appeals on results days themselves.

The policy makes it clear that the school will carry out a Stage One appeal (Centre Review) wherever an appeal is submitted in line with the policy, in writing and using the appropriate application form. We will also submit all Stage Two appeals to the exam board, providing a Stage One appeal has already taken place, in line with JCQ guidance.

We must stress that we cannot enter into discussions with students or parents about the grades awarded. Indeed, the school is not allowed to review its own evidence during the appeals process – this can only be done by the exam board as a result of a Stage Two appeal. Students and parents should therefore not make direct contact with teachers about the grades they have been awarded, and teachers have been asked not to reply to such enquiries.

It is essential that students and parents are aware that your grade can go down, stay the same, or go up as a result of an appeal. If the grade were to go down it is important to point out that there is no grade protection in place this year and that the new lower grade would stand. There is no financial cost for an appeal.

### Autumn Exams

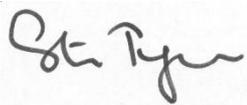
OFQUAL have confirmed that there will be a full series of GCSE and A-Level exams available in the Autumn Term to students who are unhappy with their teacher assessed grade.

If you like to be entered for these exams at George Stephenson please let us know on [examenquiries@gshs.org.uk](mailto:examenquiries@gshs.org.uk). The deadlines for entries are Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> September for A-Levels, and Friday October 1<sup>st</sup> for GCSEs.

### And Finally

Recent weeks and months have thrown up unprecedented challenges and we are genuinely in awe of the way in which students and staff have dealt with these so positively. We recognise that some of the messages in this letter are necessarily formal, but want to stress how proud we are of you all, and we wish you the very best with your future plans. If you are staying with us next year we look forward to seeing you in September. If you are moving on to new things we wish you all the best with that. We would like to wish you all a safe and enjoyable summer and look forward to seeing you on results day.

Yours sincerely



Mr S Tyson  
Assistant Headteacher



Mr I Wilkinson  
Headteacher