

Dear Students,

### Awarding of GCSEs

I wanted to write to you all in advance of you receiving your GCSE awards tomorrow.

As you will probably be aware, the exams regulator, Ofqual, announced on Monday that, following the problems with the fairness of the algorithm they had created for this year's A Levels and GCSEs, they will now be using Centre Assessed Grades (CAGs) as the basis for your GCSE awards. In each subject you will be awarded the higher of the two grades; the CAG or the Ofqual algorithm grade.

CAGs are the grades that your teachers at the academy submitted to the exam bodies back in the Spring. They are our best estimates of how well we think you would have performed in each of your subjects had you been able to sit your exams in May. They take into account how you performed in your mock exams, how hard you were working over the course of the year, the progress you have made since joining the school and how well prepared we believe you would have been by the time you sat the exam. These are the grades assessed by those who know you best and have confidence in how you would have performed in the exams.

We took the process of compiling the CAGs very seriously; many members of staff were involved and the grades were checked, challenged and ratified during a lengthy process. In compiling the CAGs, we ensured that we could justify and explain every grade and demonstrate that the process was objective, thorough and fair to each student.

As always happen on results' days, there may be some students who are unhappy with the grades they have been awarded in some subjects. Staff will be available tomorrow and thereafter to explain the rationale behind our thinking to you if that is helpful. There is also an option for students who are unhappy with their grades in a subject to sit an exam in the Autumn to achieve a higher grade.

Everyone at the school realises how hard this whole process has been for you and we are hugely proud of how you have all responded to the situation. It has not been easy for you and our priority now it to ensure that we are doing everything we can to help you advance successfully to the next stage of your education.

We look forward to welcoming back everyone who met the Sixth Form admission criteria, if you haven't previously expressed an interest and when you receive your results meet the criteria please do talk to Mrs Burton as soon as possible.

If you are not sure about your next steps and would like to talk through the options available to you, please do contact Mrs Headford so that we can help you make the decisions that are right for you and your future.

Whatever your results tomorrow, we are here to help and support you. We will be doing everything we can to ensure that all your options for next year are considered and that you make the right decisions for you and your future.

Yours sincerely



Mrs D McShane  
Principal

Sheffield Park Academy  
Beaumont Road North  
Sheffield S2 1SN  
t 0114 2392661  
f 0114 2659835

e [info@sheffieldparkacademy.org](mailto:info@sheffieldparkacademy.org)  
[www.sheffieldpark-academy.org](http://www.sheffieldpark-academy.org)

**Principal: Mrs D. McShane**