

19th June 2020

Dear «Forename»

Summer 2020 Grading

I understand how unsettling the past few months have been for you, since the announcement that exams have been cancelled this summer, and that you are urgently waiting for news. I wanted to let you know that OFQUAL, the Office of Qualifications and Examinations Regulation, have stated that they will be fair to students this summer and they will make sure you are not disadvantaged in your progress to sixth form, college, apprenticeships, training or work because of these unprecedented conditions.

OFQUAL have published an updated film for students to explain the arrangements this summer. The following link is on our website: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/awarding-qualifications-in-summer-2020/letter-to-students-summer-2020-grading-bsl-signed>

How will grades be calculated?

OFQUAL have asked all schools and colleges to send exam boards two pieces of information for each of your subjects, based on what we know about your work and achievements:

- the grade we believe you were most likely to get if teaching, learning and exams had happened as planned
- within each subject, the order of students in our school, by performance, for each grade; this information will be used to standardise judgments – allowing fine tuning of the standard applied across schools and colleges

We were asked to consider a range of things like your classwork and homework, your results in assignments and any mock exams, any non-exam assessment or coursework you might have done, and your general progress during your course. You will not be disadvantaged for any work you were unable to complete after schools were closed.

This information will allow OFQUAL, with exam boards, to standardise grades across schools and colleges, to make sure that, as far as possible, results are fair and that students are not advantaged or disadvantaged because their schools or colleges are more generous or harsh than others when making those judgements. That means the final grade you get could be different from the one we sent to the exam board.

Can I see the grades my school submits for me?

No, this information will be confidential. Please don't ask your teachers, or anyone else at your school, to tell you the grades they will be sending to the exam boards or where they have placed you in the order of students; we are not allowed to share this with you.

Results

Please be assured that your certificates will look the same as in any other year and your grades will have equal status with colleges and employers, to help you move forward in your life as planned. Results will be issued on the following date:

- GCSE results on Thursday 20 August 2020

I will be in contact with you nearer to the time to explain how results will be issued this year due to the current COVID 19 situation and taking into account the current public health restrictions that remain in place.

Can I take my exams another time?

OFQUAL is working with exam boards to offer additional exams in the autumn term as soon as it is possible to do so. I will let you know about these in the coming weeks.

Prom

Again, I'd like to take this opportunity to apologise for the Prom being cancelled by the venue due to COVID 19. I know many of you will be sad to miss this milestone event. The Academy will contact you individually to refund any monies owed to you.

We are looking at alternatives, as we would like to officially say goodbye to you, but I'm sure you will all understand that this is proving difficult in the current climate.

Any questions?

If you or your parent/carer have any questions, please email the Academy at admin@stannesacademy.org.uk including your names and the best number for us to contact you on. We will endeavour to contact you within 48 hours regarding your query during term time.

I hope everyone is well and taking care during this difficult time.

Yours sincerely,



Mrs R Box
Assistant Headteacher