

The Green, Devizes, Wiltshire, SN10 3AG
Principal: Mr Phil Bevan BSc, NPQH

Tel: 01380 724886 Fax: 01380 720955
Email: devizes_school@devizes.wilts.sch.uk
www.devizesschool.co.uk



August 2020

Dear all our fantastic Y13 students and Parents,

As you will have heard no doubt, the Government announced yesterday their move to award all students their centre assessed grades for A Level qualifications (or keep their original 'result' if this was higher.) We know that for many of you the past few days have been impossibly difficult and we are so sorry you have been faced with additional stress and pressure; we hope that the future is now looking brighter if that was the case and we will continue to support you personally and academically as needed.

As a school, and as human beings, we are overwhelmingly pleased to hear about the national change. We also want to personally assure you that our Centre Assessed Grade process was rigorous and evidence based and the grades we submitted were those that most accurately reflected your individual subject performances. In line with national and White Horse Federation guidelines, centre assessed grades were discussed and considered in video meetings between classroom teachers, Heads of Department and Senior Leaders, using as much evidence as possible for each student. The grades were then subject to a review meeting between the Heads of Department, Senior Leaders and the Principal. The Executive Secondary Director of The White Horse Federation was then part of a panel with Senior Leaders of each school to review the process and the centre assessed grades to ensure that decisions made were fair and evidence based.

If you still believe after this detailed and thorough process that your Centre Assessed Grade is not correct, please submit your specific concerns via the Exams SAR tab which can be found at the top right hand side of the school website here: <https://www.devizesschool.co.uk/>

Where do I find my official statement of Centre Assessed Grades now?

An official statement of your Centre Assessed Grades for A Level subjects is now available for you in Go4Schools. These can be accessed in the same way as your results last week. These can be downloaded and sent to Universities etc as evidence of your Centre Assessed Grades.

What is happening with BTEC/vocational results?

As Btec and vocational qualifications were not subject to the same national statistical moderation process there is unlikely to be any change to those results for the vast majority of individuals. We're awaiting further information on this from official bodies and we will update you as soon as possible. Exams Boards are likely to contact all students by email so do keep a close eye on your email folders.

We have said it before but it bears repeating, we honestly couldn't be prouder of each and every one of our Year 13s. As a cohort, the resilient and dignified way you have handled all the challenges in the past few months has been humbling and heart-warming to say the least. You are an outstanding group of young adults and surviving these challenges will be the making of you in the long run, please have faith in that on difficult days.

Further announcements are likely to be made in the coming days and we will communicate any important information to you as it becomes available. In the meantime, please note the following advice in line with communications from the Government and other official bodies:

1. If with Centre Assessed Grades you now qualify for your original firm or insurance choices and wish to switch to them, please contact the relevant University Admissions Teams asap. Phoning is often more efficient than

emailing initially. The Government have been clear in their expectations that Universities honour the original offers made where possible so be proactive and get in touch with them. We will of course support you with this in any way we can.

2. UCAS have confirmed that they are working with exam boards to get all the Centre Assessed Grades and ensure universities have them so individual universities are likely to be in touch with you if your circumstances have changed. Keep a close eye on whichever email account you used for UCAS (and don't forget to check junk/clutter folders too).
3. If you are unsure of what to do now/still unable to access Uni courses or post 18 options with your Centre Assessed Grades/ wanting guidance or support, we are here for you. Whether you are a student based at the Devizes or Lavington campus, please get in touch with the 6th Form Team via Pastoral-KS5@devizes.wilts.sch.uk.
4. If you are overwhelmed or struggling with the stresses of the past few months and weeks, we are still here for you. Reach out to us using the Pastoral-KS5@devizes.wilts.sch.uk address. We will help in any way we can.
5. Don't forget to get in touch with the Student Welfare Department at your chosen University if you have any additional individual needs or are struggling with the stress of the past few months etc. The welfare departments are often brilliant and well-resourced and they will be able to signpost you to the right support services in that area.
6. Don't forget to check the <https://www.thescholarshipclub.org.uk/> to see if you qualify for any university or subject specific bursaries or funding.

Hold your heads up high and feel rightfully proud of all your achievements in an unprecedented and exceptional year. You really are the future of this planet of ours and thank goodness for that.

From your very proud Head of 6th Form,



Miss C Dale

Assistant Principal
Head of 6th Form