



## THE HELENA ROMANES SCHOOL & SIXTH FORM CENTRE

12<sup>th</sup> August 2020

Dear Parent/Carer,

### **Examination results - Summer 2020**

I am writing to you in advance of tomorrow morning's release of your son/daughter's exam board grades.

This has been a challenging year for all of our students, but especially those who were supposed to be sitting external examinations. We have tried to keep you as fully informed as possible throughout this period. In this spirit, I wanted to write to you today to explain what will happen tomorrow, and what you should do if you have any questions in relation to the grades awarded.

#### How will my son/daughter receive their exam board grades?

- The results will be emailed to your son/daughter's school email address from 8am tomorrow morning. We will endeavour to have all the emails sent by 9am, but please keep checking as there is a lot of material to compile, format and send out to each student.

#### What information will be sent to my son/daughter?

- The report attached to tomorrow's email will contain a table of grades that have been received from the exam boards. The table will have two columns: the first being the subject, and the second the grade awarded by the relevant exam board.

#### How can my son/daughter get advice following the receipt of their exam board grades?

- Mrs Wright will contact students tomorrow morning to explain the support she can offer them throughout the week and how she can be contacted.

#### How have this year's exam board grades been calculated?

- Every school has submitted a centre assessed grade (CAG) for every subject in which students were due to sit an exam. For more information, follow this [link](#).
- The exam boards have then applied a statistical model to these grades to ensure that overall performance in 2020 was comparable with previous years. You can find out more about this process by following the links at the bottom of this email.
- As a consequence, the centre assessed grades submitted by the school may be different from the exam board grades awarded to the student.

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Headteacher: Daniel Gee BA(Hons), MA, NPGH

### Can my son/daughter view their centre assessed grades?

- If you would like to see a copy of your centre assessed grades, please contact us using the exams email below (using 'CAG Request' as the subject line).
- These requests can only be made by your child as the information belongs to them under data protection rules.

### What are the implications of the further changes announced by the government on 12 August 2020?

- Gavin Williamson (Secretary of State for Education) announced earlier today that there is going to be a ['Triple Lock'](#) system implemented, whereby students can take the highest of their exam board grade, the result from sitting the exam in the upcoming autumn term (should they do so), or their mock result, whichever is the highest.
- I will be keeping a close eye on any further announcements and I will keep you informed of any pertinent information. At this stage, it is not clear what the mock result option entails. Early indications are that it is not simply a case of replacing the exam board grade with the mock grade. It may be that the mock grade can be used as a means to open a dialogue with the exam board about the exam board grade. I am sorry that I cannot be any clearer about this. Like you, we await more detailed government guidance.
- You will already have received a copy of your son/daughter's most recent mock results in the spring term. However, if you require a copy of this report please contact us using the exams email below.

### How has the appeals process changed this year?

- As you may have already seen on the news, there is a different appeals process this year to previous years. The following is the Ofqual summary of the appeals process:

#### *Students:*

- *can ask their school or college to check whether it made an administrative error when submitting their centre assessment grade or position in the rank order and if it agrees it did, to submit an appeal to the exam board*

#### *Schools and colleges can appeal:*

- *if they believe something has gone wrong in processing their results – for example, if a centre believes it has made an error when submitting its information; or similarly, that an exam board made a mistake when calculating, assigning or communicating a grade. We expect that any such mistakes will be quickly found and corrected*
  - *if they can evidence grades are lower than expected because previous cohorts are not sufficiently representative of this year's students*
- I will be scrutinising the exam board grades in comparison to the centre assessed grades to see if there have been any errors in the process. If I believe this to be the case, I will liaise with you and your son/daughter before lodging an appeal.
  - If your son or daughter would like to sit any of their exams in the upcoming autumn term, please contact the exams email address below at your earliest opportunity as all entries must be made before 4th September.
  - If you have any questions or concerns in relation to the grades received, please email [exams@hrs.education](mailto:exams@hrs.education) and we will get back to you as soon as possible. If your concerns are not resolved, you are welcome to contact me to discuss the matter further. In addition, a copy of the school's complaints procedure can be found on the school website.

It just remains for me to wish your child all the best for their future, and I hope that they are pleased with the results they receive tomorrow.

Yours faithfully,



Mr N Foster  
Deputy Headteacher

Additional information produced by Ofqual:

- [Student guide to appeals and malpractice or maladministration complaints: summer 2020](#)
- [Student guide to post-16 qualifications results Summer 2020](#)
- [Summer 2020 grades for GCSE, AS and A level, Extended Project Qualification and Advanced Extension Award in maths: Guidance for teachers, students, parents and carers](#)