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THE COOPERS' COMPANY AND COBORN SCHOOL

Love as Brethren

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7th July 2020

Dear Student,

Re: GCSE results day – Thursday 20th August 2020

I hope that this letter finds you and your family well.

Under 'normal circumstances' I would have communicated with you earlier regarding the arrangements for the forthcoming GCSE results day. However, due to these unprecedented times, we have had to wait for Government advice on the easing of the lockdown measures.

We are mindful that results day is a pivotal moment in the school academic calendar and one which we take great pride in hosting in order to celebrate your academic success and achievements. At the time of writing this letter, the school is intending to open to allow students to collect their GCSE results on site. We look forward to celebrating this day with you and very much hope you will be able to join us.

Like the exams process, results day will follow a different format from that of previous years. In order to abide by Government regulations on social distancing, we will be inviting students to collect a hard copy of their results by form groups at allocated times – further information on this can be found below. However, in order to allow all students equal access to their results on a timely basis, we will also be emailing results by 9am. Please note, we strongly encourage you to collect your results from the school as additional support measures will be available and we want to celebrate with you!

Timings and logistics

In order for us to logistically manage the distribution of GCSE results, we will need to stagger the coordination of student arrival times. This is important so that we are able to manage social distancing appropriately and therefore **only students** will be permitted to attend in order to reduce the number of people on the school site.

Students will need to ensure that they adhere to the following points:

- Please arrive 5 minutes prior to your allocated time slot (detailed below) and join the socially distanced line in the school car park;
- The distribution of exam results will take place in the sports hall which will be set up in a 'Covid-secure' way;
- Students must leave the site once they have received their results;
- If you are feeling unwell, displaying symptoms of Covid-19 or are self-isolating, you should not attend Results Day under any circumstances.

Form	Form Tutor	Arrival Time *	Leave Site by Time *
11.1	Mr Barrington	8am	8.30am
11.2	Mrs George	8.30am	9.00am
11.3	Mrs Wright	9.00am	9.30am
11.4	Mr Sack	9.30am	10.00am
11.5	Mr Sears	10.00am	10.30am
11.6	Mr O'Brien	10.30am	11.00am
11.7	Mr Reid /Ms. Vickers	11.00am	11.30am
11.8	Mrs Hobart /Mr Kilburn	11.30am	12.00pm

*** We are operating social distancing in school and following the latest Government guidance. Please help us keep the school community safe by observing the instructions given to you and relevant signage whilst on site. When travelling to and from school please observe the social distancing guidance in place from the Government. If you miss your arrival time, you may be asked to wait outside the school gate so that we can manage the numbers of students coming on and off the site at any one time. Arrival will be via the pedestrian gate closest to the pavilion. Departure will be via the visitor entrance gate into the car park.**

I appreciate that Government guidelines may be subject to change between now and Thursday 20th August and therefore it would be nonsensical to not have a contingency measure in place should the school be unable to open. Furthermore, the process with enrolling at your desired sixth form establishment may differ from that of previous years. Taking this into consideration, I ask that you complete the "Results Day" google form, which has been emailed to your school email account and found on google classrooms by no later than midday on **Tuesday 14th July 2020**. It is vital that you complete and submit the details requested to enable us to email a copy of your results to you which you will receive by no later than 9am.

Please note, GCSE results will be sent to both your school and personal email addresses. If you do not have a personal email account, you can nominate a representative to receive these on your behalf, but please make this clear when completing the form that you give consent to this. Without this, the electronic submission of your results may be delayed.

How your grades will be calculated.

Following the Government announcement back in March that the summer 2020 exam series had been cancelled, the process upon which the awarding of GCSE grades is very different to that of previous years.

You may have followed Ofqual's consultation and decision on how grades are awarded this summer but to summarise, schools and colleges were asked to consider a range of evidence in order to submit two pieces of information for each subject to the exams boards:

- Centre assessed grade - the grade the school believes you were most likely to get if teaching, learning and exams had happened as planned. Please note that these are **NOT** the same as predicted grades;
- Rank - within each subject, the rank order of students, by performance, for each grade. Whilst schools and colleges do not routinely work in this way, teachers are highly experienced at making assessment decisions and evidence shows they can rank order their students with a high degree of accuracy.

Following this, exam boards then 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. This means that the final grade you are awarded could be different from the one that the school submitted to the exam boards. To help you understand the process better, please watch the following video – [CLICK HERE](#)

Teaching staff at CCCS received clear guidance and instructions on how to complete this process; judgements had to be holistic, based on the range of evidence that was available in each subject area. Please be assured that the wide range of evidence was collated in each subject (including mock data, non-examined assessment and coursework where available) to ensure that each student was fairly graded.

Throughout this process teaching staff went through an extensive period of moderation to ensure that the centre assessed grades submitted to the examining bodies were robust, accurate and honest. The grades were then checked, agreed and signed off by at least two teachers, including the head of department and prior to submission to the exam boards, the Head of Centre (Ms. S. Hay) had to sign off the grades and rank orders.

We submitted our centre assessed grades and rank order to the relevant exam boards in early June. These grades will now be moderated by Ofqual before the final grades are awarded. Schools and colleges will not be part of this moderation process, so any difference between the centre assessed grade and the final grade you will receive on Results Day will be as a consequence of the moderation processes and out of school's control. For further information on the moderation process and on the option of resitting an exam in Autumn 2020 or Summer 2021, please visit:

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/890811/Summer_2020_grades_for_GCSE_AS_A_level_guidance_for_teachers_students_parents_09062020.pdf

What happens if you are unhappy with your result?

Upon Ofqual consulting on this summer's arrangements, they considered carefully opportunities for a student to challenge their centre assessment grades and position in their centre's rank order. On balance, Ofqual have decided it would not be in the interests of students or the fairness of the arrangements overall. Any appeal would have to be undertaken by someone better placed than the student's teachers to judge their likely grade if exams had taken place – in the unique circumstances of this summer, Ofqual do not believe there is any such person. In addition, because of the role of the rank order in grading this year, such an appeal would have implications for other students in the cohort: if one student successfully appealed against their position in the rank order, it would have negative implications for other students who would, in turn, need to be given an opportunity to appeal.

Therefore, the school will only be able to appeal the result of a student if:-

- An error was made when submitting a centre assessment grade or rank order information; or similarly,
- If the school believes an exam board made a mistake when calculating, assigning or communicating a grade.

Ofqual and the exam boards have agreed to host an autumn series for any students who wish to re-sit in order to improve their grade/s. Exam boards will offer a full suite of subjects, however please note that grades will be based on performance in the exam papers only and will not include any 'non-examined assessment' (for example practical component in GCSE PE). Dates have yet to be finalised and further details regarding the resit process will be placed on the school website in early September 2020.

Joining CCCS sixth form

In your results envelope, you will also receive a letter notifying you if you have been accepted into the Coopers Coborn sixth form. Should you wish to change any of your subject choices, there will be an opportunity to have a face to face discussion in PE1 with Mrs. Harris (Assistant Headteacher i/c Timetabling and Curriculum Management) on 20th August 2020 to discuss what options will be available to you. Mrs. Harris will be available all day.

As with the results process, this will be conducted in a 'Covid-secure' way ensuring that we are compliant with Government social distance guidelines. Any requests to change subjects cannot be discussed after this date and therefore if this is something you are interested in you are required to attend the school site.

I trust this letter answers any questions you may have had regarding the results day process, but should you have any questions, please feel free to email exams@cooperscoborn.co.uk.

I would like to take this opportunity in wishing you and your family an enjoyable summer break. We look forward to celebrating your academic success and achievements with you on Thursday 20th August.

Yours faithfully,



Mrs. A. Titley
Examinations and Data Manager



Mr M Duncan
Assistant Headteacher