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THE COOPERS' COMPANY AND COBORN SCHOOL

Love as Brethren

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7th July 2020

Dear Student,

Re: A-level results day – Thursday 13th 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 A-level results day. However, due to these unprecedented times, we have had to wait for Government advice on the easing of the lockdown measures.

Like with the exams process, results day will follow a different format from that of previous years and therefore we have made the decision to email your A-level results. 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 plan for your results day. Please note, A-level results will be sent to both your school and personal email address and you will receive this information by no later than 9am. 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, your electronic submission of your results may be delayed. Furthermore, whilst the primary method of receiving your results will be through an email, you will also be able to log into Go 4 Schools later in the day to see your results.

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 A-level 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 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 a 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 was fair, 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 so out of the 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.

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 take the opportunity to improve their grade/s. Exam boards will offer a full suite of exams, with the same number and format of exams as in any normal series. Please note that grades will be based on performance in the exam papers only and will not include any 'non-examined assessment'. Dates have yet to be finalised and further details regarding the resit process will be placed on the school website in early September 2020.

Support offered by the school if you wish to discuss your Post-18 options

Although you will be receiving your results electronically, I wanted to reassure you that the usual extensive range of university and employer advice will be available from our 6th Form Pastoral Team. Along with your A Level results, you will receive an extensive communication entitled 'What do I need to do next?'. In particular, for those of you applying to university, this will cover the four options available to you on Results Day. If you haven't already, please ensure that you have watched the online assembly (available on Google Classroom) recorded by Mr Bell which covers all the university options available - [click here](#).

Mr Bell, Mr Teece and the team will be available all day on Thursday 13th and Friday 14th August to provide support to any student who requires it. We have also booked independent careers advice through 'Prospects' and appointments will be available all day on Friday 14th and Monday 17th August. Information about how to contact Mr Bell and 'Prospects' will be included with your results - however we will be offering 'video conferencing' via Google Meet and face to face meetings if required.

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 and wishing you the very best of luck for your forthcoming results day.

Yours faithfully,



Mrs. A Titley
Examinations and Data Manager