

The Merchant Taylors' Schools,
Crosby Liverpool Road, Crosby,
Liverpool L23 0QP
www.merchanttaylor.com



17th August 2020

Dear All

We very much welcome the decision this afternoon which stated that our A Level students now will be awarded results in line with their Centre Assessed Grades. It means that grades will be awarded on the basis of a detailed and considered process which involved those people who were best placed to assess each student as an individual within a specific context, namely their teachers, rather than an impersonal and flawed mathematical algorithm.

We are very disappointed that this had not been realised before last Thursday and that many of our students and parents have had to endure considerable stress, anxiety and frustration as a result.

However, while very much welcoming the change of heart by the Government in the longer term, we recognise that the stress of the present situation has by no means gone away. Some students will be anxious to know what it means for them with regard to their university choices; they will want to know if, having obtained their original grade offer, they can still take up their place this year; others will want to know what happens if they have accepted a place somewhere else, perhaps through Clearing, as a result of the grades that they had been awarded last Thursday. At the present moment in time the answers are unclear. The best course of action would be for individuals to contact the relevant institutions to learn what they are saying about this – it may be that different institutions adopt different approaches. At school, we have been invited to a meeting of Russell Group universities tomorrow morning and we will find out more then. We will, of course, pass on further information when we receive it.

Staff at school remain committed to helping students and can be contacted as usual. One thing that we have done is to produce an official document on headed notepaper which has on it the Centre Assessed Grades for each student. This may be helpful when speaking to universities and is available from Mrs Blease (j.blease@merchanttaylor.com) at the Boys' School and Mrs SurrIDGE (m.surrIDGE@merchanttaylor.com) at the Girls' School. The revised grades are due to be loaded into UCAS by the end of this week according to Ofqual.

There has been no further information at this stage with regard to any appeals process, so we can do nothing further at this stage. We would ask for your patience on this particular aspect and we will be in a position to respond quickly as soon as there are any further developments.

This has been a difficult time for many involved. Ultimately we are pleased with the outcome and that the majority of students will see their grades increase as a result, but we are aware that it will still mean frustration for a number. We will do what we can to help.

Kind regards

Yours sincerely

Mrs C Tao
Headmistress

Mr D Wickes
Headmaster



Merchant Taylors' Schools, Crosby



@MerchantsCrosby



Merchant Taylors' (Crosby) Alumni