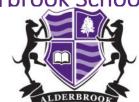
Alderbrook School

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19 August 2020

Dear Year 11s,

We are writing to you today to help clear up any potential confusion about the GCSE grades that you will be receiving tomorrow. This information is different to what I sent on Monday after some changes made by the government. After the publication of A Level results last week, the huge amount of discussion in the press and then Monday's "U-turn", we want to make sure that you understand what you are collecting and when.

On Thursday 20th August, you will now collect your official GCSE grades. These will be either your Centre-Assessed Grades, or the moderated grade, whichever is higher. The only subjects that we will not have official results for on Thursday are any Cambridge National Subjects (Health and Social Care; Engineering; Sport Studies; Information Technology) as these are not being released until next week. However you will receive your Centre-Assessed Grades for these subjects on Thursday and your final official grade will not be any lower than this. The Centre-Assessed Grades were the result of detailed moderation, using a wide range of evidence, and were then checked by senior leaders to make sure that grades were fair and representative. The media are wrong to call them "Teacher Assessed Grades" because we, as a school, went through a rigorous and evidence-based process to submit them.

While this seems very confusing, it is the route the government have chosen to take and we believe it will give you the fairest outcome at the end of this highly stressful and unusual time. We are confident the reality is that you will receive a set of grades that accurately reflect what you would have got in the exams.

Finally, please remember this: you are not and will never be defined by this experience and you are NOT the Covid-19 year group! You are a group of brilliant individual young people who will go on to do great things and we are incredibly proud of all of you. If you need us in your corner to try to fix any unfairness, we'll be there. Come and speak to a member of SLT on Thursday if you have any questions.

See you on Thursday – remember to stick to your times please.

With best wishes



Tom Beveridge Headteacher

