



ST. MATTHEW'S
Roman Catholic High School

We Pray, We Care, We Achieve

Dear Class of 2020 and your families,

We are looking forward to welcoming you all back to school on Thursday, to receive your GCSE results. This is an important day for you all. I wanted to write to you all in advance to outline some important information regarding your results.

There has been much media attention over the past few days regarding examination results, and I am sure that you may have many questions. Our priority is that you understand how your grade has been calculated and what this means for you.

Yesterday at around 4pm it was announced that 2020 GCSE results would be taken from the Centre Assessed Grades that schools submitted in June. I have included for you below the link to this announcement:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/gcse-and-a-level-students-to-receive-centre-assessment-grades>

As you will see from the announcement above, we do not expect to issue the Calculated Grades on Thursday. It is still not exactly clear at what point next week these will be shared with schools. What is clear from this announcement is that a student's **Centre Assessed Grade** will stand as their GCSE grade in a subject, and this will only change if the Calculated Grade awarded through the Ofqual moderation process is higher.

On Thursday we will share the Centre Assessed Grades that we submitted as directed by the DfE and Ofqual. These were the grades that we felt students were most likely to achieve given the evidence that we had. A robust procedure took place using the guidance that was issued at the time by the Government and by Ofqual. This was not an easy process and took over two months to complete. Schools were instructed to review all assessment information before deciding on the Centre Assessed Grade, for example previous assessment results (including mock exams), as well as classwork and homework. Schools were also told that their results should be in line with the performance of their previous Y11 cohorts from the past 3 years. To ensure the most accurate gradings possible these grades were discussed and reviewed in a series of online meetings before senior leaders submitted them to Ofqual for them to be adjusted nationally. We believe that students will still be offered the opportunity to resit examinations in November should they wish or need to.

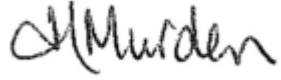
For BTEC and all other non-GCSE subjects it has not yet been confirmed exactly when a grade will be issued, but we are hopeful that these grades will also be released on Thursday 20/8/20. Again, if there is any further information about this, parents and students will be updated immediately via text and the school website.

The arrangements for the distribution of results this Thursday remains the same. Y11 students have been given an appointment time to attend school so please ensure this time is adhered to as it will enable us to maintain social distancing to keep staff and students safe. Students can check their appointment time for collection of results by referring to the letter sent previously by Mrs Callison. Unfortunately, this year parents/carers will not be able to enter the school premises as it is important we keep the number of people on site to a minimum. When you have received your results and you would like to ask further advice, please email h.howell@smrchs.com and we can arrange for you to speak to a relevant member of staff as soon as possible. Please do not think that your question is not relevant.

This has been an extraordinary school year for all students, but particularly for you. All your teachers have been very proud of the way you have shown incredible resilience and patience in such testing circumstances.

Whatever your results are today, the full St Matthew's community would like to offer you our very best wishes for your future.

God bless

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mrs Murden". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Mrs Murden