

PWA/STH

16 July 2020

Dear Parents,

### **Year 11 Results Day – Thursday 20 August 2020**

This letter outlines full details of our plans for the Year 11 Results day this summer. We will write again on or after 14 August to confirm and/or update arrangements in line with the latest government guidance on minimising coronavirus (COVID-19) risks.

#### **Results Day**

It is our intention to offer pupils the choice of receiving their results electronically or of coming into school to collect them in person.

#### **In-person collection**

Under normal circumstances, we would anticipate the vast majority of Year 11 leavers coming into school to collect their results. This would be an opportunity to celebrate with us and, where they hadn't achieved the results that they were hoping for, to receive our guidance and support. Whilst social distancing measures make this more challenging, they also make it as, if not more, important.

Pupils wishing to collect their results in person are invited into school on the morning of 20 August as follows:

- 0830-0900: DaVinci House
- 0900-0930: Earhart House
- 0930-1000: Mandela House
- 1000-1030: Turing House

They are asked to arrive on foot, using the main school drive to enter and the Marven Centre drive to exit. To reduce numbers, parents will be asked to wait on New Road and as a further risk mitigation, weather permitting, results will be distributed to pupils outside on Fountain and Library Court. We will also continue the hierarchy of controls that we have used successfully with pupils on site throughout the summer term; directions of which will be made clear to pupils upon arrival.

Throughout the morning, specialist members of staff, representatives from post-16 providers within our Trust and a representative from the Cambridge County Council early help team will be on hand to provide additional information, support and guidance. The email address

[exams2020@sawstonvc.org](mailto:exams2020@sawstonvc.org) will also be monitored during normal school hours, on the Wednesday, Thursday and Friday of that week, to field questions and enquiries from parents and pupils.

Results slips not collected in person will be posted home on Thursday afternoon.

### **Electronic results service**

We recognise that not all pupils will feel comfortable or indeed able to attend in person. In these circumstances, arrangements can be made for a copy of the results to be emailed to the pupil's school email address on Thursday morning. The paper results slips will then be posted home as normal in the afternoon.

Pupils wishing to make use of the electronic results service should email [amartin@sawstonvc.org](mailto:amartin@sawstonvc.org), no later than Tuesday 18 August. These pupils will also be able to access the college guidance and support services via the [exams2020@sawstonvc.org](mailto:exams2020@sawstonvc.org) email on the Wednesday, Thursday and Friday of that week.

### **Autumn exam series & appeals**

We sincerely hope that all pupils achieve the grades that they are aiming for and that they require to secure a place at their post-16 provider of choice. If for any reason this proves not to be the case, we would strongly encourage parents and pupils to engage with the support and guidance that we are able to offer. In the first instance this may well involve conversations with us and local post-16 providers to explore the options still available. For example, it is not impossible for pupils, who fall short of the required grades, to still secure a place on their preferred or similar courses.

Beyond this, there are two further avenues for pupils to be aware of.

#### **1. Autumn exam series**

Current guidance from Ofqual indicates that "students who feel that their grades from the summer do not reflect their ability will have the opportunity to take their exams in the autumn series or in the summer 2021. If they choose to do this, students will be able to choose the higher of the two grades for future progression."

In my previous letter dated 7 July, I shared the summary of Ofqual's decisions on this issue ([here](#)) and our commitment to support pupils through this process. The window for the autumn series of exams has now been confirmed as running from 2-23 November and we await precise details from individual exam boards.

#### **2. Appeals**

We are still awaiting final DfE guidance on the appeals process but for now, the outcomes of the Ofqual consultation into this issue can be found [here](#).

At the time of writing, this guidance indicated only limited grounds for appeal.

Schools and Colleges may appeal on behalf of a candidate:

- if the centre believes that it has made an error when submitting a centre assessment grade or rank order information;
- if the centre believes an exam board made a mistake when calculating, assigning or communicating a grade;

It is our intention to undertake a full review of all calculated grades provided by exam boards to check for errors and anomalies and to alert individual candidates should this bring anything to light.

Furthermore, the guidance advises candidates who have evidence of bias or that they were discriminated against to raise these first with their centre and then directly with the exam board. As a College, we have followed a rigorous and thorough process to reach centre assessed grades and determine rank order within each grade, the full details of which can be found [here](#).

In summary, I hope that this communication has proved helpful and addresses some of the questions that you may have. For further details on results day, the autumn exam series, and the appeals procedure, please do not hesitate to contact the college via the [exams2020@sawstonvc.org](mailto:exams2020@sawstonvc.org) email. Please email [amartin@sawstonvc.org](mailto:amartin@sawstonvc.org) no later than Tuesday 18 August, should you wish to make use of the electronic results service.

Yours sincerely

Pieter Wallace  
Deputy Principal