June 2019

**A Level Results Release and UCAS Guidance 2019**

Dear Parent/Carer

This mailing contains valuable advice in relation to the release of A Level results and confirmation of places, Clearing and Adjustment. I also attach a chart explaining all of the different options your son or daughter may have on results day.

Please take time to look at this information and discuss it with your son or daughter and do not hesitate to contact me should you require any advice. The Sixth Form team are experienced in dealing with Clearing and Adjustment and will be available in August to deal with queries and to support students in securing places at university, or on alternative pathways such as Higher Apprenticeships or School Leaver Programmes.

**Release of Results**

Results can be collected from the Sixth Form building from 7:00am on **Thursday 15th August 2019**. This is early enough for students to do some quick research and get in first when Clearing hotlines begin to open from 8:00am.

UCAS will have given universities the AS and A2 results, so if your son or daughter has got the right grades their place will be confirmed on results day, from 8.00am via UCAS Track. Please note that it is a bit of an ‘urban myth’ that Track updates at midnight, so we would encourage them to try and get a good nights’ sleep!

If your daughter/son does not get the right grades, Sixth form staff will be in school on 15th August to help and advise. Please see information from UCAS at the end of this letter.

If your daughter/son cannot collect their results in person and someone else is collecting them, they should bring in a letter of authorisation from the student and additionally, whoever collects the results should have a form of valid, photo ID. Results will **not** be given by telephone.

We have had requests from other schools asking us to send them the results of their former students. Unless students inform us that they do not want their results to be released to their previous school, we will pass on the information.

PTO

**Enquiries about Results**

Under Ofqual guidance, if a student requests a remark under the EAR (Enquires About Results) service, marks will only change if *there is a clearly demonstrable error in the original marking*; additionally, grades can go down as well as up and candidates no longer have grade protection. Our experience over the last two years is that remark requests have led to no change and have perhaps given students false hope.

Priority review of marking is *only available if a GCE A-level candidate’s place in higher education is dependent on the outcome*. The deadline for completion is within 15 calendar days of the awarding body receiving the request.

In order to proceed with an enquiry about results, the student must sign a candidate consent form, which will be available on results day. **Please note that there will be a charge to students for this service, which must be paid in full before any requests for remarks will be processed by the Academy**. The charges are as follows:

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| ***AS / A-Level*** | **AQA** | **PEARSON** | **OCR** | **WJEC** |
| Priority review of marking (completed within 15 days) | £51.75 | £55.90 | £59.80 | £49.50 |
| Review of marking (completed within 20 days) | £43.45 | £46.90 | £48.50 | £43 |
| Copy of reviewed script | £14.35 | £12.50 | £12.15 | £11 |
| Access to scripts without a review | £11.30 | Free | £11.75 | £11 |

**Starting University or Living Independently**

We have ran several sessions with our Year 13 students to help prepare them for moving on. We have done some basic cooking, sewing on buttons, ironing and shoe shining. We have also investigated student housing contracts, contents insurance, student bank accounts and budgeting. You may be interested to look over two of these activities on our website, for your own information and also to help you talk to your daughter or son about some of the issues covered. **[INSERT LINK]**

**Y13 Prom, Friday 6th September 2019**

Students have booked the Assembly Rooms, Newcastle for their Prom. Tickets include a drink on arrival, a three-course meal, DJ and disco. Dress code is smart. We look forward to celebrating with our students at the end of their time in Sixth Form.

**Certificate Presentation Evening, Wednesday 18th December 2019 (provisional)**

Exam certificates are usually in school by November. When they arrive students will be contacted by email inviting them to collect certificates at a Presentation Evening at the Academy. The presentation evening will be a relatively informal event where students will be presented with their certificates and have a chance to catch up with friends after their first few months of further study or employment. We hope as many students and parents/carers as possible will be able to join us. Students should remember to keep certificates in a safe place asd they will be asked to produce them when applying for jobs, and they are expensive to replace.

Should you require further information about anything in this letter, please contact me via the Sixth Form Office.

Yours faithfully



**L Craggs**

**Head of Sixth Form**

**Whether it’s a case of waiting for exam results to confirm a place, or understanding exactly what happens during Confirmation and Clearing, your son or daughter needs to take control of the options and decisions they will be faced with this summer.**

UCAS’ advice is to keep on top of the process and do some upfront research. Updating contact details in Track, understanding the exact conditions of an offer and being available to make important decisions when exam results are published all make for the wisest use of time.

It’s essential that you and your son or daughter fully understand how they will receive their results. Remember, exam results are not shown in Track; it will only show whether or not an application has been successful.

**Top tips**

To ensure the application process runs smoothly we suggest your son or daughter:

• does plenty of research – there is a lot of information and useful links in the Results section at [**www.ucas.com/examresults**](http://www.ucas.com/examresults). Doing that all-important preparation will help them make the right decisions

• keeps up-to-date with the progress of their application and replies to offers as soon as possible

• gives us the correct contact details and keeps them up-to-date

• understands the exact conditions of their offers, so they are able to make the right decisions when exam results are published

**The importance of checking Track**

Track (**www.ucas.com/track**) will update your son or daughter with the status of their application – it should be the first place they look. Once they have their results, Track will update to reflect the university decisions. If Track shows a place is confirmed, it is not necessary to call UCAS.

Confirmation and Clearing toolkit

**Options when they get their results**

If your son or daughter’s grades are different to their original expectations, there are two scenarios.

**1. Adjustment**

If their **exam results turn out to be better than expected** and not only meet, but exceed, the conditions of their conditional firm offer, they have the option to use Adjustment. This allows them to register and apply for other aspirational courses in a five-day window, whilst holding their original a confirmed place. Visit [**www.ucas.com/adjustment**](http://www.ucas.com/adjustment)for more information.

**2. Clearing**

This will be an option if they have been **unsuccessful in gaining a place with either their firm or insurance choices**. Even though they can’t approach a university for a Clearing place until they have their results and they have been made unsuccessful by the universities they applied to, it’s worth doing some research in advance to consider the types of courses that could be an option. This could save time if they need to use Clearing in the future.

Because they will deal directly with university admissions staff in Clearing, they should treat the process as a mini interview. Nothing can be gained from a speculative phone call with little or no understanding of the course or university, particularly during Clearing – it is still a competitive process and should be viewed as such. Visit [**www.ucas.com/clearing**](http://www.ucas.com/clearing)for more information.

If your son or daughter has signed up to our **direct contact service,** please make sure they don’t wait for calls from universities and colleges with potential offers. They should follow the usual Clearing process and do their own research and make calls. If they haven’t applied through UCAS it’s not too late. They can submit an application to go into Clearing between 5th July and 23rd October 2019.

**Parent newsletter**

If you haven’t already done so sign up for the **UCAS parent newsletters** so you can help your son or daughter with their application. These have updates and information about the application process – it’s not too late to help them during these last few weeks.

**Parent guide**

For full details about UCAS applications, download a copy of our **parent guide**. It has information about exam results, Clearing, Adjustment as well as starting university. It’s a must for the final few weeks before they’re off!

**Further guidance**

We are hosting online web chats, posting important reminders on Twitter (**www.twitter.com/ucas\_online**) and answering questions on Facebook (**www.facebook.com/ucasonline**). These resources are staffed by experienced UCAS advisers and provide answers to the most common questions. Of course, for more specific queries, the UCAS Customer Experience Centre still offers one-to-one advice. To get in touch call **0371 468 0468.**