



Eastbury Community School

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Sixth Form

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21st August 2020

Dear Parent\Carer

Your son\daughter will have received their GCSE results, and whilst the very large majority of pupils were happy with the grades awarded, however there have been a few pupils who were not so happy, so I have outlined the process below to explain the process, and next steps if needed.

As you know, this year's GCSE results had to be awarded differently from usual, after exams were unable to go ahead due to Covid-19. Schools and colleges were asked to use their professional experience to make a fair and objective judgement of the grades they believed a student would have achieved had they sat their exams this year, and to submit these centre-assessed grades (CAGs) to the relevant exam board.

Groups of teachers and leaders in each subject worked together to discuss and agree the centre-assessed grade for each student. They took into account a wide range of available evidence, including class work, mock exams and other records of student performance.

The intention was that the exam boards would then moderate the CAGs, to check that schools and colleges had approached this task consistently, before providing students with their final calculated grades. Unfortunately, as you will no doubt be aware, the method they used to do this proved problematic, and was likely to lead to many grades being unfairly downgraded.

The government therefore made the decision that GCSE and A level students would be awarded whichever was higher for each subject – their CAG or their calculated grade. This is what the grades your son/daughter received yesterday were based on.

If you're unhappy with any of your results, I'd encourage you in the first instance to contact Kerry Ward, Deputy Headteacher. She will endeavour to address your concerns and advise you on any next steps. Her email address is kwa@eastbury.bardaglea.org.uk

Below is the guidance from Ofqual to any students who want to appeal:

- Students cannot challenge their school or college under the appeals process on the centre assessment grades it submitted or their rank order positions.
- Students cannot appeal because their mock result was higher than the grade they were awarded.



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- Students can ask their school college to check whether it made an administrative error when submitting information to an exam board, and to ask the exam board to correct any mistakes in the information it provided.
- A school or college can appeal to an exam board on a student's behalf if it believes the exam board made a mistake when it communicated their grades.
- The deadline for appeals is 17 September.

Students can raise concerns about malpractice or maladministration with exam boards. Such allegations will not be subject to the deadline for appeals

If you want to re sit any of your exams, the current plan is for a full series of exams to take place in November. We do not yet have full details of how this will work, but please let us know if that's something you'd like to discuss in September.

Congratulations again for everything you have achieved in this most difficult of years.

Kind Regards
Sharon Collins
Head of Secondary