



Holy Family Catholic School & Sixth Form

Headteacher: Dr. A. Stone BA Hons (Cantab) NPQH



Walthamstow House Site

1 Shernhall Street, London E17 3EA

Mr P Murphy BSc Hons
Head of Lower School

Tel/Fax: 020 8520 0482 / 4658

Web: www.holyfamily.waltham.sch.uk

Wiseman House Site

30-34 Shernhall Street, London E17 9RT

Mrs A Klitou BA Hons
Head of Upper School

Tel/Fax: 020 8520 3587 / 3594

Email: office@holyfamily.waltham.sch.uk

17th August 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

I'm writing to give you a brief update about the latest information from the government regarding the grading of A Level and GCSE exams. As you know last week saw the publication of A Level results. While most students received the grades they were hoping for and were able to secure their university places, some were not. The government has announced this afternoon that A Level students will now be awarded the grades at which their teachers assessed them. This is known as the Centre Assessed Grade (CAG). This should mean that students who were not able to confirm their university places last week will now be able to do so. We are very sorry for the distress and anxiety that the government has caused through its mis-handling of A Level grades this year. We do not yet know when new grades will be issued to students but we will be confirming our students' CAGs with them over the coming 48 hours.

We also learned this afternoon that the government has now changed its mind about GCSE results. GCSE grades will now be awarded in the same way as A Levels, that is, the teacher assessed grade or CAG will be used. We will be making arrangements to issue these grades to students on GCSE results day on Thursday 20th August. Again we recognise the distress caused by the government's poor handling of the GCSE results process and its impact on students and their families.

I want to reassure all year 11 students and their parents/carers that the Centre Assessed Grades are very robust. Teachers spent hours reviewing the performance of each student over time, taking account of their effort and coming to a professional judgement, with colleagues, about the most likely final grade that a student deserved. We are confident that the grades GCSE students will receive on Thursday will be a fair reflection of each student's effort and ability. The overwhelming majority of students will stay on for sixth form with us and we will be able to advise them as to their most suitable programme of study when we meet with them.

The sixth form team will continue working with our year 13 students regarding their exam results and progression to university. On Thursday staff will be in school to help to support our GCSE students with their future choices too.

I know you may have many questions and I am happy for you to contact me with them. My email address is: a.stone@holyfamily.waltham.sch.uk

Andy Stone
Headteacher

ASPIRE TO THE HOLY FAMILY WAY

