Dear Year 11

I’m delighted to be able to share your GCSE results with you today. These are a testament to your hard work and perseverance over many years.

I wanted to take the opportunity to explain how your results were determined this year. 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 you’re receiving today are based on.

Late yesterday afternoon the exam board Pearson announced that they are going to review all BTEC grades and as such we have been told that we can not release BTEC grades today. Unfortunately we had already sent an email with BTEC grades attached which we thought were correct – please disregard these.This is very frustrating for all concerned but it is better to have the correct grade that you deserve rather than grades that don’t match the hard work that you have oput in. As soon as BTEC grades are confirmed we will send these out to you.

If you’re unhappy with any of your results, I’d encourage you in the first instance to speak to the Senior Leadership Team member that you have an appointment with. They will be able to discuss your concerns, and advise you on any next steps.

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

Congratulations again for everything you’ve achieved in this most difficult of years – I am so very proud of all of you and wish you every success in your future and of course I hope to see many of you in our 6th Form.

Kind Regards,



Miss T Kelvie

Headteacher