



ST MARGARET WARD CATHOLIC ACADEMY



Little Chell Lane
Tunstall
Stoke on Trent
ST6 6LZ

Telephone: 01782 883000
Pupil Absence Line: 01782 883003
Email: office@smwca.org.uk
Website: <http://www.stmargaretward.co.uk>

Principal: Mr. D. McKenna B.Soc.Sc. MA. PGCE. NPQH.

36Z/AlevelInviteLetter/PR/LB

16th July 2020

Dear Parent/Guardian/Pupil

Exam Results Collection

The A Level exam results will be available to students on **Thursday 13th August 2020**. Candidates are invited into school on this day to collect their results and to discuss their next steps. Candidates are allowed to bring one adult but this person must remain outside the school building at all times.

Results collection will take place in the main school hall and the school will be open from **08:30am to 11:30am**. Entry to the school hall will be through the main school entrance with surnames A-J through Door A and L-Z through Door B into the main hall. All candidates must follow the signage and one way system within school and adhere to current social distancing guidance.

We appreciate that, your parents, will be very anxious to see your child's results. However, it is essential that you receive the best advice at this point about your next steps. Consequently, once you have collected your results, it is mandatory that you speak to a member of staff before they leave. This may include a discussion about applying to Clearing, and staff will be on hand to discuss access to universities through the 'Clearing' route, or for an Appeal if it was deemed appropriate.

Whilst it is anticipated that every year 13 student will attend the school to collect their results on this day, we also appreciate that there may be circumstances which prohibit this. If you will not be able to attend the school on the 13th August, please complete the enclosed form and return it to Mrs Skinner (Exam Officer) no later than one week before Results Day by email.

Grade Calculation

The grades that we submitted were our best assessment of what you would have achieved if you had taken exams. However, the exam boards then applied a 'standardisation model' so that the distribution of grades awarded this year is consistent with those awarded in other years at a national level, and this process inevitably results in some centre-assessed grades being adjusted. This process is aimed at ensuring fairness and consistency between students in different years and in different schools and colleges so that, for example, it does not result in more students nationally being awarded higher grades this year when compared to cohorts in previous years. It is done to ensure that this year's grades are as valid as in any other year.

However, I understand it may feel confusing and unfair to you where there is a difference between a centre-assessed grade and the final grade awarded by the exam board. I can reassure you that your teachers approached the task of assessing grades with the utmost diligence, and that they felt the grades submitted were

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a fair and accurate reflection. The final grades awarded by the exam boards are the product of a nationally applied process, aimed at ensuring that your grades are consistent with those of students in other years, and therefore have equal value.

Once you have collected your results any queries about your grades must be directed to Mrs Skinner or Mrs Stanway. There will be a form in your results envelope to this and they will be available in our school reception area when you come in to collect your results.

Certificate Collection

Formal certificates are received by the school many weeks later. Students can normally collect certificates in person from the end of November (NB there could possibly be a delay this year – please check the school website for confirmation or call school) during office hours but please give advance notice so that we can have the certificates available when you arrive. Please note that exam boards advise that uncollected certificates should be destroyed after 1 year. They do not provide full replacement certificates but can provide certified statements of results which are chargeable. Therefore please ensure you make arrangements for the collection of the original certificates.

Queries

I am also conscious that this has been a difficult and anxious time for you as a result of the disruption caused by the coronavirus pandemic. If you would like any further support or information, please do get in touch, so that we can arrange an appointment for you to see a member of staff.

The National Careers Service has also set an exam results helpline during August 2020. Young people or their parents can contact the helpline on 0800 100 900 to speak to a professionally qualified careers adviser if they need advice on their next steps. The helpline will be open from 8am to 10pm from Thursday 13 August until Friday 28 August. After these dates, young people will be able to access ongoing support from the National Careers Service at any time by calling 0800 100 900, visiting nationalcareers.service.gov.uk/contact-us or searching for the National Careers Service on Facebook and Twitter

If you have any further queries at this point please contact the relevant staff member below:

Mrs Skinner (Exams Officer) – sskinner@smwca.org.uk

Mrs Rhodes (Trinity Sixth Form queries) - prhodes@smwca.org.uk

Mrs Chambers (Careers Service) – gchambers@smwca.org.uk

Finally, may I take this opportunity to wish you all the best of luck and I look forward to celebrating your achievements with you on results day.

Yours faithfully

P Rhodes

Mrs P. Rhodes

Head of Sixth Form

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