



# La Retraite

Roman Catholic 11-19 Girls' School

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**Head Teacher:** Mr. D. Malins

Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> June 2020

Dear Parents,

I thought I should outline the current position regarding the awarding of grades this summer. In order to assist you we have put the Ofqual guidance documents on the school website for parents in the Covid-19 section.

### **Students receiving their results**

All Year 11 & 13 students were sent invitations to their school email address last week to register for the SIMS StudentApp. All students had their school email and password details confirmed with them before the lockdown started and have been asked to register by Friday 19<sup>th</sup> June 2020 so that we can resolve any issues before the end of term.

The results day for GCE is Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> August and the results day for GCSE is Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> August 2020.

**It is extremely important that you understand that your child's results will only be accessible via the StudentApp. School will not be open and you will not be able to phone in or email in order to get results.**

### **Centre Assessed Grades**

All centre assessed grades have now been submitted to the Examination Boards.

In addition, teachers were asked by Ofqual [Office of Qualifications and Examinations Regulation] to rank all students within each grade. The teachers have used their professional experience to make a fair and objective judgement of the grade they believe a student would have achieved had they sat their exams this year.

They have followed Ofqual's advice and worked hard to ensure that:

*'the centre's grading and ranking judgements are objective and only take account of existing records and available evidence of a student's knowledge, skills and abilities in relation to the subject.'*

In her letter to students, Sally Collier Chief Regulator, Ofqual gives the following advice:

***Can I see the grades my school or college submits for me?***

*No, this information will be confidential. Please don't ask your teachers, or anyone else at your school or college, to tell you the grades they will be sending to the exam*

*boards or where they have placed you in the order of students; they will not be allowed to share this with you.*

The full letter can be found using the link below.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/awarding-qualifications-in-summer-2020/letter-to-students-summer-2020-grading>

### **Appeals**

In previous years if a student believes that their grade does not reflect their performance in the examination then they have had an opportunity to appeal against the grade by requesting a re-mark of the paper.

In the current situation Ofqual explain that will not be possible:

*'We have decided that we should adopt our proposal that we should not provide an opportunity for students to challenge their centre assessment grade or their position in the centre's rank order through an appeal.'*

This, and more information, is on page 12 of the guidance document for GCSE and A level on the school website.

### **Can students take exams another time?**

In the letter to students from Ofqual, they refer to an Examination Series in the Autumn Term. These have not yet been confirmed as definitely taking place. A consultation on this finished on the 8<sup>th</sup> June and Ofqual have said that they hope to publish the outcome of this before the end of the summer term.

*Their current proposals are, 'to require exam boards to offer exams in all subjects, and to offer the full suite of papers as are normally offered in other summer exam series. Because of the current uncertainty about when schools and colleges will re-open fully and the public health restrictions that may be in place, we are not consulting on the exact dates when the exams should take place. If possible, we envisage that AS and A level exams should take place in October and GCSE exams in November, with the exact timing to be confirmed by us, having taken advice from government, the exam boards and groups representing schools, colleges, teachers and students.'*

Of course, I will keep you informed of any decisions once they are published.

In the meantime, Year 11 students are able to access our *Virtual Sixth Form* on google classrooms and in addition, our summer research projects which allow them to prepare for the courses they wish to do. The summer research projects can be accessed here:

<https://www.laretraite.lambeth.sch.uk/414/summer-research-projects>

At some point in the next few weeks, your daughter will receive an invitation to meet with Mrs Coyle, the Director of the Sixth Form to discuss their course choices and future.

We look forward to seeing you all soon.

Best wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D Malins', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Dominic Malins

Headteacher