



otteries Trust

Potteries Educational Trust Head Office City of Stoke-on-Trent Sixth Form College Leek Road Stoke-on-Trent Educational Staffordshire ST4 2RU Chief Executive Officer: Mark Kent

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Headteacher: Mrs E C Robinson BA (Hons)

13<sup>th</sup> May 2021

# FOR THE ATTENTION OF THE PERSON WITH PARENTAL RESPONSIBILITY

#### Re: Year 13 and Year 11 update

Firstly, I would like to thank you and our students for the way that they have conducted themselves throughout the assessment process. Students will work up until the leaving date to provide work where this is necessary, cover content that has been missed and is needed for next steps or complete enrichment activities within the subject area. I would like to confirm that the official leaving date for Year 13 is Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> May and for Year 11 Friday 28<sup>th</sup> May. Some students may be asked to attend after this date in order to cover essential content or to sit any missed assessments following our exam board assessment window.

We have operated following several principles throughout the TAG process:

- Clarity and simplicity: we want the process to be as clear and easily understood as possible.
- Transparency: we will be open about why we are doing what we are doing and help all our students to understand the process.
- Opportunity: students should have as much opportunity as possible to show us what they can do.
- Fairness: the grades students receive should reflect the work that they have produced.
- Achievement: we need to give students a sense of satisfaction and provide them with the appropriate platform for their next steps.
- The mental health and wellbeing of our students is also an important consideration and so the system will be fair, robust, and proportionate.

As a school we have worked extremely hard to give students every opportunity to succeed in their GCSE, A-Level or Vocational studies. Staff have worked tirelessly to ensure that the grades being allocated are supported by clear and robust evidence.

## **Results Days**

The school will be open for the collection of results from 8.30am until 12noon on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> August for AS, A-Level and L3 Vocational and, during these times, support will be available for students' Post-18 plans.

On Thursday 12th August the school will be open for the collection of GCSE and L1/2 Vocational results from 9.00am until 12noon.

All students should collect their results from the main Hall.

#### **Appeals Process**

As we are now coming to the end of this process, I need to inform you of the appeals procedure as set out by the Department for Education, Ofqual and the exam boards.











After the grades have been submitted the exam boards will select subjects and students from our school to sample work and check our grading. This will ensure that the evidence that we have collected is robust and the grades that we have given are appropriate. If any concerns are raised the exam board will request a meeting with the school and further samples will be requested.

Following the results day, a student has the right to appeal.

- 1. If you think your grade is wrong, you should first ask your school or college to check whether they made a mistake in determining or submitting the grade.
- 2. If they identify a mistake, your school or college can submit a revised grade to the exam board to consider.
- 3. If they don't identify an error but you still believe that your grade is wrong, you can ask your school or college to submit a formal appeal to the exam board for you. You can appeal for any of the following reasons:
  - there was an error in the way the school or college followed or applied its procedure for determining your teacher assessed grade
  - the school or college did not make a reasonable judgement when deciding which evidence to use to determine your teacher assessed grade
  - the school or college did not make a reasonable judgement about your grade based on the evidence gathered
- 4. The exam board will consider whether your school or college followed its written process, and review the evidence your grade was based on.
- 5. The exam board will consider if your grade needs correcting. They may do this if they believe your grade is not a reasonable judgement or they find a mistake in the procedure which affected your grade. A corrected grade could be higher or lower than the grade you were given on results day.

The student guide to awarding summer 2021 can be found here: Student guide to awarding: summer 2021

An appeals desk will be open to Sixth Form on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> August and to Year 11 on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> August. This member of staff will be able to advise you on your course of action and/or provide a form on which to submit a formal appeal.

If a student decides to appeal after the 12<sup>th</sup> August, they will need to collect and/or return the form into the school's Reception or to their Sixth Form tutor when the school reopens on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> September. The deadline for submitting an appeal is 17<sup>th</sup> September 2021. The results of appeals will conclude by the end of October.

If, on results day, a student needs further help and guidance around appeals, next steps, Sixth Form or University places or other applications, staff will be available to help and support.

#### **Key Dates**

Date	What is happening?
Thursday 27 <sup>th</sup> May	Year 13 official leaving day
Friday 28 <sup>th</sup> May	Year 11 official leaving day
Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> June	Final submission of Teacher Assessed grades
	Moderation of schools by exam boards begins
Tuesday 6 <sup>th</sup> -Thursday 8 <sup>th</sup> July	Year 11 Induction to Biddulph Sixth Form
Friday 9 <sup>th</sup> July	Year 11 Sixth Form enrolment
Tuesday 10 <sup>th</sup> August	A-Level and L3 BTEC/Vocational Results Day - school open 8.30am to 12noon
Thursday 12 <sup>th</sup> August	<ul> <li>GCSE and L2 BTEC/Vocational Results Day - school open 9.00am to 12noon</li> <li>Sixth Form second enrolment day (for those not enrolled on Friday 9<sup>th</sup> July)</li> </ul>

As a school we are here to support our students beyond their leaving date. Some subjects will continue to offer additional learning opportunities and there will be a range of bridging tasks available on Teams to support students in accessing their next steps. If a student requires additional assistance, they can contact the school and we will get back to them as quickly as possible.

If you require any further clarification or assistance, please contact the school office.

Yours faithfully,

Spiran

E Robinson Headteacher

# If you need help and support, you can contact:

### Childline:

Call free on 0800 1111

# YoungMinds:

- Parents Helpline: call free on 0808 802 5544
- If you are a young person experiencing a mental health crisis, you can text the YoungMinds Crisis Messenger for free, 24/7 support. Text YM to <u>85258</u>.

#### **Samaritans:**

Call free on 116 123











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