12th August 2021

Dear Class of 2021

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. Congratulations on all that you have achieved not just in your GCSEs but as you have grown into an adult.

I wanted to take the opportunity to explain how your results were determined this year. As you know, exams this year were cancelled by the government in January and replaced by a process of Teacher Assessed Grades (TAGs) in order to grade students. The TAGs we submitted were in line with our Centre Policy, which was approved by the exam boards. We also had to send a sample of our evidence and grading to the exam boards as part of quality assurance check.

If you are unhappy with your grade, you should first speak to Mrs Holmes or Mrs Morgan. You may also want to talk to the sixth form or college you plan to go to. They may well be flexible about their entry requirements. Vash Lad, the careers adviser from connexions or Mrs Hancock will be happy to help you with this. Vash is situated near the new Library and Mrs Hancock can be contacted next week [dhancock510@st-josephs.bolton.sch.uk](mailto:dhancock510@st-josephs.bolton.sch.uk). If you wish to appeal your grade, you should follow the appeals process. The first stage of any appeal is a Centre Review, in which we will check if any administrative or procedural errors have occurred. If you remain unhappy with the outcome of centre review, you can ask that we put forward an appeal to the awarding organisation on your behalf. The deadlines for this are:

• Centre Review deadline for appeals: Tuesday 31st August

• Awarding Organisation deadline for appeals: 17 September 2021

We must receive a Centre Review appeal by the deadline before we can progress it to an awarding organisation appeal.

Please note that during either of the appeals stages, results could go up or down or stay the same. You will not keep the higher of the grades, and an appeal cannot be withdrawn once a decision has been made.

Alternatively, all GCSE qualifications can be resat in the autumn term.

Congratulations on your results again, and please do contact us if you have any further questions.

I wish you well as you take your place in the world and make a positive difference.

God Bless!

Mr T McCabe