



14th July 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

Results Day and Appeals Process 2021

Results days for this year are slightly earlier dates than normal. This has been directed by the Joint Council for Qualifications. We are not allowed to give results earlier than 8:30am on each day.

A Level Results Day - Tuesday 10th August from 8:30am-10:00am

Students will be receiving their offers for university at 8:30am . Therefore, students may come in person to collect their results at that time, or choose to have them emailed to their school email address. Please complete this google [form](#) to inform us of which method is preferred. If you chose to have your results emailed to you but still require support on the day for university applications, please email Mr McGreal, Assistant Headteacher on r.mcgreal@stokesleyschool.org. For appeals support, please contact appeals2021@stokesleyschool.org. For alternative careers support, please email Mrs Harrison-Henry, Careers Leader, on j.harrisonhenry@stokesleyschool.org.

GCSE Results Day - Thursday 12th August from 9am-11am

Students collecting their GCSE results have been given an allocated slot for their tutor group to attend at a specific time on the day. This is to allow students to sign up for our Sixth Form or receive careers advice and guidance in a controlled manner. Alternatively, they may choose to have them emailed to their school email address. Please complete this google [form](#) to inform us of which method is preferred. If you chose to have your results emailed to you but still require support on the day for Stokesley School sixth Form applications, please email Mr McGreal, Assistant Headteacher r.mcgreal@stokesleyschool.org. For appeals support, please contact appeals2021@stokesleyschool.org. For alternative careers support, please email Mrs Harrison-Henry, Careers Leader, on j.harrisonhenry@stokesleyschool.org.

Tutor Group	Collection Time
11 Apollo	9:00
11 Artemis	9:15
11 Athena	9:30
11 Demeter	9:45
11 Hera	10:00
11 Hermes	10:15
11 Poseidon	10:30
11 Zeus	10:45

STOKESLEY SCHOOL, STATION ROAD, STOKESLEY,
NORTH YORKSHIRE TS9 5AL

www.stokesleyschool.org

01642 710050





Appeals Process

How were grades awarded this year?

Grades this summer were based on Teacher Assessed Grades (TAGs). TAGs were submitted to the exam boards by us as a holistic assessment of students' performance in a subject, following a rigorous process of assessment, moderation and quality assurance.

Your son/daughter was informed of what evidence was used for each subject and why we chose each element. Students were also given the opportunity to raise any concerns for special consideration. All responses were considered in line with the JCQ advice.

Following external quality assurance checks, all our processes and sampling of portfolios have been approved without exception by the relevant exam boards. We were not asked to submit any alternative grades. This year no grades have been changed as a result of an algorithm.

What do I do if my son/daughter is not happy with their grade?

All students have the opportunity to appeal their grade if they meet the eligibility criteria (see below). It is important to note that an appeal may result in a grade **being lowered**, staying the same, or going up. So if a student puts in an appeal and their grade is lowered, they will receive the lower mark.

There is also the option to resit GCSEs, A levels and some AS levels in the autumn, which may be preferable for some students. The design, content and assessment of these papers will be the same as in a normal year.

What are the grounds for appeal?

There are five main grounds for appeal, as dictated by the Joint Council for Qualifications (JCQ). They are:

- You think we have made an **administrative error**: an example of this would be putting the wrong information into a spreadsheet.
- You think we have made a **procedural error**: this means we haven't properly followed our own process, as approved by the exam board.
- You think the **academic judgement on the selection of evidence was unreasonable**.
- You think the **academic judgement on the grade you were given was unreasonable**.

What does 'unreasonable' mean?

'Unreasonable' is a technical term in this context and means that no educational professional acting reasonably could have selected the same evidence or come up with the same grade.

This means that just because other forms of evidence may have been equally valid to use, the selection of evidence is not unreasonable. Because of the flexibility of the approach this year, every school and college will have used different forms of evidence.

It also means that the independent reviewers will **not** remark or grade students' evidence. Instead, they will look to see whether any teacher acting reasonably could have arrived at the same grade.

What will be the outcome of an appeal?

At either stage of the appeals process (see 'What are the two stages of an appeal?' below), a student's grade may go down, stay the same, or go up. **When placing an appeal the student will have to sign a declaration saying that they accept the fact their grade may go down and they may get a lower grade than their original TAG.**





What's a priority appeal?

Priority appeals will be handled more quickly than other appeals, where possible before UCAS's advisory deadline of 8 September.

Priority appeals are only open to **A level students starting university this autumn, who have missed out on the conditions of their firm or insurance offer.**

If you decide not to confirm a firm conditional offer and to go through clearing instead, JCQ cannot offer you a priority appeal.

JCQ cannot offer priority appeals for GCSE students, unfortunately.

When making a priority appeal, students will have to include their UCAS number so it can be confirmed that it is a genuine priority appeal.

What should your son/daughter do if they don't get their first or second choice of university?

There is no need to panic as a member of the senior leadership team will be available on results day to speak to your child about their options. They may wish to go through clearing, or sit the autumn exams or summer exams next year to try to improve his/her grade.

If your son/daughter is going to appeal their grade, they must let their university know they are appealing. They will then let you know whether they will hold a place for your child pending the outcome of an appeal (note that universities are not obliged to hold a place for you; this is at their discretion).

What should I do before appealing?

Students must read the JCQ Student and Parent guide before appealing, which will be available on the JCQ website by results day.

We may not be able to offer as much advice and guidance on the likely success of an appeal this summer as we would in normal years, as we have already moderated and quality assured all the grades ourselves.

What are the two stages of an appeal?

All appeals, on any of the grounds above, must first go through a **centre review**. At this stage, we will check for any administrative errors, and check that our policies and procedures were followed correctly. Our policy has already been approved by the exam boards, so we are only ensuring that we followed this properly.

The outcome of the centre review will be communicated to students.

At the centre review stage, if we find that a grade should go down or up, we will ask the exam board to change it. They will then consider this request.

Following the outcome of a centre review, students may still choose to pursue an **awarding organisation appeal**. They must fill in the form below, which we will then send on their behalf to the exam boards. Students and parents cannot send appeals directly to the exam board themselves – it must come from us.

The outcome of the awarding organisation appeal will be communicated to students.

How do I make an appeal?

For priority appeals email appeals2021@stokesleyschool.org and Mrs Douglas, Exams Officer will email the student a copy of the interactive JCQ Student Request Form for Centre Reviews and Appeals (saved in the candidate's name and candidate number) as an attachment. For non priority appeals students should complete the google [form](#).





What are the deadlines for priority appeals?

Stokesley School deadline for submission for a Stage 1 - Centre Review is 9am on Friday 13th August so that we can complete them by the national deadline of 16th August 2021.

Stokesley School deadline for submission for a Stage 2 – Appeal to Awarding Organisation is 9am on Thursday 19th August so that we can complete them by the national deadline of 23rd August 2021.

*At both stages of the appeals process, there may be the need for specialist, expert knowledge (e.g. subject teachers, SEND knowledge). This may not be possible in August. In such cases, we may have to wait until the start of term, but priority appeals will still be treated as a priority.

What are the deadlines for non-priority appeals?

Stokesley School deadline for submission for a Stage 1 - Centre Review is 9am on Thursday 2nd September so that we can complete them by the national deadline of Friday 3rd September 2021.

Stokesley School deadline for submission for a Stage 2 – Appeal to Awarding Organisation is 9am on Tuesday 14th September so that we can complete them by the national deadline 17th September 2021.

Appeals received after these dates may still be considered.

Why can't we share grades now?

We are forbidden from disclosing the Teacher Assessed Grades to any third party, including students and parents, until each results day. Any teacher or member of staff who does this is committing exam malpractice. Although students may have been given marks or grades on single pieces of evidence, we cannot disclose the final submitted TAG.

During the external quality assurance process taking place in June or July, our submitted TAGs may be moved up or down (although this will always be done through human agency, not by an algorithm).

We only know what a student's conditional offer is if they have chosen to share that information with us. It has not formed part of our objective grading of students. Where we do know this information, we must not let students know their submitted TAGs, even if they haven't met the conditions of their offer. For further information for candidates on our processes in relation to results, appeals and certificates, [please follow this link](#).

Should you have any queries following this correspondence about results day arrangements, email exams@stokesleyschool.org or for any general queries please get in touch with me on j.darbyshire@stokesleyschool.org. We are available until Thursday 22nd July then we commence annual leave until Monday 9th August. Our appeals dedicated email address appeals2021@stokesleyschool.org will be manned from Tuesday 10th August 2021 - Friday 20th August 2021 and will then reopen from Thursday 2nd September 2021. We appreciate that this has been a challenging year for everyone and we are here to support you.

Yours faithfully,

Mrs Darbyshire
Deputy Headteacher

STOKESLEY SCHOOL, STATION ROAD, STOKESLEY,
NORTH YORKSHIRE TS9 5AL

www.stokesleyschool.org

01642 710050

