



Queen Mary's Grammar School

Headmaster: R J Langton, M A

23rd May 2018

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Ref: Yr13 Book Return & Examination Results

I am writing to inform you of two important upcoming dates as your child enters the examination period.

Firstly, Book Return normally happens at the end of the examination period, as the school requires the resources given to pupils for the next cohort. The date has been set for **Friday 22nd June**, starting at 10.30a.m. This date represents the final examination for many pupils but those sitting the Statistics paper in the following week should keep any materials relevant to that examination and return them on the day of their final examination. All pupils should bring any books, CCF kit and other materials given to them by the school to the canteen. Here, they will be given a list of the items they are expected to have. They must get this sheet signed by the relevant department representatives and take it to Mr Lax in order to be cleared to officially leave. Any missing or damaged items will be charged for; letters will be sent home in this regard.

Secondly, A-Level examination results will be given out on **Thursday 16th August between 9.30 a.m. and 10.30 a.m.** in the Lecture Theatre.

Over the last few years, competition for university places has been intense. We are expecting the landscape to change again this year. Changes in grade boundaries with new specifications will probably make it harder to get the top grades, but the universities will be enjoying greater freedom to recruit more students and expand. It is still an uncertain time in education!

We hope that **all** our students will secure the grades they need to gain a place at the university of their choice without any worries, but past experience suggests that this will sadly not be the case.

The important thing to remember is that if your child does not get the required grades, all is not lost. We simply need to have a plan of action at the ready. There is often a scramble for places through UCAS Clearing; we need to be ready to swing into action for candidates in search of a good Plan B.

I therefore propose the following arrangements:

For the majority:

Results will be handed **ONLY** to the candidates. Results will **NOT** be issued to a third party without prior consent from the candidate. Please contact the Examinations Office for further information. Results which have not been collected on the day will be retained in school.

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As there will inevitably be large numbers of pedestrians on site, for safety reasons please park on Sutton Road and walk down the drive. Please resist the temptation to telephone the school.

For those at risk of not meeting University offers:

Those who either have a hunch that they may be at risk of not getting the results they need or who have learned as much on-line through the UCAS website can **phone** School from 7am onwards on Thursday 16th August. Mr Lax or myself may then invite you to come into school before the 9.30 start.

Official paperwork from the Exam Boards will not be available – it doesn't arrive until later – so this is an **emergency service only**. It is not for people who simply can't wait to find out their results; rather it is for those who have strong reason to believe that they have not met their university offer.

Those candidates who do find themselves in the position of not securing the A Level grades required by their conditional offer are advised to:

- Telephone the Admissions Tutor where they hold a firm conditional offer and ask whether they will be accepted even with the lower grades achieved (unless that decision is already clearly posted on the UCAS website)

If the answer is no and the results satisfy the requirements where they hold an insurance conditional offer, they need do nothing further. They will be automatically awarded a place there.

However, if the results are lower than the grades required for the insurance offer, then they should:

- Telephone the Admissions Tutor at the university where they hold an insurance offer and check whether or not they will be accepted with the grades achieved.

If the answer is no, then they should:

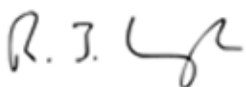
- Find out what is available through Clearing. Be ready with appropriate phone numbers and make early calls to stake a claim to the best available places. Please note that over the last couple of years some students have secured places by going to a university in person. This may not be the best plan in all cases (some universities are simply too far away), but it is worth bearing in mind.

I shall be available at School on the 16th and 17th August to discuss problems, support new applications and offer advice on possible next steps.

If you have any questions about the contents of this letter, do not hesitate to get in touch before the end of term.

I wish all our exam candidates every success.

Yours sincerely,




Mr R J Langton

Headmaster



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