



Spalding High School

Stonegate, Spalding, Lincolnshire, PE11 2PJ
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Email enquiries@spaldinghigh.lincs.sch.uk



Headmistress Mrs M Anderson B.Ed

17th July 2020

Dear Year 11 Parents/Carers and Students

Whilst GCSE results day may be managed differently this year, our commitment to our students and our wish to share and celebrate their success remains the same. Please see below for details of how results day will be arranged this academic year and the process for securing your next steps whatever your post-16 progression route.

Results will be emailed to students' school email accounts at **8am on Thursday 20th August**. For each subject you will receive notification of the final grade awarded to you by the examination board and the Centre Assessed Grade (CAG); the grade that was submitted to the exam board by the school.

On Thursday 20th August or Friday 21st August, you will also receive a telephone call from a member of staff to congratulate you and discuss any questions that you may have about your final results or your plans for September. Please also see the help sheet below which addresses some of the questions that you may have. If you have not previously accepted a place for Sixth Form at Spalding High School, staff would be delighted to discuss options with you should you wish to make a late application.

All students who plan to return to Spalding High School in September must then complete the "Enrolment Form" also attached and return by email to Hazel.French@spaldinghigh.lincs.sch.uk by 4pm on Friday 21st August.

Students who wish to a change course from their initial application should discuss this when they receive a call from school staff and read the further information in the help sheet below. If the change is possible, please complete the "Request to Change Subject" form and return by email to Hazel.French@spaldinghigh.lincs.sch.uk as soon as possible.

Students who are not returning to Spalding High School must complete the "Data Consent Form" attached and return to Dawn.Bushell@spaldinghigh.lincs.sch.uk by 4pm on Friday 21st August. It is a legal requirement that schools must provide destination information for all school leavers to the Department for Education.

On the 3rd August the Careers and Enterprise Company have put together a national event to showcase the range of support for young people aged 16 and 18 through transition processes. The following link can be used to register for the event: <https://learnliveuk.com/the-careers-enterprise-company-my-choices/>

Whether continuing in the Sixth Form at Spalding High School or moving on to pastures new, we wish you all the best for continued success in your future. We are incredibly proud of the maturity you have shown in what has been a very challenging time. We have missed sharing with you all of the usual celebrations that the end of Year 11 usually brings and that would have been just reward for all of your hard work and commitment to the school over the last five years. We will also miss seeing your smiles as you open your results, we would absolutely love to have a photograph of every single one of you proudly holding up your results letter. Please do take one and email to enquiries@spaldinghigh.lincs.sch.uk, so that we can share that moment.

Yours sincerely

Head of Sixth Form



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Year 11 Results Day Help Sheet

Might the Final Grade be different to the CAG?

Yes. It has been widely reported in the press that nationally some schools have submitted grades that seem optimistic compared to their previous exam results. What remains unclear at this stage though, is the extent to which the exam boards may moderate (change) the data. Therefore, final GCSE and A Level grades may vary slightly from the Centre Assessment Grade in some subjects.

How will this affect transition into the Sixth Form at the High School?

The grade requirements for admission onto sixth form courses will still apply as a starting point, these can be found in the prospectus in the Sixth Form section of the school website. However, these will be based on the CAGs we submitted as a school, not the moderated grades if they have changed. Therefore, where the entry requirement for an A Level subject is a GCSE grade 6, if school awarded you a 6 for your CAG, progression on to that A Level course is permitted even if the examination board awarded a final grade 5 after moderation. We are keen to support all students with their transition next year regardless of their chosen destination, the phone call with a member of staff will be the ideal opportunity to discuss your options.

Will it be possible to come in and speak to someone about my results or progression routes?

We anticipate that most queries and questions can be addressed quickly and efficiently over the telephone without the need for students or parents to come into school. However, if you feel that a face to face meeting is necessary, please make this request when the member of staff calls you. You will only be able to come in to school if you have an agreed appointment. You will also need to bring with you a completed Covid-19 questionnaire document which will be emailed to you once the appointment time is agreed. Please do not come to the school without an appointment.

Can I change my A Level subject choices?

Yes, providing you meet the entry requirements for your new subject choice and your subject choices fit into the option blocks already set. To check the entry requirements, please follow the link: <https://www.spaldinghigh.lincs.sch.uk/media/Spalding%20Prospectus%202020%20-%20Web.pdf>.

The option blocks below show what will fit into our school timetable, each of your subjects should be in a different block. When changing subject, please consider the options carefully. The prospectus and bridging tasks will be useful sources of information to ensure that your new choice is right for you.

<u>BLOCK A</u>	<u>BLOCK B</u>	<u>BLOCK C</u>	<u>BLOCK D</u>	<u>BLOCK E</u>
Chemistry	Art	Biology	Biology	Biology
Drama	Business	Business	Criminology	Core Maths
Design Technology	Chemistry	English Literature	German	English Language
Geography	Core Maths	Maths	Psychology	Music
Law	Further Maths	Maths	Physical education	Psychology
Psychology	History	Sociology	Physics	
Photography	Religious Studies			
Religious Studies				

What has the School done to ensure the integrity and accuracy of the CAGs we awarded?

Please be reassured that the system we used was extremely robust. The Senior Leadership Team implemented the exam board process with meticulous detail. The same is true of departments. Heads of Department were given thorough instructions and training about how to collect in the grades from their subject teams and spoke to all subject staff. Grades were collected in and scrutinised by the Senior Leadership Team to ensure that they were realistic and fair. The next stage of the process involved departments meeting again to discuss individual student rankings. Senior staff were involved in discussions with staff at every stage of the process where appropriate.

All grades and rankings were then uploaded to exam board websites as per national instructions. We then printed off the submitted data, which was then checked by the Senior Leadership Team and Exams Officer. Only then, was the data signed off as accurate and complete.

Can I appeal my final grade or CAG?

Ofqual and the exam boards are working to ensure that candidates are awarded a fair grade that recognises the work they have put in. If an A level, AS level or GCSE student does not believe the correct process has been followed in their case, they will have access to a right of appeal on that basis.

Ofqual has consulted on the arrangements for these appeals and announced its decisions on 22 May. Schools and colleges can only appeal, on students' behalf, against the process or the use of data, not against teachers' use of their professional judgement.

In addition, if a student does not feel their grade reflects their ability, they will have the opportunity to take an exam in the autumn.

For more information, please follow the link to the Ofqual documents:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/exceptional-arrangements-for-exam-grading-and-assessment-in-2020>

Can I resit examinations in the Autumn term?

There will be a full series of GCSE examinations available in the Autumn term which will run from Monday 2nd November until Monday 23rd November. The examination boards will post timetables on their websites in due course.

When contemplating resits, we would urge all students to very carefully consider whether the outcome is likely to have any positive impact on their chosen progression route and how being out of school since March might affect their performance in the Autumn exam series. The effect that studying for the Autumn examinations might have on A level subjects, new college courses or apprenticeships should also be weighed up. School staff would be happy to discuss these issues on an individual basis on our return to school in September.

The deadline for entry in to the autumn series of GCSE examinations is 18th September. If the decision is made to resit an exam in the autumn, students should collect a Resit Request Form from Mrs Smith; the school's examination officer. This should be completed and returned no later than 4pm on Wednesday 16th September. Please contact Mrs Smith by email; Karen.Smith@spaldinghigh.lincs.sch.uk.

Resitting an examination will incur an entry fee from the examination boards, the cost of which will need to be covered by the parents or carers of the applicant. Whilst the exam boards have not yet released information regarding fees, they have typically been of the order of £50 per subject. In the case of financial hardship, the school may be able to assist with this cost; requests for assistance should be made to Mrs Anderson and will be dealt with in confidence and on an individual basis.