Date: 24|08|2022

Dear students, parents and carers,

Re: GCSE & Vocational and Technical Qualification (VTQ) Examination Results – August 2022

Congratulations to all of you on making it through an incredibly tough two years, in preparation for your GCSEs and VTQs. We all know how hard it's been at times, but also how hard you've worked. You should be very proud.

As you receive your GCSE and VTQ results this week, we know that you may have many questions, and that there are a lot of conflicting news reports and articles about what may happen.

We have always known that this year was a 'transition year' between 2021 (when assessment was done directly by schools and colleges) and 2019 (the last year exams took place). This means that overall grades will be about halfway between the two nationally.

It does not mean that marking was harsher – the marking was done by exam boards in the usual way. Instead, it means that when setting the grade boundaries, exam boards have been more generous than in a normal year, to bring grades closer to 2021 levels. Marking and grading are done at a national level, with all students across the country being treated the same way.

You should already have a place at college or sixth form confirmed. Colleges and sixth forms understand that grading is different this year.

You will be able to collect your results from school from 8.30am on Thursday 25th August. As well as members of SRS staff, there will be a careers advisor available for you to speak to and answer any queries.

If you don't get the grades you need to study a certain course next year – don't panic. In the first instance talk to a member of the 16+ team or the careers advisor who will be able to advise you on next steps.

Finally, remember that you are more than a grade. The resilience you have shown under such conditions is remarkable. You are all exceptional, inspiring and talented young people, and we couldn't be prouder of you. Congratulations again on your achievements this week.

Yours faithfully,

Clare Cross

Principal

Partnership Learning Trust

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