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Collection of Results Summer 2021 and Appeals Process

Dear students, parents, and carers,

After all their work preparing for and completing assessment activities, year 11 and year 13 pupils will be looking forward to collecting their results during the summer holiday.

The results will be available for pupils on the following days.

- Tuesday 10 August – A Level and Level 3 vocational and technical qualifications
- Thursday 12 August – GCSE and Level 2 vocational and technical qualifications

Pupils in year 11 and 13 may choose whether they wish to collect their results in person at the school, or receive them via email. Results for pupils who have completed qualifications in years 10 and 12 will be sent by email on the above dates.

Year 13 pupils collecting A-Level results are invited to attend the school between 9am and 10.30am on Tuesday 10 August.

Year 11 pupils collecting GCSE results are invited to attend the school at the following times on Thursday 12 August. The timeslots are based on the pupils' English class groups to stagger the arrival of pupils and enable pupils and staff to socially distance themselves safely.

- 9.00 11N/En1 (Mrs Thomas)
- 9.15 11N/En8 (Mrs Foster)
- 9.30 11N/En2 (Mrs Thomas)
- 9.45 11N/En7 (Mrs Foster)
- 10.00 11N/En3 (Mrs Clegg)
- 10.15 11N/En6 (Mrs Foster)
- 10.30 11N/En4 (Mrs Clegg)
- 10.45 11N/En5 (Mrs Meek)

If the weather is fine, results will be distributed to pupils collecting in person in the front yard, underneath the large school emblem. In the case of poor weather, pupils will enter the school through the main entrance and collect results in the foyer in front of the theatre.

We appreciate some pupils may prefer to collect their results remotely, or may be unavailable to attend in person on results day. All results will be sent to pupils by email from 11am. These will be sent to pupils' secure school email addresses.

A number of familiar colleagues will be available on site to provide advice and support pupils.

On Tuesday 10 August, Mr Baker and Mr Wilson will be available for any pupils wishing to discuss university places.

On Thursday 12 August, Mr Henderson and Mr Wilson will be available for any pupils wishing to discuss the offer provided by the East Yorkshire Sixth Form, Mr Coupe will be available to provide advice regarding careers and next steps, and Mrs Brady will be attendance to offer personal support.

The Joint Council for Qualifications (JCQ) publication *Guidance for students, parents and guardians: GCSEs and AS/A Levels in England Summer 2021* provides further information, including the process for appealing results. This is available on the school website at the following address.

http://www.longcroftschoo.co.uk/parent_letters

We look forward to celebrating the hard work and dedication of all our pupils, who have completed courses in particularly challenging circumstances this year. On both results days, colleagues will be available later in the day to assist with any pupils or parents wishing to make an appointment to discuss their results or the opportunities offered at the East Yorkshire Sixth Form.

Appeals

The appeals process for summer 2021 allows students to appeal their grade where they believe there has been an error. They **must** first ask their centre to review whether an administrative or procedural error has been made. Where the school does not believe that an error has been made but a student believes that an error persists, a student may ask the school to submit an appeal to the awarding organisation on their behalf. The school must submit the student's appeal if requested. Depending on the grounds of the appeal, the awarding organisation will consider:

- whether the grade reflects an unreasonable exercise of academic judgement
- and/or whether the centre followed its procedures properly and consistently in arriving at the student's result or in conducting its review
- and/or whether the awarding organisation made an administrative error.

What may happen to your grade during the centre review and appeals process?

If you request a centre review or an awarding organisation appeal there are three possible outcomes:

- Your original grade is **lowered**, so your final grade will be lower than the original grade you received.
- Your original grade is **confirmed**, so there is no change to your grade.
- Your original grade is **raised**, so your final grade will be higher than the original grade you received.

Once a finding has been made you cannot withdraw your request for a centre review or appeal. **If your grade has been lowered you will not be able to revert back to the original grade you received on results day.**

Priority Appeals

The priority appeal process is **only for students applying to higher education who did not attain their firm choice** (i.e. the offer they accepted as their first choice) and wish to appeal an A level or other Level 3 qualification result.

The following timescales apply to priority appeals.

10 August to 16 August 2021	Window for students to request a centre review
10 August to 20 August 2021	Centres conduct centre reviews
10 August to 23 August 2021	Centres submit appeals to awarding organisations

For reviews where a higher education place is dependent on the outcome of an appeal, students must include their UCAS personal ID. The student should also notify their preferred higher education provider that a review has been requested at the earliest possible opportunity so they can decide how to handle their offer.

Non-priority Appeals

The following timescales apply to non-priority appeals.

Results day to 3 September 2021	Window for students to request a centre review
Results day to 10 September 2021	Centres conduct centre reviews
Results day to 17 September 2021	Centres submit appeals to awarding organisations

Stage One - centre review

Any student may submit a request for a centre review on the grounds that the school has:

- failed to follow its procedures properly or consistently in arriving at that result or
- made an administrative error in relation to the result.

Requests for appeals on the grounds of academic judgement (unreasonableness) will only be considered by awarding organisations (at Stage Two) and not by centres. In these cases, an initial centre review must still be completed to ensure that the school has not made any procedural or administrative errors. **The school will not review its academic judgements during the centre review stage.**

Stage Two – appeals to the awarding organisation

Appeals cannot be made to an awarding organisation until the centre review has been completed. A centre must submit an appeal to the awarding organisation if the student considers that:

1. the centre did not follow its procedure properly or consistently in arriving at the result, or during the centre review
2. the awarding organisation made an administrative error in relation to the result
3. the centre made an unreasonable exercise of academic judgement in the choice of evidence from which to determine the grade and/or the determination of that grade from the evidence.

When an application for an appeal is received, the awarding organisation will decide whether it will be accepted for evaluation or not. The decision whether to accept the application for an appeal is based on:

1. whether the grounds of appeal are within the remit of the appeals process (where a rationale is required)
2. whether a centre review has been completed
3. the timing of the application in relation to the published deadlines for submitting appeals
4. whether the student has confirmed that they consent to their grade being raised, lowered or staying the same.

Where an appeal is made on the grounds of an unreasonable exercise of academic judgement (either in the choice of evidence from which to determine the grade and/ or the determination of that grade from the evidence), the awarding organisation will take into account Ofqual's guidance which sets out that the starting point is the Teacher Assessed Grade itself and not any alternative grade put forward as part of the appeal. Therefore, the focus of any appeal will be on whether the Teacher Assessed Grade was unreasonable and not that any other grade or mark would have been reasonable.

As the Teacher Assessed Grade is holistic in nature, the awarding organisation's independent reviewer will take a similarly holistic approach to their decision-making. The purpose of the independent review is not to review the marking of individual assessments.

The independent reviewer will consider whether the original Teacher Assessed Grade decision was reasonable. The independent reviewer will not consider whether they would have given an alternative grade or whether an alternative grade could also reasonably have been given. The independent reviewer will consider whether the original Teacher Assessed Grade decision was reasonable on its own terms, not if any alternative proposition for the Teacher Assessed Grade or evidence put forward by the student, would be a more appropriate exercise of academic judgement. There may be a difference of opinion as to the assessed grade without there being an unreasonable exercise of academic judgement. The reviewer will only conclude that there has been an unreasonable exercise of academic judgement if the Teacher Assessed Grade was clearly wrong – i.e. there was no basis upon which the grade could properly have been given.

Where the appeal concerns the selection of evidence, the academic decision will be considered in the context of the centre's procedure. Where this sets a starting point that the same evidence will be used for all students in a cohort, the relevant question will usually be whether an academic decision to depart from, or not to depart from, the starting point in respect of the particular student was unreasonable.

Depending on the grounds submitted by the student (procedural/administrative, unreasonableness of academic judgement or both), the awarding organisation may assign the appeal for evaluation either to a member of their staff and/or to an independent reviewer.

An independent reviewer will be a subject expert appointed by the awarding organisation and trained to evaluate appeals. The independent reviewer will have no personal interest in the decision being appealed and will evaluate any appeal made on the grounds that there was an unreasonable exercise of academic judgement by the centre.

Where the student submits an appeal on more than one ground (e.g. the awarding organisation is asked to review both procedures and the exercise of academic judgement), the appeal process is likely to take longer. This could be an important consideration for students who urgently need the outcome of their appeal.

For appeals on multiple grounds, it is possible that one ground (e.g. a procedural error) could identify an error that impacts the reported Teacher Assessed Grade. The result of this could then be overridden by a second ground of appeal (e.g. the unreasonableness of the Teacher Assessed Grade). An appeal outcome will therefore only be reported when all submitted grounds have been evaluated. It is also possible that the awarding organisation could identify that the grade awarded was not correct on grounds other than the grounds upon which the appeal was submitted. Where this is the case, the awarding organisation will take the appropriate action to correct the grade.

Reporting the outcome

As a result of the appeal, the case will either be rejected (disallowed) or upheld (allowed) in whole or in part. The fact that an appeal has been upheld (allowed) will not necessarily result in a grade change for the student.

Where the awarding organisation:

- identifies a procedural error or
- finds alternative evidence should have been included in the range of evidence

and that this may have impacted the Teacher Assessed Grade, they will report these findings to the school and direct them to review the Teacher Assessed Grade.

The school must then inform the awarding organisation if it believes there should be a change to the grade. An awarding organisation may impose a change to the grade.

Appeals made on the grounds of procedural error will be evaluated by a staff member or an independent reviewer appointed by the awarding organisation.

Following final quality assurance checks, where it considers it appropriate to do so, the awarding organisation will make the grade amendment and report the outcome of the appeal, with reasons for its decision, to the school.

Where an unreasonable exercise of academic judgement is identified by the awarding organisation, the independent reviewer will determine the alternative grade. The awarding organisation will then report the revised grade and outcome of the appeal, with reasons, to the school.

The school will share the outcome of the awarding organisation appeal, and where appropriate the next stage of the process, with the student promptly.

Submitting an appeal to Longcroft School and Sixth Form College

If a student wishes to request a centre review (stage 1 of the appeals process) they need to complete and submit the form attached to this email.

- *Student Request Form for Centre Reviews and Appeals to Awarding Organisations*

The completed form should be submitted to the following dedicated email address within the timescales outlined above.

appeals2021@longcoft.eriding.net