

20th April 2020

Dear Year 13 Students

I hope this letter finds you all safe and well and you all had a break over the Easter period. I have outlined below for you another update with regards to homework, results day and UCAS. I understand that many of you have had concerns and are worried about what will happen with your grades and university placements, so hopefully this letter will answer some of those questions for you.

A reminder that your teachers are still working on collating every piece of data and evidence they have to ensure they are ready to submit your predicted grades to your exam boards. This takes a great deal amount of time, so please continue not to email your teachers directly. The majority of you have listened to this advice, for which I am very grateful, but there are still a few of you emailing teachers which is delaying this process. Any questions, please continue to email me on ehayman@stahigh.org

What work should I be doing now?

All Year 13 students will have the right to re-sit exams in the Autumn Term if they disagree with the final grade that the exam board issues. This potentially is nearly 4-5 months away, therefore, if you think this may be you, you must keep revising. In order to support you with this, your class teachers will be uploading to Show My Homework revision material for your subjects from Monday 20th April onwards. None of this work will need returning to your teachers for marking but once the materials have been uploaded, you can ask your teachers any questions on anything you do not understand. The only subject where students should still be working is the EPQ, with the extended deadline of Friday 24th April at 5.00pm.

Results day

The Department for Education has confirmed that A Level results day will be published on 13th August 2020. More information will follow about the process for finding out results.

UCAS and University admissions

The Government has asked universities and colleges across the UK to stop making unconditional offers or amending existing offers until 20 April. This is because they're worried you'll feel pressured to accept these offers over others you might be better suited to.

The St Augustine's advice to students who have received an unconditional offer is always to consider whether this is the right provider and course for you, before you make any decision. Please do not feel obliged to accept an unconditional offer unless you feel it is right for you!

To give you time to make your decisions – and to understand more about how qualifications will be awarded this summer, UCAS have extended:

- their May offer deadline for UCAS Undergraduate applicants
- the rolling decision dates for UCAS Teacher Training applicants and providers

What does this mean in practice?

No difference to previous years! Your application will continue through the admissions process the same as it would if you had taken your examinations or assessments as expected. UCAS will still receive your grades from the awarding bodies and pass them on to your chosen unis as we have in previous years. This means the universities or colleges you have applied to will treat your application fairly and consistently, and will consider these grades in the same way as any qualifications from previous years.

What can I do to prepare for University?

I have emailed out a lengthy resource to keep your minds working. This includes completing various different activities which will help you prepare for university Learning and give you a good foundation for the start of your courses. I highly recommend that you engage with these so that when you do start university, you are ready to go! I will also place this on the school website.

Further updates will be sent when needed but in the meantime, keep positive, keep resilient and stay safe and well. Be the Best you can Be!

Yours sincerely

Mrs E Hayman
Assistant Headteacher