



# Plymouth High School for Girls

*"For life, not school, we learn"*

15<sup>th</sup> July 2021

Dear Students and Parents and Carers,

I do hope that you have had some time to relax now that the whole GCSE and A Level assessment period is over. Although you will be awaiting your results, now is the time to concentrate on your other interests and spend time with friends and family as well as thinking ahead to the next stage in your educational journey.

Staff here at Plymouth High School have worked tirelessly to ensure that you were fully prepared for the rolling programme of green assessments that took place in school in April, May and June as well as for the mock examinations. They provided revision lists, revision materials and ensured that lesson time was spent preparing you for the assessments that followed. This meant that you were best placed to demonstrate your knowledge and understanding in the assessments within each curriculum area.

Teachers have ensured that the marking and moderation of these green assessments was consistent and that grade boundaries were used in a robust and fair way and were in line with Examination board levels from previous years. For those students where special consideration was needed, this has been applied in a robust and fair way in line with the guidance from the JCQ. Please see the link for more details on special consideration.

[A-guide-to-the-spec-con-process-202021-Website-version.pdf \(jqc.org.uk\)](https://www.jcq.org.uk/examinations/spec-con-process-2020-21)

Please can I remind you that more information about the summer series results processes can be found by clicking on the links below.

[Student guide to awarding: summer 2021 \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](https://publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/944442/student-guide-to-awarding-summer-2021.pdf)

The administrative team for examinations here at PHSG has checked and double checked the data entered onto the examination board portals to ensure that no clerical errors have been made in uploading the grades.

The Senior Leadership Team have been through all the grades submitted and reviewed the evidence on which the grades have been based and are confident that the grades are accurate and reflect the outcomes that the students would have most likely achieved had GCSE and A Level examinations been conducted in the usual way.

We have reviewed the papers of every student whose grade was borderline to the grade above. Where the borderline grade investigation revealed evidence that the higher grade could be awarded, we made that change and uploaded the higher result to the examination board portal. In all borderline cases, we reviewed the assessment evidence carefully and are confident that the grade awarded is the correct one.

As a summary, we can therefore be confident that the grades submitted to the examination boards are accurate, fair and based on the evidence collected from the green assessments.

On receiving your results, if you feel that an appeal is necessary then please be mindful that we have already checked for clerical errors and have found none. Checking for clerical errors is the first part of the appeal, the second part of the process is to send the appeal statement to the examination board. The examination board ask for evidence and make the final appeal decision. Please also be mindful that if a grade is changed then the new grade stands whether or not it is higher than the originally awarded grade, there is no option to go back to the original grade. Students need to think carefully about making an appeal and should be very clear about the potential consequences. Plymouth High will accept and process every appeal that we receive, but students must accept that if a lower grade is returned this may impact on their next steps.

The deadline for appeals is stated below.

Centre review (stage 1)	Awarding Organisation appeal (stage 2)
<b>Priority:</b> 10 to 20 August	<b>Priority:</b> 10 to 23 August
<b>Non-priority:</b> 10 August to 10 September	<b>Non-priority:</b> 10 August to 17 September

The result of any appeal stands and it would be remiss of us not to inform you that appeals can cause grades to both increase and decrease. For year 13 students, this is an important factor to keep in mind before rejecting any offers from an insurance university.

More information about the appeals processes can be found by clicking on the links below.

[JCQ Appeals-Guidance Summer-2021.pdf](#)

The documentation that students would need to complete in order to appeal can be found on our website, see [here](#).

A final reminder that the results days are:

**A' level Results day is the 10th August 2021** – there is a change to the time from which results will be available. I had said that in previous communications you could collect your results from the school at 8.30am, ***we have moved this to 9am***. The Joint Council alongside UCAS have delayed the release of information regarding University places until 8.30am and hence to ensure that we can offer the best possible advice to students on the results day, we will delay the release of the results until 9am.

**GCSE Results day is the 12th August 2021** – time remains 8.30am.

If you are unable to attend the results day for any reason we can arrange for them to be emailed to you. We would need to know in advance if this is something that you would like to take us up on. Please email the exams officer Mrs Hardwick here at school stating the request for email results and please state the email address you would like the results sent to. Mrs Hardwicks email address is [J.Hardwick@tsatrust.org.uk](mailto:J.Hardwick@tsatrust.org.uk).

I hope that you are able to enjoy the few weeks between now and the Results Day in August.

Stay safe and we will see you soon.

Kind regards,



**Miss Donna Roughton**  
**Assistant Headteacher**