

Cottingham Road Corby Northamptonshire NN17 1TD t01536 213100 enquiries@corbytechnicalschool.org Principal:Angela Reynolds

17th July 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

Re: Year 13 end of year arrangements, A Level results day and next steps

As a school we recognise that this year has been a challenge for our Year 13 cohort. Throughout the lockdown period work has been provided to all of Year 13 students in order to support them with their transition to university or other next steps. We have used Microsoft Teams to share information with students regarding UCAS updates, job opportunities including apprenticeships and inspirational virtual talks from industry leaders. Whole school assemblies have also featured throughout the lockdown periods and some students have engaged in a weekly tutor time session. These resources will continue to be available over the Summer if students would like to review them. We will continue to update teams with any job opportunities/apprenticeships when we are made aware of them.

The Year 13 Results Day provides another time when we will have to support our students in a way that is different to our normal way of working. I know that receiving A Level results is a significant rite of passage for many students and, despite the requirements of social distancing, we want to make sure that every student receives their results and has the opportunity to discuss them with a member of staff. I am therefore writing to you to outline the process for Results Day on **Thursday 13th August**.

Results day - Thursday 13th August 2020

I am pleased to say that we will be running a 'face to face' results day, though our arrangements for collecting results on site will fully comply with social distancing guidelines:

- Results will be available between 8.30am and 10:30am.
- Our careers advisor Mrs Thompson will be available in school from 10.30am on Thursday 13th August to support students.
- Please enter the site via the main gates, results will be collected from the Library, please enter school via main reception.
- If parents are using the car park, they must not leave their vehicles. We request that that there is no pedestrian access onto site for parents/carers so that we can maintain the safety of our staff and students.
- Students need to sanitise their hands at the sanitisation station as they enter school.

If students do not attend, results will be posted home at the end of the day.

If your son/daughter is not able to collect exam results in person, they can call the school after 11:30am and be given their results over the phone. Please note that the school will not be able to give results to anyone else (including family members) without written consent from your child.

If you would like to review the DfE information regarding how exam grades are awarded please visit the DfE website. There is some useful information for parents/carers <u>here</u>, some Ofqual guidance for students can also be found <u>here</u>.

Post 18 support

Given the importance of these results and the potential need to negotiate or confirm future courses, we ask that students collect their results in person from Corby Technical School if possible. UCAS is unable to communicate with anyone other than the student, unless the student has given nominated access on their behalf. Any student unable to collect their results should let the school know in advance.

UCAS - Confirmation, Clearing and Adjustment

You should also be aware that UCAS will start sending confirmation letters to applicants one day before the official issue of results. We have been asked to reassure students that non-receipt of a confirmation letter on 13th August does not necessarily mean that they have been unsuccessful. Furthermore, students who receive a confirmation letter on 13th August cannot assume that they have achieved the examination results to meet the conditions of their offers: in some cases, they may not have obtained the required grades but the institution will still have been able to confirm their place. Students can also check their offer via the UCAS Track service online at <u>www.ucas.com</u> by entering their UCAS application number and Track username and password. UCAS informs us that the status of applications will be updated to show confirmations during the day on 13th August. On results day if your son/daughter has achieved the entry requirement for their first choice, they will go there; if not and if they have secured the entry requirement for their second choice the expectation is that the student will take up their insurance offer.

The Adjustment period allows students who do better than they expected in their examinations to contact universities with higher entry requirements to see if they still have vacancies, whilst holding their original offers. However, universities do not necessarily have places available during the Adjustment period. Further information about Adjustment can be found at <u>www.ucas.com</u>. If students have not met the entry requirements for any of their offers they will enter Clearing. The situation can vary according to the relative popularity of the subject applied for: in undersubscribed subjects at less popular universities admissions tutors might be more prepared to accept students who have missed their offers. Or, the student might be offered a different course at the same university. If your son/daughter has missed the entry requirements of their chosen course by a grade/a few points we will support them to contact their first choice university to check whether they have definitely been rejected or not; it is possible in some cases that they could still secure their place.

If students have been rejected by both their first and insurance choices, it is important they start to look for other courses, through the Clearing process. Clearing can be a very fast process, with the most popular courses filling up on the first day. We will support your son/daughter in checking the official course lists which will appear on <u>www.ucas.com</u> and to contact universities.

School staff will also assist students requiring further help and support with either Clearing or UCAS Adjustment. They will continue to support over the following week until students have secured a progression route that meets their needs. Should students require more support with their results post results day, an email can be sent to <u>enquiries@corbytechnicalschool.org</u> where you will receive a call back from a member of staff who will be providing personalised support.

We recognise that this continues to be a very strange time for all concerned. We have greatly missed seeing your son/daughter in school over the past months, missed watching them tackle exams, and greatly missed being able to celebrate the end of their journey with us.

We wish them all the very best for their future endeavours.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Reynolds Principal