

22 June 2010

## **To Year 13 Parents**

Dear Parents

Further to my letter regarding UCAS in March I would like to reiterate a few points regarding the process surrounding Results.

A Level results will be sent to the school and to universities on Wednesday 18 August. The results are embargoed until Thursday 19 August when the school is open for pupils to collect results. Year 13 may collect their results from 8:00 am onwards. All Year 13 pupils are encouraged to come in to school to collect their results, although they will be posted home if they are not collected.

Pupils have the opportunity to log on to their UCAS accounts early on Thursday 19 August. This will enable them to see if their application has been updated, showing if they have been accepted on to their chosen course even if they have not received their results. Pupils who have not had their UCAS accounts updated should not be unduly concerned. The UCAS helpdesk and phone lines will be open from 7:00am, many accounts will be updated by this time.

On receiving their results and meeting their offers pupils should find that their UCAS account will be updated to confirm that their Conditional Firm (CF) University has accepted them on to their chosen course. If a pupil unfortunately misses their first choice offer but secures the necessary grades to meet their insurance offer they will be released from their first choice and accepted by their insurance choice, all of which will be shown on their UCAS account. Pupils who are offered their insurance choice are encouraged to accept these. It is our experience that in most cases their insurance offers will be a stronger choice than a similar course at a university that they may pick up through clearing. At this stage there may well be some phone calls to make with regards to university accommodation. Ensuring computer access during the week after results is also encouraged.

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Last year UCAS started a scheme to help pupils 'trade up', called the Adjustment period. If a pupil should gain results that exceed the offer of their Conditional Firm choice they can apply through the Adjustment Period. For example, if a pupil secures ABB instead of the BBB that their Conditional Firm university has offered they may wish to see if they can 'trade up' their chosen course at another university. The Adjustment period will be available from results day for a two week period and it will allow pupils to make contact and apply to universities one at a time. Given the pressure on places this year there is some uncertainty about whether this scheme will be more widely used than last year.

This year is the first year that the A\* is available at A Level. Very few offers gained by PGS pupils have requested A\* although there has been some cases where alternative offers have indicated the need for the A\*. The A\* at A Level is awarded when performance at A2 is over 90% in the modules. More information about the A\* can be found at [www.ofqual.gov.uk](http://www.ofqual.gov.uk).

Those applying for Student Loans should note that the deadline for application is 25 June, in order to receive your loan by the start of term. All Year 13 received an information pack about student finance and more are available from the Careers Department, please email [j.williams@pgs.org.uk](mailto:j.williams@pgs.org.uk). Further information can be found at [www.direct.gov.uk/studentfinance](http://www.direct.gov.uk/studentfinance).

If you should have any further questions please do not hesitate to contact Dr Galliver via email [p.galliver@pgs.org.uk](mailto:p.galliver@pgs.org.uk) or me at [l.pechard@pgs.org.uk](mailto:l.pechard@pgs.org.uk) .

Yours sincerely

**L E Péchard**  
**Assistant Head (Head of Sixth Form)**