



Dear Y11 parent / carer,

I hope you are well and have been keeping safe over the last few weeks.

I am sure you will have seen the confusion over A-level results last week. I wanted to write to explain plans for GCSE results on Thursday, and how we will be supporting your child with their next steps.

As you know, the results students receive tomorrow will not be based on formal exams this year. On Monday, the Government announced that the method used to decide A-level and BTEC grades would not be used to determine your child's GCSEs. Your child will now receive grades that reflect what their teachers thought they would get if they had taken their exams this summer.

Our priority is that all our students take the right next step in their education. Every Ark student will have a place. They will be able to complete their studies at an Ark sixth form near them, whatever their grades, if they choose to. Our sixth form in Birmingham is Ark St Albans. We will use our knowledge about your child to offer a combination of courses that will help them. Not everyone will get to study exactly what they want, but we will make sure everyone can attend. Some students may not want to take up their offer, and we will support them too in helping to find alternative places. As you know your child may already have a firm offer of a placement and the offer of Ark St Albans is a safety net in these challenging times.

Some students may be disappointed with the grades they have been awarded. We have confidence in the process our teachers went through to decide each grade, your child will still be able to take an actual exam in the Autumn if they want to. If you do have any concerns or questions about your child's results, please contact us at [info@arkkingsacademy.org](mailto:info@arkkingsacademy.org) and we will direct your enquiry to the most appropriate member of staff.

Teachers will be available tomorrow to discuss the best options for your child next year. They will support them to secure a place in sixth form or at college, if that is what they want.

You will be aware of your child's appointment time tomorrow to collect their results. Please note this is to manage social distancing and to give every child some time to discuss their results in a safe environment. However, a follow up appointment will be given to you if necessary.

We know this has been a difficult time for you and your family and we are very proud of how well our students have coped. If there is anything else you would like to ask or any comments you wish to make, please do not hesitate to contact me on [r.punton@arkkingsacademy.org](mailto:r.punton@arkkingsacademy.org)

Yours sincerely,

Roger Punton  
Principal