

16 July 2020



Dear parents, carers and students,

Year 13 Results Day, Thursday 13th August

As ever, I trust this letter finds you in good health and spirits. We are looking forward to welcoming many of our Year 13 students back to school for our Results Day next month, and I am writing now to set out the arrangements for that day.

As you know, this year grades are being awarded through a system of centre assessment and external moderation. Because of the uncertainties in this process, and because there are fewer Year 13 students in schools and colleges this year (due to natural demographic trends), **we are expecting that this year's University admissions process will be more 'open' than usual** (*ie* Universities may be slightly more generous than usual if a student has missed their offer grades). For the same reasons, it is also possible that other post-18 routes (such as apprenticeships) may be more open than usual to a wider group of students.

For these reasons, we would encourage as many students as possible to come into school in person so that we can discuss your results with you and offer you appropriate advice and guidance about your next steps.

However, you must not come into school if you are feeling unwell on the day – especially if you are showing any Covid-19 symptoms. If (for whatever reason) you would prefer your results to be e-mailed to you, please let us know by **12noon** on **Wednesday 12th August** (if possible) by e-mailing exams@stmargaretsacademy.com. We are not allowed to release results to our students until **8am** on Thursday 13th. If you ask to have your results e-mailed to you, we will endeavour to send them to you between 8:00am and 8:30am. If, following receipt of your results, you would like to speak to someone about your next steps, please ring the school switchboard (0151 427 1825) and an advisor will call you back on a first come, first served basis.

For those intending to come onto our site to collect their results in person, **we would urge you to do so at 8am** or as soon as possible thereafter. Given the likely openness both of this year's University application process, and of other routes too, students who access their results early may be in a stronger position to negotiate with providers who have initially rejected them, and may also have an edge in the 'Clearing' process.

On the day, the following arrangements will apply.

- You may arrive in school from 7:40am onwards.
- **Please bring any school text-books with you** so that we can use them for future cohorts of St Margaret's students. If you are unable to come into school on Results Day, we would still anticipate you would make every effort to return your text books.

- **Please also bring in any locker keys you may still have**, and again if you are unable to come into school on Results Day, we still need the keys back!
- Please travel by yourself; regrettably, we will not be able to welcome parents or carers on site this year, as we customarily have done in the past.
- Please do not congregate in groups, either outside the school building, or on site, before or after you have been into school.
- On your arrival, marshals will direct you down Church Lane to the Cricket and Sports Centre, where you will be required to queue in a socially-distanced manner.
- Results will be distributed from the Sports Hall from 8am, strictly on a first-come, first-served basis. Social distancing must continue to be observed in the Sports Hall, and you will also be expected to wash your hands at least once during your visit to the site.
- Further advice and guidance will be available to anyone who asks for it, again on a first-come, first-served basis.
- You will be welcome to stay on site for a short while after you have received your results – Results Days always provide an opportunity for conversations with those who have taught you, and looked after you, for 2 or 7 years, and we would naturally want to encourage these to continue in an appropriately socially-distanced manner.

It is unclear at this stage what arrangements we will be able to put in place for the distribution of certificates, when these are received in school (usually late October). Mindful of the fact that we have not had an opportunity to observe our usual Leavers' events, we will endeavour to organise an occasion when we can say 'goodbye' a little better than we have been able to do thus far – but we are equally mindful of the fact that large gatherings may still not be permitted in the Autumn. We will be in touch about arrangements in September.

Whether or not we are able to see you in person in August, or in the Autumn, I would like to place on record my appreciation for the significant contribution your year-group has made to the life of our school – for those of you who have been here 7 years, I can vividly recall your first day at St Margaret's, because I started here at the same time as you! Whatever your plans for the future, you will take with you the best wishes of every member of the St Margaret's family; do keep in touch, as we would love to hear how your life-story unfolds.

With every best wish,

Yours faithfully,



Mr S Brierley
Principal