

Dear Year 13 Students/Parents/Carers,

We hope that this letter finds you and your young person in good spirits, and we hope that they are enjoying their well-earned time off.

We thought it timely to communicate with you regarding the A level Results, both the logistics and next steps for students in receipt of results. Below is important information regarding the process of the results day and the support available at school.

Key facts:

- Results day is Thursday 15th of August 2024
- Students will be sent results, **via email**, at approximately 8-8.30am, this is so a rapid response to universities, apprenticeships or employers can be made. The school adopted emailing results during the Covid pandemic but have kept this system because students are in receipt quicker, often surrounded by loved ones and not delayed by a trip to the city. We have previously offered a choice but, due to our Exams Officer leaving, we are working with a much reduced workforce and can only offer this in exceptional cases please contact Jcroucher@ndhs.org.uk before Friday the 12th of July if you would like to come in, stating the reason(s) why.

Notes to University applicants

It is possible that your UCAS Track status will change before 8am to show that you have been (hopefully) accepted. If it *doesn't* change, this doesn't mean that you should panic (particularly if your social media feed starts filling with delighted, excited people) – it just means the university admissions office has elected not to change their applicant statuses very early in the morning. Some do, some don't (and it may vary between departments of the same university, so *really* don't read anything into it).

Read through the following possibilities carefully. They should cover the most common eventualities. A part of results day that can be very emotionally charged and require you to make big decisions, without the usual amount of thinking time, is when your results are not what you had expected or hoped for. I would strongly recommend that you have a plan of action in place before the day itself. It doesn't necessarily matter if you don't follow it to the letter, but you will feel much more prepared.

I have been accepted by my first or insurance choice. What do I do?

- Contact the university to confirm that you would like to take your place. They will take it from there.

I have a place but have decided I want to defer. What do I do?

- Ring the university and find out if this is an option. It may or may not be for your particular course. If you've already decided that you would like to defer you can actually make those arrangements now, rather than wait until Results Day.

If you can't defer, you can either go this year or reapply next year (I'm happy to give references etc. for UCAS 2025).



I haven't got a place at any of my universities and I'm in clearing. What do I do?

- Read through the clearing courses that interest you and contact the relevant universities to see if they have a place available. You will probably need to do quite a bit of phoning (be brave!). Clearing is, unfortunately, time-pressured – so it is useful to have an idea of the types of courses you might look into and also the general areas of the country where you might wish to live.

We will be at school on Results Day to discuss anything that needs discussing, so you can email a member of the 6th Form Team <u>sixthform@ndhs.org.uk</u> and we will swiftly arrange a time.

I have a university place, but I don't want it. What do I do?

- Ring the university and say you would like to decline their offer. This could be for one of the following reasons:
 - If this is in order to accept your insurance choice, contact your insurance university **first**, and follow their instructions.
 - If this is to take a place from Clearing that you have already made up your mind upon, contact the Clearing university **first** and follow their instructions.
 - If this is to simply enter Clearing without any arrangements made, just ring the university and decline.
 - If you've changed your mind about university this year and intend to reapply, just ring the university and decline (don't do this if you're deferring).

In the case of declining an offer in order to go somewhere else, it is wise to get something confirmed in writing (email is fine) from the university admissions of your university of choice, just so that you don't find yourself in a position of having declined your original choice but not having a backup in place (a verbal communication doesn't have the evidential weight of a written one).

If you need to use Clearing and don't have access to a computer, or you would like support during the process, you are welcome to arrange to come into school on results day to do this please contact sixthform@ndhs.org.uk.

UCAS contact details

You can call UCAS on **0371 468 0 468.** You will need to have your Personal ID ready so they can find your records quickly. Calls will be charged at your standard network rate.

If you are calling from outside the UK, please call +44 330 3330 230. If you cannot access this number, please call +44 371 468 0 468 (this number may have a higher call rate).

I want to talk to the Careers Advisor

- Get in touch and we'll arrange something. You can contact the Careers Advisor directly as well (swhiddett1@ndhs.org.uk)



I have questions about the results I have received, I have missed my University place by a grade You can get all the information that you need on the Exams section of the school website regarding results, reviews and access to scripts. Please note, due to the reduced nature of our examination team we will only be offering a Priority Review of a script if a University place is reliant on a change of grade AND the students paper is within 3 marks from the next grade boundary. Staff will check this and may advise against, last year only 5% of reviewed papers changed grade and 95% were unchanged. All other reviews will be dealt with in September, following the arrival of the new Exams Manager.

It is important to note that reviews (clerical re-checking/review of marking) may result in:

- The original mark being confirmed as correct
- The original mark being raised
- The original mark being lowered

Your IT account

Please also be aware that we will be following our usual procedure in winding down your Notre Dame IT account. Specifically:

- · your account will continue to operate normally until August 31st for you to access and download copies of any files you wish to keep.
- · On the 31st August, your account will be converted to email only.
- On the 31st December your account will be closed.

I hope it all goes well! If you have any questions, get in touch.

Best wishes

The Sixth Form Team