

St Gabriel's

Roman Catholic High School



20 August 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are delighted to write to you regarding this summer's GCSE results and to reassure you regarding the re-opening of School.

Today, our Y11 students have received their GCSE results. These results, after much controversy nationally, are based upon centre assessed grades (CAGs).

Here at St Gabriel's the centre assessed grades took into account mock grades, internal assessments, controlled assessment/fieldwork grades plus ongoing evidence over time in students books. Every department met to moderate their grades and every middle leader was called to the senior leadership team to demonstrate how they had drawn their conclusions for the CAGs before they were presented to the Governors to challenge at the highest level also. This process took quite some time, but we wanted to ensure that our students were not disadvantaged, but also, that our grades were not unfairly inflated, since this would have a huge negative impact in the long run, with St Gabriel's being under frequent Ofsted monitoring inspections.

I am delighted to inform you that our Y11s have done us proud and that the huge changes we have put in place regarding teaching and learning strategies, a new revised curriculum and higher expectations and targets have paid off. St Gabriel's students achieved the following results;

84% grade 4 or above (old grade C) English and Maths

Progress – above national expectations

28% of the cohort achieved at least, 3 grade 7-9 (old grade A*/As).

90% of students achieved a grade 9-4 in English

87% achieved a 9-4 in Maths.

80% of students achieved 5 Grade 4 and above GCSEs (old grade C) including English and Maths

Our EBacc data shows it was the highest achieving year since 2017 and the combined English and Maths are also the best results in the past 4 years. We are hugely proud of our students. This demonstrates the fact that all the strategies we are putting in place are having the impact we need.

As we approach the start of the next academic year, I would like to take this opportunity to reassure you about your child's start to their academic year. A rigorous and robust risk assessment has been put in place to ensure your child stays within their year group bubble and will be offered the opportunity to wash their hands, as Government guidelines suggest we should. Numerous hand sanitising stations are now around school and the new dining canopy means your child will not have to eat with a different year group.

Sadly, only British Sign Language will be available as an enrichment opportunity, as this is the only activity we are able to deliver within year group bubbles, due to it being delivered by an outside provider. However, we look to the near future when hopefully the restrictions will be relaxed and our students can once again resume the many after school and lunchtime clubs we run.

"I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full"

Justice, Tolerance, Forgiveness and Generosity

Headteacher Miss L Corrigan BSc (Hons), PGCE, PGDip, NPQH, FRSB
Telephone 0161 764 3186
Email stgabriels@bury.gov.uk
Website www.st-gabriels.org.uk
Postal address Bridge Road, Bury, BL9 0TZ



@stgabsbury



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May we take this opportunity to remind all parents of the arrangements for the start of the new term;

Y7 and Y11 start date: 3rd September

Y7 start time: 8.25am

Y11 start time: 8.30am

Y8, 9 and 10 start date: 7th September

Y8 start time: 8.45am

Y9 start time: 8.40am

Y10 start time: 8.35am

Thank you most sincerely for your support over the past academic year. We look forward to a challenging, but positive start to the new year in September.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'L. Corrigan'.

L Corrigan
Headteacher