Bradley Stoke Community School

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BSCS/24-161

10th July 2025

Dear Year 13 students, Parents and Carers,

Thank you so much for such a lovely week last week, it was so enjoyable to celebrate with you at the Leavers' Assembly and Prom. I hope you are all enjoying life after exams and the sunshine!

A level Results Day will be with us before we know it. We are hopeful for a successful day for all of our students. You can collect your results on Thursday 14th August between 8.30am - 9.30am. Results can be collected from the Dining Hall. We will also email out results later in the morning for those students unable to collect their results during the morning of the 14th.

If students would like someone else to collect their results on their behalf, they need to send written confirmation of their name and permission to bcs-exams@olympustrust.co.uk. Those collecting results will need to bring a photo ID with them.

After receiving results, some students may consider asking the exam board to review their marks. If students would like the exam board to do this, they should either email a member of the Post 16 team or bcs-exams@olympustrust.co.uk, who will be able to advise further.

The exam boards have changed the way they review candidates' papers. The exam boards state that a review of marking is a post results review of the original marking to ensure that the mark scheme has been applied correctly.

A marking error can occur because of:

- An administrative error
- A failure to apply the mark scheme where a task has only a 'right' or 'wrong' answer
- An unreasonable exercise of academic judgement

The awarding body will train its reviewers to conduct reviews of marking accurately and consistently. Reviewers will not re-mark the script. They will only act to correct any errors identified in the original marking.

Lastly, we will be here to support you during the results period. We have prepared comprehensive guidance for clearing and, more positively, confirming choices on Results Day; should you need it, it is at the end of this letter.

Please get in touch if you have any questions.

Kind regards,

S McCombe

Sadie McCombe
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<u>UCAS Confirmation and Clearing</u> (Information for UCAS applicants)

This is a quick guide for UCAS applicants following results day. Further details are available on the UCAS website (www.ucas.com). Help will be available for students on results day (Thursday 14th August) and on Friday 15th August. Students can also arrange an appointment to see Mr. Clark (ewan.clark@olympustrust.co.uk) after this date.

On results day you will be able to see if you have been accepted by your firm or insurance choice university (via your online UCAS application). You will be able to do this from 8.00am on results day. You will then be in one of the following situations:

1 **You are accepted by your firm choice**

You have achieved the grades required by you 'firm' choice. If you decide that you no longer want to take this place you can decline your offer and release yourself into clearing. This option was introduced in 2019 and gives students greater control over their applications. If in any doubt, please speak to Mr Clark before declining your offers.

2 **Your results don't meet the conditions of your firm choice, but you are accepted by your insurance choice**

As above

3 **You receive a 'changed course, date of entry, or point of entry' offer**

If you don't quite get the grades required for your firm or insurance choices, they might offer you a place on an alternative course or an alternative start date. In these circumstances you can either accept the offer – **see confirmation** or decline it and enter clearing **- see clearing.**

4 **You are accepted by your firm choice, and you meet and exceed the conditions of the offer**

In the past, if you exceeded the conditions of your conditional firm (CF) choice and decided that you would like to consider an alternative course/university you could use the 'adjustment' process. However, 'adjustment' is no longer available. Therefore, you would need to decline your offers (using the 'self-release' option) and enter clearing **– see clearing.** Make sure you have verbal confirmation of an offer over the phone before rejecting the offers you hold! If in any doubt, please speak to Mr Clark before declining your offers.

5 **Your results don't meet the conditions of any of your choices**

It is still possible that one of your choices will offer you a place or make a 'changed course' offer. If you are not accepted by either institution, you can still apply for a place at university through clearing **– see clearing.**

6 **You are not holding any offers**

If you are not holding any offers, you can still apply for a place through clearing **– see clearing.**

Confirmation (<u>www.ucas.com/examresults</u>)

If you have achieved the grades required by your firm or insurance choices, then your place will be confirmed on your UCAS Hub. Information about what you need to do, and when, will either be displayed on there or your university may contact you directly with instructions. Make sure your UCAS contact details are up to date.

UCAS will send most exam results to universities, but if GCSE results are part of the conditions of your offer you should pass this information on to your 'firm' and/or 'insurance' choices as soon as you receive them.

If you have narrowly missed the conditions of one of your offers and no decisions or 'waiting for confirmation' is displayed on your UCAS Hub, then you can phone the university to see if they are still

prepared to offer you a place. However, this year universities will be able to add a reason, or reasons, to explain why your offer is still conditional. This is normally because (a) they are waiting for confirmation of a result (e.g. GCSE course) and/or (b) because you have narrowly missed the entry requirements, and they are still considering whether to offer you a place or not.

If you have a 'changed course/year offer', then you are not obliged to accept this offer. However, there is normally a time limit of about five calendar days to reply to a changed course/year offer.

Clearing (www.ucas.com/clearing)

If you have not achieved the grades required by either your firm or insurance choices, you can still check in case they have still decided to confirm your place or make you a 'changed course/year' offer. If they decide not to confirm your place, then you will be eligible for clearing.

You do not need to contact UCAS to request entry into Clearing. Applicants are not able to formally add a clearing choice until 1pm on A-level results day. However, they can search for clearing vacancies and talk to universities. There are three stages in the clearing process:

(1) Identify suitable courses with vacancies. You can search for UCAS clearing vacancies using the UCAS 'search tool'.

(2) Make direct contact with universities to discuss the possibility of gaining a place.

(3) Once you have contacted different universities to discuss vacancies, you may be informally offered several places. However, you will need to decide which offer to accept as you can only enter one choice at a time. Once you decide that you want to be formally considered for a place, you need to enter the university details and give the university your UCAS Personal ID and clearing number. Please only add a Clearing choice once you've had confirmation that the university is happy to consider you. Universities may give you a 'specific course code' to enter and they will normally give you a clearing offer reply date/deadline.

You can also use 'Clearing Plus', which has a few options to help match students with suitable vacancies. Applicants in Clearing can view a list of courses they've personally been matched to in their application – all they need to do is click the 'View matches' button. They can also find a course they want to be considered for, click the 'I'm interested' button and their details will be passed to the university or college. Applicants can make up to five expressions of interest at any one time. If the university or college still has places, they may reach out to discuss things further and make an offer.

Clearing is a time when things happen very quickly. Students need to be proactive and contact universities before vacancies are filled, but at the same time need to carefully consider offers. You might be disappointed with your results, but every year many students are offered places at good universities and on good courses through the clearing process.

Please ensure that you have your UCAS login details available on results day!