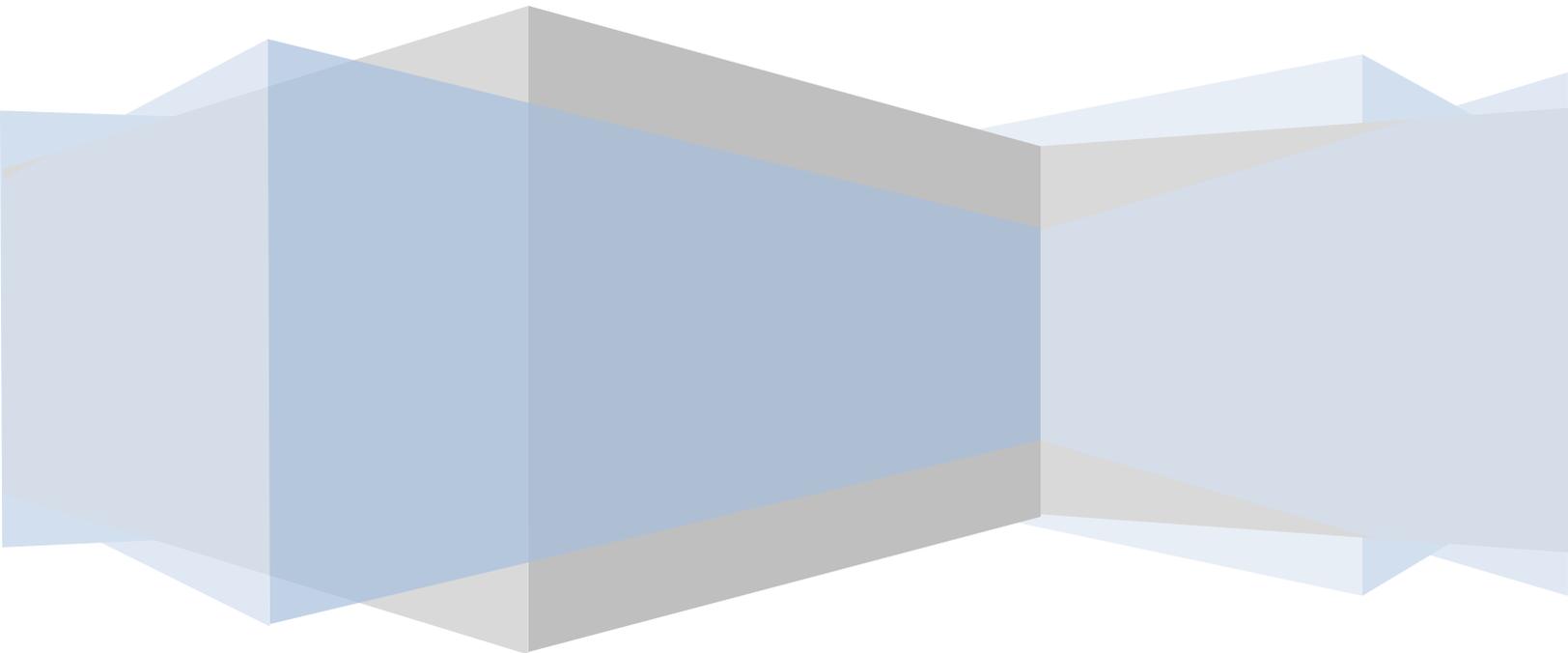




**Results Day:
University Confirmation,
Clearing and
Apprenticeships**

Thursday 13th August 2020



RESULTS DAY: THURSDAY AUGUST 13th 2020

Please read this information carefully – If you do not get the results you need to get into your firm or insurance choice of University you can contact the college on the morning of results day to receive advice. Please see the section not achieved the results required.

The information contained in this booklet is current at the time of writing.

Results Day – Thursday 13th August 2020.

A level and BTEC results will be released to all students via ‘**My Aquinas**’ on 13th August 2020. You will be able to log on to the ‘My Aquinas’ website from 08.00am to access your results. GCSE results will be available the week after, Thursday 20th August 2020.

Should you require a ‘Provisional Statement of Results’ as evidence to support an application for employment, apprenticeship etc a copy can be downloaded and printed from your results page on MyAquinas. Alternatively requests can be emailed to exams@aquinas.ac.uk or made by phone, ***please do not come into College unless you have been instructed to do so.***

Your results will be officially confirmed when certificates have been released by the exam boards, these are usually given out at a ‘Certificate Evening’ which takes place early in December. Further information and an invitation to the event will be sent out once the date and arrangements have been finalised, please make sure that your contact details (address, email and mobile phone number) are up to date on MyAquinas.

Due to the exceptional arrangements for awarding exam grades this summer there will be no ‘Review of Marking’ opportunity. There will, however, be an appeal process available for students who do not believe the correct process for calculating their grade has been followed, should they feel that their grade does not reflect their ability there will be an opportunity to sit exams in the Autumn term. At the time of writing information about appeals and exams in the Autumn term have not yet been released by Ofqual and the exam boards, this will be communicated to students when available. The following link is Ofqual's guidance covering the cancellation of exams.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-cancellation-of-gcses-as-and-a-levels-in-2020>

Going to University

Accepted by your firm or insurance choice

UCAS will send a letter of confirmation to those students who have been accepted by their firm or insurance offer. This may not arrive on results day, but students will be able to check whether their places have been confirmed on Track. UCAS Track can be accessed at www.ucas.com UCAS have stated that Track will be working from 8.00am (However, the UCAS servers may not be able to handle the traffic – so there may be problems). It is possible that even when Track is working some applicants may find that their choices are not updated. This can happen if the universities are slow in communicating their decisions to UCAS, your qualifications on your application do not match the information received from the examining board or it may mean you are borderline as you have not quite achieved the grades in your offer. The university is delaying making their decision as to whether to offer you a place as they are waiting to see if other students decline their place.

It is important to remember that if you have satisfied the conditions (i.e. achieved the **precise** results or above) demanded by your firm choice, your place will be confirmed and there is no need for you to contact the university concerned.

UCAS will send the majority of applicants' results to the universities and colleges before results day. It is therefore essential that you have provided UCAS with accurate and full examination information. If you have made any changes to your qualifications since your application to UCAS e.g. you have withdrawn from an examination, it is important **that you inform your firm choice and insurance choice university as this could delay confirmation of your place.**

Universities will have received the results three days earlier and will therefore have had time to decide whether or not to accept you should your results have fallen short of the offer you are holding. If you have just failed to meet the conditions of your firm choice don't panic- they may still take you! If not, you may well have been accepted by your insurance choice. If you have satisfied the demands of your insurance offer, you do not need to contact the university concerned as they will automatically confirm your place.

If you have not met the requirement set by either of your offers look at UCAS Track to check whether or not you have still been accepted with the grades you have achieved. They may have offered you a place on another course which is similar. If the University do this - check the content of the course very carefully. Is it what you want to study?

What to do if you have not achieved the results required

If you have not met the conditions of either of your offers and have not been offered an alternative course by your chosen universities, you will need to enter **Clearing**. UCAS are introducing a matching service this year. They will list similar courses that have availability on UCAS track for you to see. This can be a starting point for your research. Please check the details of any courses suggested as content can vary from University to University even though the title of the course may be the same.

On results day, if you require support please contact the college by **phone** on 0161 483 3237 or **email** student information with your contact details and a brief explanation of your query studentinformation@aquinas.ac.uk . We will then arrange a senior tutor or careers adviser to phone you back to discuss your options or offer a virtual online meeting. If you wish to use the facilities in the careers library or discuss your options face to face then you can make an appointment, however these will be limited. Calls can be made from 8.30am. Unfortunately, due to the current

situation and the requirement to follow government guidelines nobody will be allowed in the building without an appointment. Ideally, please wait in your car or outside the building till a couple of minutes before your appointment and enter the building via the car park visitor's entrance.

If you want to discuss University options – be prepared! You will need: -

- Your UCAS Personal ID number, username and password
- The course codes
- Your mobile phone fully charged if in college - **generally it is better if you make the phone calls - not your parents or tutors.**
- Copy of your UCAS application form with your personal statement
- Telephone numbers for your firm and insurance offers
- The names of admission tutors- if you know them
- It may also be worth your while giving some thought to alternative courses and institutions; bring any relevant information with you so that you can make early contact, thereby increasing your chances of finding a suitable place.
- **If you have forgotten your Personal ID, Username and Password** you need to contact the UCAS. (0871 468 0468) *Do this in advance of results day.*

Trying to establish what your position is by telephoning the admissions tutor for the course is time consuming - it can take a few hours! If you feel you may not get the grades required and still want to go to University start checking UCAS Clearing vacancies from early July and find out which courses still have places. Contact the university beforehand to discuss the course content. Produce a list of the results day telephone numbers of the universities you are interested in so you have them ready on results day.

You are eligible for clearing if

- You are not holding any offers
- You have not withdrawn from the UCAS scheme
- The offers you were holding have not been confirmed because you have not achieved the results required
- You have declined offers or you have not responded by the due date and therefore hold no offers
- You are a late applicant i.e. you applied after 30th June

Course vacancies in Clearing are published on the UCAS site from early July until late-September. You will need to contact institutions direct to discuss your options and suitability for the course.

How do you enter Clearing?

If you are eligible **you will be automatically** entered into an **electronic Clearing system**. This will be available on Track. An 'add clearing choice' button will appear on your Track 'choices' screen. This button is not usually available till the afternoon of results day in order for you to have time to carry out research before making a decision. Do not rush into a decision. You can contact several universities and receive verbal offers of a place.

What do you need to do?

1. Make a note of your **Clearing entry number** (*This can be found on Track*) and your **Personal ID number**. (*The Personal ID is a 10 character number presented in the format 123-456-7890 and you will have used it, together with your password, to access Track*). You will need to quote these during clearing.
2. Check the lists for the courses that interest you. Lists of courses with vacancies will be available:
 - On the UCAS website - www.ucas.com
 - Unofficial listings may appear in newspapers but these may not be complete
 - University websites will list their own vacancies
3. Once you have decided on a course you **must** contact institutions directly to discuss your options and suitability for the course. You should do this immediately - and you should make this contact yourself. Try telephoning first - this is the quickest way. If you can't get through try e-mailing. I doubt this year you will be able to visit the departments. If the University is satisfied you have met their entry criteria, they will give you a verbal offer stating that you must accept it within a given time period.
4. When you have decided on your choice from your verbal offers you must then put the details of the one you wish to accept on Track. The university will then confirm your place on Track by displaying 'clearing accept'. You are only allowed to accept one offer via clearing.
5. Even if you do manage to sort out a place through clearing shortly after getting your results, you will usually not be able to input your clearing offer until the afternoon of 13th August. (This stops you rushing into a decision as you can only put one clearing place into the system).
6. When you find a place through Clearing and been accepted, UCAS will send you official confirmation.

What to do if you have changed your mind about your firm choice?

If you achieve the grades for your firm choice then the university has to accept you on the course and your insurance choice will be cancelled. If you don't want to accept this offer, you must phone the university and asked to be released. If they agree, you will then enter clearing and are able to apply for another course at any University. However, before you asked to be released you may want to see if there are places available on other courses that are suitable and if they would accept you with the grades you have achieved.

What happens if you have changed you mind about the course you want to study?

This is a similar situation to changing your mind about your firm choice. If the university has accepted you and they offer another course/subject you would like to study, it would be best to approach them in the first instance asking if you could transfer to the other course. This is because they know you liked their institution so are more likely to be successful. If you want to go to a different university then the approach would be to get released and go into clearing. Follow the same process as in the above paragraph.

What to do if you now want to defer your place?

If you have decided that you don't want to attend university this September, you should ask the University if they will defer your place. To do this you must ring the University – some will agree and therefore you do not need to do anything else. Some courses/subjects do not agree to a deferred place so you will have to apply again through UCAS for 2021 – this time as an external student. If you achieved the grades they are requesting, then you should be given an unconditional offer for next year. However, although we have no evidence currently, universities may increase the entry grades for next year if many students are deferring their places especially if it is for a course in high demand or at a popular university. Also consider, if you do defer your place and if there are a large number deferring due to the current situation, when you graduate, there may be extra competition for graduate level jobs.

What happens if you achieved higher grades than you thought?

If your results are better than expected, then you could go into **Adjustment**. Applicants who have achieved better results will, for five calendar days only, be able to look for an alternative course that has places available whilst still holding their original choice. This five day period will usually start from 13th August. There will be a button on the Track system to enter the adjustment process.

Full details of this will be available nearer the time on the UCAS website. There will be no Adjustment vacancy lists but universities have been encouraged to be open about available places on their website.

If you are in a position to take advantage of this adjustment period (i.e. to apply for a course for which you had previously not expected to achieve the entry requirements) there will be staff in college who you can talk to on the phone on Thursday 13th August. Alternatively, email careers and a careers adviser will contact you.

Foundation Year

If you don't meet the Maths or science entry requirements for a science/technological degree then a university may offer you a one year foundation"/access" course that gets your sciences "up to scratch". The reason may be you did not pick the correct A levels but sometimes it may be because you did not achieve high enough grades in the A levels you took. Check where the course is based as it can be "franchised" out to a partner college. Find out the costs of the course and check with the University on their transfer policy to the higher level course once the foundation year has been completed.

Foundation Degrees and Higher National Diplomas

Two year-long FDs and HNDs have similar content and aims i.e. both are vocational (job related courses) with lower entry requirements than degrees. As with *Foundation Year* courses, these may be studied at a local partner college. Success in either course may allow entry to a full honours degree at year two or even year three.

Apprenticeships

Hopefully you have now secured an apprenticeship or made alternative plans for next year. If you are still looking for an apprenticeship position, research on the government website 'Find an Apprenticeship' for vacancies. This is the link. <https://www.gov.uk/apply-apprenticeship>

You can use this site to submit your application, however I would always make a note of the training provider's contact details and ring them up directly a couple of days after submitting your application to check they have received it. This will show you are keen and therefore you will be more likely to be offered an interview.

Alternatively, you can approach apprenticeship training providers directly. They will also support you in finding an apprenticeship. Some of the local providers which work with the college include

- The Apprentice Academy, Manchester.
- Damar Training, Stockport.
- The Growth Company, Manchester.
- SETA Engineering, Stockport.

Businesses also approach the college with vacancies. Were you a member of the College's Apprenticeship Club? if so we should have the details of the type of apprenticeship you are interested in and can inform you of any vacancies. . If not, let the college know what area you are interested in or follow careers twitter.

Destination Information

We like to know where all our students progress to after Aquinas College. If you accept a place at University we are told your course details and institution from UCAS as long as you agreed to share the details with college. However, if you progress onto an apprenticeship, employment, further education, art foundation course or are taking a gap year, **please will you email the college** letting us know your plans careers@aquinas.ac.uk Alternatively, you can update your destination details on MyAquinas under the section After Aquinas.

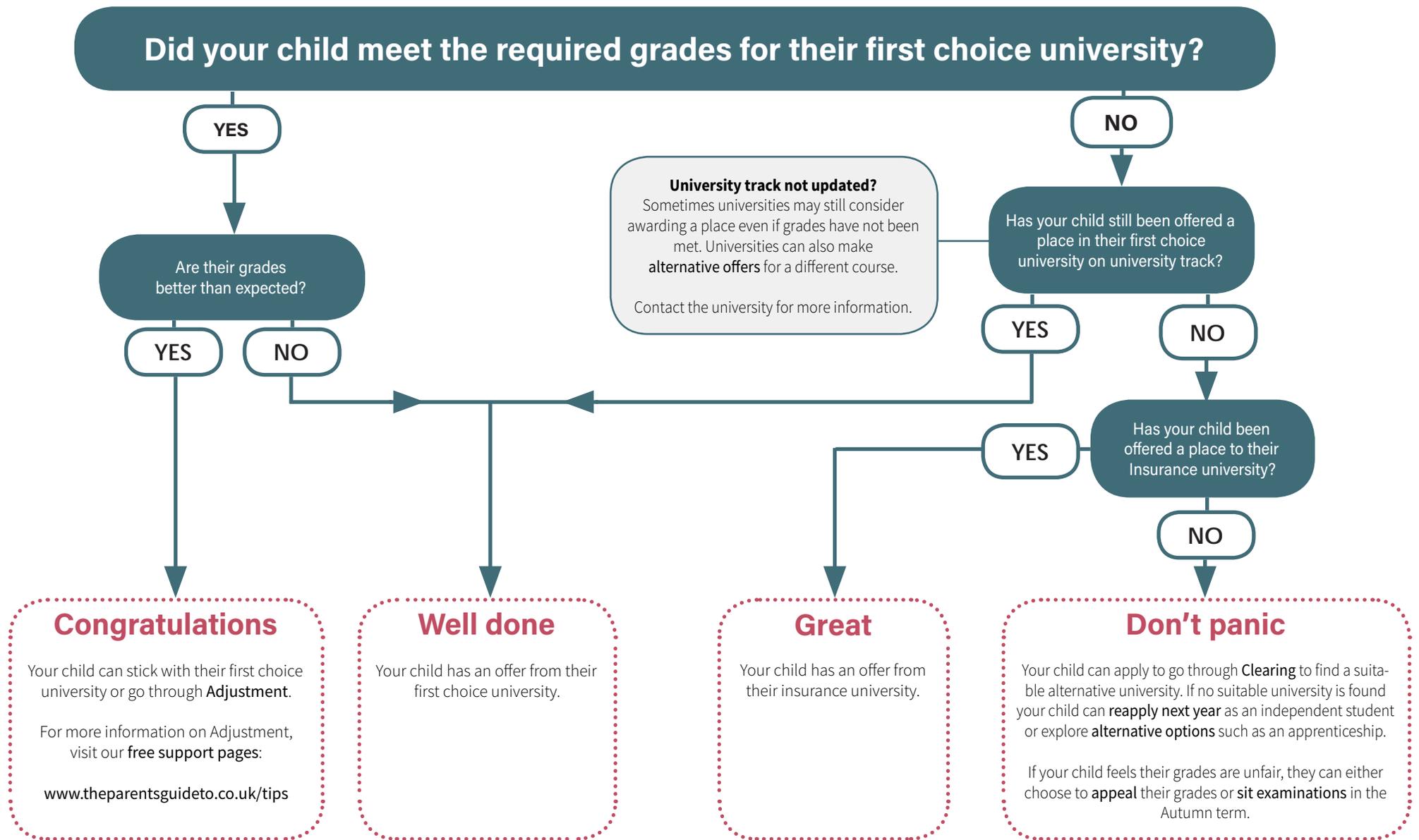
Information for Parents

A free resource for parents – helping to get ahead in the summer holidays. This guide has been written for parents of both the lower sixth and upper sixth.

https://b03c29e7-9df0-4192-8774-72be7bc63557.filesusr.com/ugd/a0f9e4_9d2670d178f745f585a459ff0f75c753.pdf

Thank you and good luck for the future.

Results day 2020 flowchart



Apprenticeship levels



LEVEL 2 *Intermediate apprenticeships*

Typical length
12-18 months

Entry requirements:
None or few

Qualifications obtained:
GCSE, BTEC or equivalent

Who's it for?
Mostly for 16-year-olds with limited or no academic qualifications.



LEVEL 4/5 *Higher apprenticeships*

Typical length
3-5 years

Entry requirements:
A Levels or equivalent

Qualifications obtained:
Higher national diploma / foundation degree

Who's it for?
Mostly for those who want to qualify for professional career paths without attending university or college. Sometimes referred to as 'school leaver' or 'non-graduate' programmes.



LEVEL 3 *Advanced apprenticeships*

Typical length
12-24 months

Entry requirements:
Usually 5 GCSEs

Qualifications obtained:
A levels or equivalent

Who's it for?
Mostly for 16-year-olds with reasonable academic achievements but who don't want to study in sixth form.



LEVEL 6/7 *Degree apprenticeships*

Typical length
3-7 years

Entry requirements:
At least 2 A Levels or equivalent

Qualifications obtained:
A BA or BSc degree or higher

Who's it for?
Mostly for those with excellent sixth form results that want to study for a degree or similar whilst working.