

A LEVELS. BTECS. FURTHER EDUCATION

# RESULTS DAY 2021

**AFTERCARE. SUPPORT. GUIDANCE** 





### **CONTENTS**



Pg 3

Pg 4

Pg 5

Pg 7

Pg 8

Pg 9

Pg 11

Pg 12

About this Brochure

2021 Results Day explained

Frequently asked questions

Flow Chart: My Next Steps

Appeals & Exams

How To Research alternative

options

Qualifications explained

About Inspire Thurrock

Careers

## ABOUT THIS BROCHURE



The Inspire Team understand the frustration and uncertainty that the Coronavirus (COVID19) pandemic has caused many young people, and so this is why we created this Results Day 2021 Support Guide.







NEXT
THAT MATTERS "

Our **approach** is to provide all the information and support the student requires to move to the next stage of their education. Our **aim** is to maintain the mind set that we must not allow this change of circumstance to stop us from pursuing our **career goals**. We must all continue to **move onwards** and **upwards**'.

And we, the Inspire team are here to support students in doing so.

## 2021 RESULTS DAY EXPLAINED

#### GCSE Results Day - 12th August 2021

#### How are grades being determined?

Grades will be based on what students have been taught, not what they've missed. Teachers are using a range of evidence, which could include mock exams, coursework and other work completed as part of a student's course, such as essays or in-class tests.

#### What if a student believes their grade is wrong?

Students will have multiple chances to show what they know and can do this year. They will be able to see the evidence teachers plan to submit for them and can notify their teacher of any errors with the evidence or other issues (such as mitigating circumstances that should be taken into account) at this stage. Teachers will also be supported in making judgements and these judgements will be checked through a rigorous system of quality assurance. Headteachers will submit a personal declaration that they believe grades are accurate, and exam boards will also check all centres' processes, as well as checking grades in random and more targeted checks. Students should therefore have confidence in their grades this year.

However, appeals are there as a safety net in exceptional cases, for example in the rare instance that there is an error. If they believe their grade is wrong, students can ask their centre to check for errors. If the student still believes their grade is wrong, their centre can then submit an appeal to the exam board on their behalf. The exam board can confirm whether the grade is reasonable based on the evidence. If not, they will determine the alternative grade. An exam board will only revise a student's grade where the evidence cannot reasonably support that grade, rather than as a result of marginal differences of opinion. Students should be aware that grades can go up or down as the result of an appeal.

## **FAQS**



#### What if I got the results I was expecting?

If you have reached the grades that you were hoping for, then the first thing you will want to do is celebrate. However, you will need to think about more practical things first, and decide on your next step. If your grades are what you hoped for, then it is probably as simple as confirming a place on a course or at college. If you haven't thought about what you would like to do, then the good news is that there are lots of doors open to you if you have good grades. A levels are a good choice, but there are lots of other options that may allow you to work alongside studies if you would prefer. But there's no need to decide for sure on that day – the world is your oyster, so take a little time to think.

(Go to pg 7 & pg 9 to find out more)

#### • What do I do if my results are not as I expected?

Whether your results were lower or higher then you expected there are always progression routes that are available to you. You will have been given a list of requirements needed to move onto the next stage of your education. However, there maybe some leeway. If lots of people didn't make their grades, or if some people decided not to take their place, then your grades may still be good enough to allow you entry. It is always worth getting in touch with where you have applied to and asking whether you could still study there, as you may be pleasantly surprised. If you don't ask, you don't get!

(Go to pg 7 & 8 to find out more)

It could be that your results were better than what you were hoping for.

If this is the case you may want to consider a more advanced option
than what you originally applied for and further education

is a good choice (Go to pg 7 & 9 to find out more)

## **FAQS**



#### Can I appeal my final results?

Due to the Coronavirus pandemic, formal, final exams have been abandoned in favour of a grade based on prior attainment, of both you, and your College/Sixth-form. As a result, this may mean that you feel you could have achieved a better grade had you taken the exam and may wish for the finalised grade to be reconsidered. Normally, if your results were not what you were hoping for, you can request that the exam board completes a priority remark.

(For more information, head to page 8)

If you don't have a college or sixth-form place pending, then you can request a copy of the marked paper, or a clerical check, or a review of marking. You can get in touch with appropriate exam boards.

(Go to pg 8 to find out more)

#### **Summary**

If you got the results you were aiming for, well done! If you didn't, try not to panic. It's not the end of the world, and there are options open to you. It may not have been the path you'd planned to go down, but down every new path there are doors to open – and you might even find that you have a skill that you didn't even know about. So simply try to stay open minded and see what's available for you. Talk to your Tutor, careers adviser, friends and family for advice before taking your next steps, and remember that there is a path for everyone!

## FLOWCHART: MY NEXT STEPS



My results were not what I expected



There maybe a chance to do an exam or appeal your final results?

(Find out how you do this on pg 8)



I achieved the results I expected, but I have changed my mind or am still unsure.









**Everything will be ok!** Begin by researching alternative options whether you got lower or higher than you hoped for and then contact them to find out if

you are suitable. (More info on this task on pg 9 & pg 10)



**HELP!** I am still confused! And would like to speak to a PERSONAL ADVISER AT INSPIRE YOUTH HUB.

My results were what I needed.



#### **Great news!**

All you have to do now is contact your chosen Sixth form or college ASAP.

\*Keep your results safe as you will need to bring these with you\*

### APPEALS & EXAMS

#### GCSEs, AS levels or A levels

You can ask your school or college to get an exam result looked at again - this is called requesting a review. If you're not satisfied with the outcome, your school or college can make an appeal to Ofqual.

#### Request a review

You can challenge the result of a GCSE, AS level or A level exam. You can also challenge the result of another qualification. Who can request a GCSE, AS level or A level review? You can ask your school or college to get an exam result looked at again (known as 'requesting a review'). You cannot request a review yourself unless you're a private candidate, for example you were home schooled.

#### What happens next

The mark will be changed if the reviewer thinks it's wrong. The new mark may be higher or lower than the original. You can ask your school or college's exams officer for more information about their internal appeals procedure and their policy on reviews of marking and moderation. You can appeal against a review if you're unhappy with the decision.

#### Other qualifications

Ask your school or college to appeal to the awarding organisation about the results for any other qualification, for example a BTEC or an NVQ. You can appeal directly to the awarding organisation if you're a private student, for example, if you are home schooled or are a mature student. The awarding organisation will send you a final report after they've reviewed the result.

## HOW TO RESEARCH ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

Where do I begin?

To begin researching your options, a good place to start is looking at your own strengths & skills. There are some fun psychometric quizzes you can do online. There is a list on Pg 10. These quizzes have been scientifically proven to provide accurate career suggestions personalised to you. They do this by gauging your interests, attitudes and motivations. Have a go!

### What subject did you enjoy most at School? Or achieved the highest grade in?

What would be better than to have a career that you enjoy! When you have excelled in a subject area, it either means you enjoyed the subject or you are naturally good at it. This is a good place to start! Let's say for example you did well in Maths, but the only career you can think of is to become a Maths Teacher or Accountant which neither appeal to you. By using the websites on pg 10, you may be surprised to find different careers in Maths you had never heard of before? How cool would it be to become a Robotics Engineer? Or a Animator or Special Effects

Designer?

#### What hobbies do you get involved in out of school?

Your hobbies are another great way, to not only look at what you enjoy, but also realise another strength or skill you have. Are you into your fitness? Or enjoy writing stories or blogs at home? Or do you spend weekends baking or spending time with the younger children in your family? You may not even realise that all these activities could be possible careers for you!



#### Research Activity and Useful websites & Links:

Step 1 - Try out one of the fun psychometric quizzes below:

**Buzz quiz:** https://icould.com/buzz-quiz/

Kudos: https://kudos.cascaid.co.uk (Please contact Inspire if you would

like a login)

Step 2 - Do some research into some careers using these links:

**Prospects:** https://www.prospects.ac.uk/

iCould: https://icould.com/explore/

**National Careers Service:** 

https://nationalcareers.service.gov.uk/explore-careers

Bitesize: https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/careers

Youth Employment UK: https://www.youthemployment.org.uk

#### Step 3 - I have found some possible careers. What do I do now?

You should now have a good idea of your strengths and possible Career routes. Now its time to learn more about the qualifications you need to study to achieve them– Do you need a BTEC or A 'Levels?

### Contact Inspire Thurrock Careers for more Information, Advice & Guidance

For an appointment please call 01375413735 or email ThurrockCareers@thurrock.gov.uk

## **QUALIFICATIONS EXPLAINED**

#### **BTEC, T LEVELS**

BTECs combine practical learning with subject and theory content with a mixture of coursework and exams. There are different levels you can start on from Entry Level to Level 3 (depending on what GCSEs you achieved). You can gain entry to University once you have completed a Level 3. T Levels are courses which follow GCSEs and are equivalent to 3 A levels. They consist of classroom learning and 'on-the-job' experience.

#### **APPRENTICESHIP**

It's a real job, with hands-on experience, a salary and the chance to train while you work in subject areas such as business admin, retail and social care, to name a few. You're treated just like all the other employees, with a contract of employment and holiday leave. You search and apply for Apprenticeships by visiting their website: https://www.gov.uk/apply-apprenticeship or by contacting the employer or training provider directly or by asking around friends or family.

#### **Thurrock Opportunity website offer:**

Thurrock Opportunities is the one-stop place for jobs, apprenticeships and courses in Thurrock, and the surrounding areas. The website updates with the latest jobs and training opportunities every week. There is also a wealth of information on the largest employment sectors in the borough, as well as guidance on apprenticeships, higher education and resources to support young people's career choices.

https://bit.ly/3AGXSnq

11



Inspire Thurrock Careers is a leading provider of Careers, information advice and guidance for young people in Thurrock.

Our Personal Advisers can support young people to achieve their aspirations, help them make the right subject choices and to identify the right path to lead them towards a happy and successful career.





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thurrock.gov.uk/careers-advice/help-to-take-next-step