

The Sixth Form College Solihull Results and Advisory Service

Dear Student,

I hope that you achieve the grades you are aiming for which will enable you to go to the employment or university career that you have chosen. The A Level, BTEC and CACHE results will become available on the Student Portal and Arbor at 8.00 a.m. on Thursday 17th August, and if you have applied to university, then UCAS or the university will be in contact with you to confirm your place.

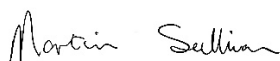
If you do not gain the grades you need for university, or you have achieved much better grades than expected and you wish to apply to a different university, or to make an application for university as you have not yet applied, there is a further advice section at the foot of this letter.

If you have not returned your books, please do so either on results day or during the week beginning 21st August. An invoice will be sent to you for anything not returned. Also, car park passes, stickers and locker keys should be returned to the Reception. The £15 refundable deposit will be returned to student bank accounts once it has been confirmed that all books, etc. have been returned. The Finance department will email students to request appropriate bank details.

In November/December, your Certificates will be sent to the College, please arrange to collect them as you will need them in the future to prove that you gained the grades. Further details are below.

I wish you all the very best in the future and please stay in touch with us and tell us how well you are doing.

Yours sincerely



Martin Sullivan
Principal

Advice Section for students in Clearing or who wish to submit a late application to University

The College will be open from 8.30 a.m. on results day and senior staff will be available to discuss results and to offer support and guidance to anyone with queries or in need of advice.

Extended arrangements will be in place to support students in getting a higher education place. Representatives from local universities will be either on site or contactable through the College to give guidance and may **offer places immediately**. These arrangements are for:

- Students who have not yet applied to a university or college, but now decide that they wish to
- Students who have applied, but have received no offers
- Students who are holding offers, but who do not reach the required grades and who know that their places have not been confirmed
- Students who have received offers but have since changed their mind about their course of study; these students are not automatically entitled to enter the Clearing process and should seek advice.
- Students who have achieved better grades than expected and may be considering an alternative course/university

We would like to bring to your attention a relatively new system called '**Clearing Plus**'. This will run alongside 'Clearing' and applicants without a university place, who sign up for this system, will be approached by universities to offer suitable courses based on their requirements and academic achievement. It is anticipated that this will provide an additional safety net.

Both A-level and BTEC courses are appropriate for going onto higher education courses at a university or college. There is a very wide range of courses, both degrees and foundation degrees/HNDs, and the UCAS points required vary from course to course. Required grades/points may also be significantly lower during the clearing period immediately after the results come out.

Arrangements for Thursday 17th August

8:00 onwards	A-level, BTEC and CACHE results are available on the Student Portal and Arbor.
8.30 onwards	College opens and students can access the computers in the Library and Learning Centre.
9:00 onwards	Bookings can be made for individual consultations with senior staff in the Kitson Building. Please note that Bobbie Pidgeon, the College Mental Health Lead, will also be available for consultation.
9:30 onwards	Individual consultation sessions will be available with a senior member of College staff or Careers staff. This may, if

appropriate, include you telephoning to see if a “near miss” in your results will still get you on your place if you hold an offer. Please ensure your phone is fully charged. You will also be advised which of our “partner” universities have appropriate courses for you.

- 9:30 – 1:30 Representatives from local universities have been invited into college to give guidance and may be able to offer places immediately. Those, unable to attend, will provide us with a direct contact line for a named recruitment officer at the university.
- 1:00 onwards Applicants will be able to add a Clearing choice to their UCAS application.

Monday 21st – Friday 25th August

Continuation of individual consultation sessions with senior members of College staff. Individual consultations are available between 9.30am and 3.30pm.

What to bring with you

If you have already applied to UCAS, you should bring with you the following:

- Your UCAS portal username and password
- Your UCAS reference number
- All correspondence from UCAS and universities and colleges that you have applied to
- A printout of your results from Arbor

Your UCAS portal username and password will enable you to check via the UCAS website whether your place has been confirmed. Instructions on what to do if you have forgotten these details can be found on the Login reminder service on the log-in page. If you entered your email address on your application, the reminder service will email the forgotten details. Do check this well in advance.

You will also need your mobile phone to contact universities and colleges to check on the status of your application where your grades fall just short of your original offer. Please make sure that your phone is fully charged and that you have sufficient credit for such conversations.

How to prepare for an individual consultation session

You can do some preparation now so that you are better informed when you come in to talk to senior staff, careers staff or the representatives from the universities. UCAS will send you information in July about what happens after you receive your results; please make sure you read this carefully. Further notes on UCAS processes can be found in the careers area on Moodle.

Our Careers Coordinator will be in college to advise students on 17th and 18th August and will be available again from 21st August.

What to do if you have queries about your results?

Information about how to apply for post-results services (e.g. appeals) can be found on the College website along with the Examinations area on Moodle. The deadlines are likely to be strict, so if you have any queries you must act promptly and seek advice straight away from senior College staff.

Clearing

Clearing is how universities and colleges fill any places they still have on their courses. It's an ideal way for you to find another course and is available from July to October.

If you did not apply to UCAS before 30th June, you will automatically qualify for Clearing. This year, the 'Clearing Vacancy List' will be made available from 5th July onwards and can be accessed by going to ucas.com/clearing-launch.

If you are holding conditional offers but your exam results do not go to plan, you can use Clearing from results day. Details of your eligibility to use Clearing will appear on your UCAS Hub.

Post Result Services - available from 17th August.

You can access this service if you wish to view a copy of your exam script and/or apply for a review of marking.

Details of how to apply will be available on the college website. Click on 'Student Zone', then 'Exams Services' to access the application form and link to pay the necessary fee.

Alternatively, simply click on the following link [student-zone/exam-service](#)

Please be aware of the strict Awarding Body deadlines.

If you require further assistance, please contact the exams office via email address exams@solihullsfc.ac.uk

Collecting certificates

Certificates for A/AS level, BTEC, CACHE and GCSE qualifications will be available from the College Examinations Office from 1st December 2023. Full information on how to collect certificates can be found in the examinations section on Moodle. Essentially there are two options: You can either phone the Examinations Office to arrange a date/time to collect them or opt for a postal service, where for £3.00 certificates will be posted to you via 1st class recorded delivery. To access the link for this service, go to our College website, select Student Zone, then Exam Services and scroll to the Parentpay link, complete the form, and enter your card details.

Students planning a gap year

If you are taking a gap year and intend to start university in 2024, please be aware that it is your responsibility to adhere to the college internal deadline for UCAS applications (6th November 2023). The College cannot guarantee to process late applications within the UCAS 31st January deadline.

For quality purposes, ex-students are required to link their UCAS form to the College site prior to requesting an academic reference; the college buzzword for Apply 2024 is *hillfield18*.

Further Career Support

Students who have not secured an apprenticeship or employment and who would like continued support should contact one of the organisations below and access support in job

seeker skills, CV writing and access to vacancies and government programmes such as the 'Youth Promise Plus'.

Support is available to Year 13 apprenticeship and employment seekers in securing opportunities through the following organisations:

Birmingham and Solihull Youth Promise Plus

https://www.birmingham.gov.uk/info/20143/young_people/1157/birmingham_and_solihull_youth_promise_plus

Email Youthpromiseplus@solihull.gov.uk

Telephone : 07721 236262

Solihull Life Ready

<https://www.solihullforsuccess.com/Search-Work-Experience>

Email: lifeready@solihull.gov.uk

Telephone: 0121 704 8737

Birmingham Careers Service

<https://www.birminghamcareersservice.co.uk/visitus/>

Telephone: 07864926905

Email: BCareers@birmingham.gov.uk