



28<sup>th</sup> March 2019

Dear parents,

**Mock results and UCAS decisions**

This letter contains the text of an email that was sent to all Year 13 students last week.

The mock results represent the best information we are likely to get on how well you will do in this summer's exams. I would expect some improvement from here (and there are examples of spectacular improvement), but on average, these results are likely to be close to what you will get in August.

With this in mind, it is now time to make your UCAS choices. You need to choose one firm and one insurance offer by the end of the Easter holiday (there is an extension if you still haven't heard back from all your universities). Some things to consider when making your choice:

- You **MUST** take your firm offer if you get the grades. You cannot decide to go to your insurance offer instead.
- Your insurance offer must be lower than your firm offer.
- There is no problem being ambitious with your firm offer; if you are some distance off the requirements in your mock results, and you back yourself to make the necessary improvement, go for it.
- Your insurance offer needs to be sensible, however – effectively at or close to your mock results.
- There is often some leeway from universities, and offer-holders are often admitted with one or even two grades below their offer. There is no guarantee this will happen, however, and certain universities are less merciful than others (UCL being the prime example of mercilessness).
- If you miss both your offers, clearing is often successful, but you need to be quick off the mark and be prepared to spend the day (or two) on the phone. Adjustment is clearing, but upwards: if you get more than required for your firm offer. More information on both after exams.

If in doubt, please ask: good advice is easily available!

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Rob Pavey', written in a cursive style.

**Rob Pavey | Vice Principal – Sixth Form**

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