

FW: Glenys Stacey to Graham Stuart 4/9 : GCSE English Results
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OUT of SCOPE

-----Original Message-----

Subject: Glenys Stacey to Graham Stuart 4/9 : GCSE English Results

OUT of Scope

7th Floor Sanctuary Buildings| Great Smith Street| Westminster| SW1P 3BT

www.education.gov.uk

-----Original Message-----

Subject: OCE English Results

Dear Granam,
Please find a letter from Glenys Stacey regarding GCSE English Results.
Yours sincerely,

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4 September 2012

Mr Graham Stuart
House of Commons
London
SW1A 0AA

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Coventry CV5 6UB

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Dear Graham

I am writing to let you know of our next steps, looking into concerns expressed about GCSE English results this year.

You will have seen our initial report. We have looked closely at GCSE English awarding and grade boundary setting in January and June, and found no reason to direct any change to grade boundaries. We are meeting this week with school and college representative groups to go through our analysis, and to show them the awarding evidence that we have seen.

Overall, A*- C achievement fell by 1.5%. This is in line with expectations, given changes to the student mix. But as we say in our report, for some schools and colleges their results are not what they expected. The differences in some cases are hard to understand at first sight.

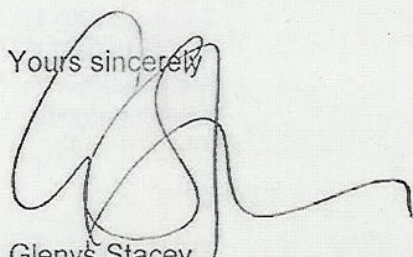
These were new qualifications. They were also the first full suite of modular GCSE English qualifications, and the assessment included controlled assessment, a relatively new concept brought in across the range of GCSEs to replace coursework. We point to these things in our initial report, but we want to find out more about the extent to which these factors – or else other factors – meant that some schools got the results they expected and others didn't.

We are giving this work priority, but it will take a little while nevertheless. We expect it to take about 4-6 weeks. By then we should be in a position to produce a final report.

Meanwhile we are overseeing exam boards as they settle the detailed arrangements for the exceptional resit opportunities later this year, and we are considering how best to avoid concerns next year, when these qualifications will be awarded again.

If you would like more detail of our work on GCSE English, we would be very happy to provide it.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Glenys Stacey', written over the words 'Yours sincerely'.

Glenys Stacey
Chief Regulator

cc. Rt Hon. Michael Gove
Secretary of State