

Results Day: your *options*

Whatever the envelope says, you have more choices than it feels like this morning. Here's the plain-English version — GCSE and A-Level.

First: breathe

Results day is one day, not the whole story. Every year, thousands of students open grades that aren't what they'd hoped — and go on to exactly where they wanted, often by a slightly different route. Nothing has to be decided today. This guide walks through what's actually possible, and the deadlines that matter.

The dates that matter

A-Level & T-Level

Results released mid-August. University places, Clearing and Adjustment open the same morning via UCAS.

GCSE

Results released the following week in August. Post-16 places (sixth form, college, apprenticeships) are confirmed around now.

Key window: GCSE English Language and Maths can be re-sat in the **November series**. Most other GCSEs, and A-Levels, are re-sat in next summer's exams. Diarise the resit entry deadlines with the school early — they come round fast.

If the grades are what you hoped

Brilliant — enjoy it. Two quick things worth doing: confirm any conditional offer or place straight away, and keep hold of the results slip (you'll need it for enrolment, and sometimes for jobs later). If a subject was a near-miss for the next step, a few sessions before term starts can turn "just scraped it" into "confident".

If they're not what you hoped — your real options

1 · Ask for a review of marking (a "remark")

If a grade is close to a boundary, or a strong subject came back low, the school can request a **Review of Marking** through the exam board. It can move a grade up (occasionally down, so ask the school's advice first). Deadlines are usually in September — act quickly.

2 · Resit

- **GCSE English & Maths** — resit in November; many colleges build this in automatically if you're continuing.
- **Other GCSEs / A-Levels** — resit in next summer's series. Worth it when a grade blocks a specific path (a sixth-form entry requirement, a university offer, a career route).

A resit isn't starting from scratch — it's closing a specific gap. Targeted one-to-one help between now and the exam is the fastest way to do that, because a tutor works only on what's actually costing marks.

3 · A-Level: Clearing & Adjustment

Missed or exceeded your offer? **Clearing** (via UCAS) matches you to university places with spaces — thousands of courses, including at strong universities. Call the universities directly; have your grades and UCAS ID ready. If you did better than expected, **Adjustment** lets you look at alternatives while holding your original place.

4 · Alternative routes worth knowing

Apprenticeships & T-Levels

Earn while you learn; increasingly respected by employers and universities alike.

College, BTEC, foundation year

Different entry requirements and a fresh start — often a better fit than a straight resit.

Your first-week checklist

- ✓ Take a day before deciding anything — results day is not a deadline for the rest of your life.
- ✓ Confirm any place or offer you're keeping.
- ✓ List the subjects where the grade actually blocks a next step (be specific).
- ✓ Ask the school about remark deadlines if a grade is a near-miss.
- ✓ If resitting, note the entry deadline and start targeted revision early — don't wait for term.
- ✓ For A-Levels, if using Clearing, ring universities directly with grades + UCAS ID to hand.

How a tutor helps from here

The gap between a disappointing grade and the one you needed is usually narrow and specific — a couple of topics, or exam technique. One-to-one is the quickest way to close it, because the whole session is spent on exactly that, at your pace. On Sessioned:

- ✓ Every tutor is hand-vetted — identity, qualifications and DBS status shown on their profile.
- ✓ You're matched with a tutor who teaches your exact subject and board, usually within a day.
- ✓ Tutors set their own rate and keep 100% of it; you pay that plus one clear 20% fee, shown before you book.
- ✓ No account needed to get matched, and if the first session isn't the right fit, we rematch you and refund it.

Ready when you are

Tell us the subject and where it's going wrong, and we'll personally match you with a vetted tutor. No pressure, no packages.

Get matched, free → sessioned.co.uk/resits

This guide is general information to help you weigh your options, not formal careers or exams advice — always check specific deadlines and requirements with your school, college or UCAS. Dates and processes can change year to year.