

Operational Note

Date out: 17 July 2008

To: Education editors, news desks and broadcasters

Media briefings – 2008 release of A level and GCSE entries and results data

This is to notify you that the media briefings for the aggregate national **results** data for the A level and GCSE examinations will be held at:

**Local Government House
Conference Centre
Smith Square
London SW1P 3HZ**

on Thursday 14 August 2008 at 08.15 hours for the A level results;

on Thursday 21 August 2008 at 08.15 hours for the GCSE results.

The JCO believes that the interests of individual candidates are better served if they are able to receive their personal results before the aggregate national results data is released. Therefore, the aggregate national results and entry data will be

embargoed until 09.30 hours on Thursday 14 August 2008 for the A level and 09.30 hours on Thursday 21 August 2008 for the GCSE results.

Briefing packs (news release, statistical tables, disc, and key facts) will be available from 07.45 hours. Light refreshments will also be served from 07.45 hours.

The media briefings will be led by Dr Mike Cresswell, Director General, AQA, Jerry Jarvis, Managing Director, Edexcel, and Greg Watson, Chief Executive, OCR. The briefings will be held off camera, with broadcasters invited to contact JCO to arrange one-to-one interviews following the press briefings at Local Government House, Conference centre.

Please let us know if you would like to attend by contacting Richard Rose via email address: roser@jcq.org.uk or if you prefer to phone: 020 7638 4132/4128.

Please note that for security reasons we require the names of persons attending the media briefing.

Those unable to attend the briefings but who would like to receive the information by email strictly under the 09.30 hours embargo as Word files and Excel spreadsheets should contact us.

The press release and statistical tables will be available as Adobe files to download from the JCQ website (www.jcq.org.uk) from 09.30 hours on Thursday 14 August 2008 and from 09.30 hours on Thursday 21 August 2008.

Ends

Notes to editors:

1. The Joint Council for Qualifications (JCQ)

The JCQ consists of AQA, CCEA, City & Guilds, Edexcel, OCR, SQA and WJEC, the seven largest providers of qualifications in the UK, offering GCSE, GCE, AEA, Entry level, Scottish Highers, Vocational and Vocationally-related qualifications.

2. Previous years' results

The JCQ publishes the consolidated examination entry results on behalf of its members. This data shows a complete breakdown of results by subject, grade, gender and country (England, Wales and Northern Ireland) with comparable figures shown for the preceding year. Results for 2001 – 2007 are available on the JCQ website (www.jcq.org.uk) and results for 1992 – 2001 are available on the QCA website (www.qca.org.uk).

For further information please contact Richard Rose on 020 7638 4132/4128 or at roser@jqc.org.uk