
















GCSE Centre Assessed Grades - Summer 2021
Friday 26th February, 2021

Dear Year 11 Parents, Carers and Students,

Thankfully, we now have confirmation about the plans for your child's awarded grades for this academic year. This should provide some relief and confidence for you, as it does for us that our students will not be disadvantaged as a result of the pandemic and lockdowns that they have experienced. We welcome the outlined approach.

As you will have seen, the announcement was made yesterday (Thursday 25th February, 2021) about the revised plans and processes for your child's GCSE results. There will be more information shared with you regarding vocational qualifications such as BTECs and NCFEs when we have more information from the exam boards.

The announcement was made following the results and findings of the consultation that I wrote to you about at the beginning of February. Below is an infographic that is helpful in explaining what your child should expect moving forward; it provides an outline of how your child's grade will be worked out, the evidence that can be used to support the grades awarded, the updated Results Day date (**Thursday 12th August, 2021**) and a brief outlines of the first steps of the appeals process.

Working out your grade	Evidence	Results and appeals
 Graded by teacher judgement  Not graded by an algorithm  School and college assessments can continue  You'll only be assessed on what you've been taught  Your teacher will tell you what evidence is used to grade you  Private candidates to work with a school, college or exam centre to provide evidence for them to be graded	 Mocks, tests and work already done can be used as evidence  Non-exam assessment should continue  Non-exam assessments can be used as evidence even if incomplete  Art & design grade based only on your portfolio  Teachers can use question banks provided by exam boards if they want to  Results will be based on completed and future work, so keep doing your best	 Results days AS and A level 10 August GCSE 12 August  If you're unhappy with your grade, you can appeal it. First step is to submit an appeal to your school or college. <p>You can find out more details from your school, college or exam board, or by visiting the Ofqual website</p>  www.gov.uk/ofqual

For GCSEs:

- Teachers will assess the standard at which your child is performing based only on what they have been taught so that the school can determine their grade.
- Teachers' judgements should be based on a range of evidence relating to the subject content that your child's teachers have delivered, either in the classroom or via remote learning.
- Teachers will be able to use evidence about your child's performance gathered throughout their course to inform their judgement. This might include learning that your child has already completed, mock exam results, home learning or in-class tests/assessments.



Your child's teachers may also use questions from exam boards, largely based on past papers, to help assess them, but this won't be compulsory. Teachers will tell your child which pieces of learning will count towards their grade, before their grade is submitted to the exam board. Teachers will submit grades to exam boards by the 18th June, allowing as much teaching time as possible before Centre Assessed Grades are submitted to exam boards.

We know that some of you may be worried that your child has not covered all of the content for a particular subject. Ofqual and DfE will not set any requirements about the minimum amount of content that should be taught or assessed, but we will ask the Headteacher to confirm that your child has been taught enough content so that they can progress to the next stage of their education, whatever that pathway is.

Fortunately, we are confident in this process and method for awarding your child's grades given our experience of this style of assessment for our Year 11s in 2020. There are no real changes to the process in 2021 for your child from that of the 2020 Centre Assessed Grades. We are using this language as opposed to 'Teacher Assessed Grades' as the results inputted are not solely based on one teacher's decision. A process of checking and moderation goes into each child's grade for every subject. Exam boards will put in place quality assurance arrangements to make sure consistent judgements are being made and the Headteacher will sign off all grades. Exam boards will also ask the school to confirm that they have followed the correct procedure for determining grades. We will plan for a face to face Results Day 2021, as we did for our previous Year 11 students. However, this will be confirmed nearer the time and more details will be shared with you.

A student unhappy with their grade would submit an appeal to the school, so that they could check whether an administrative error had been made. If a centre does find an error in the grade submitted, it can submit a revised grade for the board to consider. If a centre does not believe an error has been made, the centre will appeal to the exam board on the student's behalf, and will be supported to do so by exam boards.

Further information can be found via these links:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/how-qualifications-will-be-awarded-in-2021>
<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/teacher-assessed-grades-for-students>

It is imperative that your child continues to turn up to all online lessons, as per their normal school timetable, keep working hard, and know that every piece of learning that they complete including any assessments that take place, will still make a difference to the overall awarded grade in each subject. I would add and emphasise that learning evidence will be vital in awarding grades for students.

There will be further information to share with you as we move forward and we will ensure that we keep you fully updated.

If you have any questions, please speak with us.

Yours faithfully,

E. Good

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