

Teacher Assessed Grades

5th March 2021



Rt Hon **Gavin Williamson MP**

“Young people have shown incredible resilience over the last year, continuing with their learning amidst unprecedented challenges while the country battles with this pandemic. Those efforts deserve to be fairly rewarded.”

- Fair
- Produced by those who know the students best - teachers
- Sole aim to allow young people to progress to the next stage of their education or career

What we know



- 5th January - PM announced GCSE and A levels are not going ahead
- 15th January - DFE requested OFQUAL to undertake a consultation to inform how GCSE grades will be set
- 25th February - DFE presented findings of consultation and next steps
- DFE to provide detailed guidance to schools by the end of the spring term.

Important documents



- Consultation outcome:

[Consultation on how GCSE, AS and A level grades should be awarded in summer 2021](#)

- Direction from Secretary of State:

[Direction from the Secretary of State for Education to Ofqual's Chief Regulator about how GCSE, AS, A level and vocational and technical qualifications should be awarded in 2021](#)

How GCSEs, AS and A levels will be awarded in summer 2021

Working out your grade



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

Evidence



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 and appeals



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.

You can find out more details from your school, college or exam board, or by visiting the Ofqual website



www.gov.uk/ofqual

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Assessment & Evidence



Teachers will:

- assess students' performance only on what content has been delivered.
- use evidence from throughout the course
- determine the grades as late as possible in the academic year.
- use a broad range of evidence.
- allow students to continue to work on their non-exam assessment (NEA).

Overall, it will be no easier or harder for a student to achieve a particular grade this year compared with previous years.



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Results will be based on completed and future work, so keep doing your best

- teachers will have a good understanding of a students' performance
- teachers will refine their understanding through continued teaching and assessment
- Students will take additional mocks
- Teachers will use classwork
- Teachers will use ongoing assessed tasks
- Teachers will use the exam board provided materials

Support Materials



Exam boards will provide a package of support which will include;

- question banks (based on past questions and some previously unpublished material)
- mark schemes
- data about how students typically performed in individual questions
- exemplar materials
- advice for teachers about content coverage
- topic selection
- marking
- making grading judgements

Teachers will be able to use the support materials immediately following publication and until the deadline for the submission of grades.

Evidence we already have

- Autumn term mocks will inform our TAGs but will **NOT** be the sole piece of evidence.
- Classwork
- Non-exam assessment (NEA)
- Portfolio work
- End-of-unit assessments



This is what students knew before lockdown

We recognise that students had significant gaps due to lockdown 1 and that some questions were based on content not yet taught or content that will not be taught.

Continued teaching & assessment



- Curriculum modification of remaining time
- Mock examinations after the Easter holidays
- Modifications to papers / grade boundaries so that assessment is based on what has been taught
- Throughout the summer term students will be provided with exam board support materials so that evidence can be collected to demonstrate if additional progress has been made.
- Further assessments of NEAs and portfolios

Awarding & Recording Grades



- Grades based on work/assessments teachers have seen
- Grades must reflect the whole course
- Students who did not engage during lockdown or when they return could see their November mock grade lowered

Quality Assurance Checking



- departments will work together to moderate samples of students' work and standardise their approach
- random samples of work will be requested by SLT and compared with other students' work
- Exam boards will put in place arrangements for external QA to check each centre's internal QA process
- In a sample of centres, reviews will be made of the evidence for one or more subjects
- Sampling should be both random and risk-based
- Exam boards will process the grades submitted by centres only after completing, and being satisfied with, any external QA
- Exam boards will require centres to submit a declaration by the head of centre

Appeals & Results



- Students will be able to appeal their grade
- Requests can be made to the centre to check whether an administrative or procedural error had been made
- Where a centre does not believe an error has been made, a student can ask the centre to appeal to the exam board on their behalf
- The centre will submit the student's appeal to the exam board and provide the evidence on which its judgement had been made
- The exam board will also check that the centre had followed its own process

Key dates



- Mock Examinations: After Easter holidays
- TAGs submitted: Friday, 18th June
- Results day: Thursday, 12th August

Dates for Year 11 students' last day in school and for the Prom/Leavers' celebration are to be confirmed.