

A Level, Applied General and GCSE Results 2020

We realise that the cancellation of exams this summer and the decision to award calculated grades has created uncertainty and anxiety and we would like to reassure all students of our support during the process of the issue of results. We have followed closely the guidelines from the government's regulator, Ofqual, and hope that the following information will help to explain how the calculated grades process has been applied.

Centre Assessed Grades

- Teachers were asked to submit grades based on their knowledge of each student and of his/her/their work and progress. In doing so, teachers considered students' classwork, homework, non-exam assessment, mock and other exam assessments and any other evidence. We believe that our teachers know their students well and have assessed with a high degree of accuracy and fairness.
- We were then asked to place students in rank order for each subject. Again, teachers and Heads of Department worked diligently to ensure that this was done as fairly and accurately as possible.
- The grades submitted by subject teachers were then subject to an internal Quality Assurance process overseen by senior members of staff and the Headteacher. The Centre Assessed Grades submitted were therefore very much a shared process and not the sole responsibility of any individual teacher.
- For some Applied General qualifications, teachers were asked to submit individual unit grades rather than an overall grade; the exam board then aggregated these Centre Assessments with previously-completed units to arrive at a grade for the qualification.

Exam Board Calculations

- Before issuing final grades, exam boards have applied a standardisation model. This is basically a statistical analysis and adjustment which is designed to ensure that grades awarded nationally in 2020 are consistent with those awarded in other years to other cohorts of students.
- For each subject they have considered previous results nationally and in the Associated Sixth Form as well as the prior attainment of this year's students compared to previous years'.
- As a result, the final grades issued to students may not reflect those submitted by schools.

There is further information about award of calculated grades on the Ofqual website, including an [infographic](#) which illustrates the process.

By using this two-stage process, the government has tried to achieve the fairest results possible for all students and to make the grades as valid as in any other year. It is a process that has never been used before and which could not have been foreseen. Within our schools, teachers, Heads of Subject and Senior Staff have worked diligently to ensure that the process has been rigorous and fair. Whilst we understand that it may cause frustration or anxiety, we hope that the results awarded will still allow our students to progress onto the next stage of their careers.

Results Day: Thursday 13 August

Results cannot be issued before 0800 on Thursday 13 August so they will be sent to students' school email accounts as soon as possible after that time.

If you wish to discuss the implications of the results, Careers and pastoral staff will be available throughout the day. You should contact the Sixth Form Office on 01423 818516 and we will arrange for a member of staff to discuss your situation with you; if necessary we will arrange an appointment time for you to come into school. We will see all students who need support but please do not come into school without an appointment.

Enquiries about Results

The government has decided that there will be no process for appeal against the grades awarded unless there is evidence of a technical error by the centre or the exam board. This means that students cannot challenge the judgements of the teachers. The grounds for appeal are:

- The centre has evidence that it submitted incorrect information to the exam board.
- The centre has evidence that the exam board has applied incorrect data in its statistical analysis.
- A student has evidence that they have suffered discrimination.

If you require further information about your results or wish to explore the appeals process, details will be issued with results on August 13.

Students who are unhappy with their grades will also be able to sit exams in the autumn term: details of how to enter these exams will also be issued with results.

We hope that this information is helpful at this stage: we would like to assure you of our full support following the issue of results in August. Meanwhile, we wish you a safe and relaxing summer break.

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