



19th Jan 2021

GCSE Grades 2021

A guide to the information
from the DfE & Ofqual





'Teacher Assessed Grades'

- Are NOT the same as last year CAG (Centre Assessed Grades)
- Are NOT the grade you would have got 'if the pandemic hadn't happened'
- They 'illustrate knowledge understanding and skills' and are reflective of where you 'are'
- They WILL be comparable to previous Years
- You won't know grades until results day



Evidence

- Currently undecided whether work completed earlier in the year will be able to count (for examination only subjects)
- Schools and teachers will have to record the evidence they use to give grades and can only make evidenced based decisions this evidence may be required to be presented to exam boards
- Only evidence recognised is: formal tests, MOCKs, 'substantial work carried out in supervised conditions'
- Set papers from exam boards similar to what GCSEs would have been



Set Papers

- Set dates and time windows will be given to conduct the exams
- Possibly a selection of mini papers which cover a sufficient breadth where teachers can choose the ones with topics covered.
- They will be marked by trained teachers at school and this will be moderated within school and signed off by JGA
- Questions will be similar in style and format of GCSE papers and MAY include past paper questions and NEW content
- There will still be tiers in tiered subjects such as Maths and Science
- Exam boards MAY announce which topics will be examined in the mini papers but a reasonable proportion of the specification MUST be covered



Vocational

- Will continue with ALL coursework
- Are consulting on written exams but this element may not take place
- Covid permitting, practical exams will continue
- Possible mini set exams similar to GCSE to cover any written exams



Timescales

- Set exams by the exam board take place between May and early June
- Grades are submitted to exam boards June
- Exam boards conduct external quality assurance during June of teachers' final assessment
- Results are issued 'likely' July following exam board QA



What this means for you

- We have finished content –this is great as we have covered the whole content so more flexibility for us if they allow choice of topics, however we are also fully prepared if they do not.
- We have two mock seasons data already
- Covid permitting, we will have a mock series prior to these exams once we know more about them so you can prepare for the new style exam
- Lots of your teachers are already examiners and we already moderate all your mocks so we are confident that we will give you an accurate grade.
- Home languages – they are discussing methods of assessing these, there are 4 options, we will know more when the decision is made
 - Sit the original intended papers – we will continue with this
 - Sit the mini mocks and school marks – we cannot facilitate this
 - Sit exams in the Autumn – this will be up to you and your college
 - For the exam boards to run exams in external halls. – TBC once we know more

Everything is still in consultation, it may change; we will know more in 3-4 weeks time.



- You will have the opportunity to appeal BUT it will be if you can *evidentially prove* that you deserve a higher grade from the mocks and supervised approved evidence list.
- You grade could change up OR down

Appeals

Current Guidance

Everything we have shared is what we know at this point in time

- FAQ in Class Notebook of Yr 11 TEAMS



Questions
