

**GCSE RESULTS &
VOCATIONAL
QUALIFICATIONS 2021:
WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW**

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Find out how pupils will receive teacher-assessed grades this summer for GCSEs and vocational and technical qualifications (VTQs).

WHAT'S HAPPENING?

- Exams are cancelled this summer for GCSEs.
- Instead of exams, pupils will receive grades based on assessments by their teachers.
- Teacher-assessed grades will be sent to the exam board to be processed.

HOW WILL TEACHERS MAKE JUDGEMENTS ON GRADES?

- They'll use a range of evidence of pupils' work (such as coursework, practice papers/mock exams and classwork) to inform their decisions.
- Teachers will let pupils know what evidence they'll use before submitting grades to the exam board. This is so pupils can confirm it's their own work, and let teachers know of any extenuating circumstances that might have affected it.
- Teachers will only assess pupils based on what they've been taught.

HOW WILL WE KNOW GRADES ARE AWARDED FAIRLY?

- Our school will have an internal quality assurance process in place that'll take into consideration our results in previous years. This is to make sure teachers' judgements are reliable and accurate.
- Exam boards will also have their own quality assurance process. They'll check that our internal procedure is fair before they process any grades, and they might also visit our school to review evidence from some subjects.
- We'll submit a declaration to the exam board confirming that we've followed the requirements for our internal quality assurance process.

WHEN WILL WE GET OUR RESULTS?

GCSE pupils: Thursday 12 August

CAN WE STILL APPEAL?

- Yes, all pupils will have the right to appeal their grade. If you wish to appeal, you should talk to your Head of School.
- If you appeal, we'll carry out a review to make sure we've followed all processes correctly and that we haven't made an error in your grade.

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- If we do find an error, we'll submit your revised grade to the exam board. If the board is satisfied, you'll receive a revised grade.
 - If we don't believe an error has been made, you can ask us to appeal to the board on your behalf.
 - We'll share the evidence your teacher used to set your grade, and the board will review it to see if we made the right judgement. If they find the grade we set isn't reasonable, they'll provide an alternative grade.
 - If you disagree with the school's or the exam board's decision, you can refer the issue to Ofqual's Exams Procedure Review Service (EPRS). The exam board will have the final say unless the EPRS finds that it has made an error.

WHAT ABOUT VOCATIONAL AND TECHNICAL QUALIFICATIONS (FUNCTIONAL SKILLS AND ENTRY LEVEL CERTIFICATES)?

- If you're taking VTQs to progress to further or higher education and/or employment you will still have exams.
- Teacher Assessed Grades will only be available if you are unable to access a live test and we confirm that all options to enable access to a live test have been fully explored.
- Your exams will be carried out in line with public health measures (if they can't take place safely, they'll be delayed).
- If you want to appeal your results, we can do that on your behalf following the process set out by the individual awarding organisation concerned.