

On Friday 3 April, the government announced further information regarding exams and grades.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/how-gcses-as-a-levels-will-be-awarded-in-summer-2020>

They also published the following letter for students:

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/877830/Letter\\_to\\_students\\_-\\_Summer\\_2020\\_grading.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/877830/Letter_to_students_-_Summer_2020_grading.pdf)

The above letter contains clear guidance on:

1. How grades will be calculated
2. Completion of work from this point forward
3. Sharing of centre awarded grades

Below summaries the key points for each of the areas above:

### **1. How grades will be calculated**

Your school or college will be asked to send exam boards two pieces of information for each of your subjects, based on what they know about your work and achievements:

- i. the grade they believe you were most likely to get if teaching, learning and exams had happened as planned
- ii. within each subject, the order of students at your school or college, by performance, for each grade. This information will be used to standardise judgements – allowing fine tuning of the standard applied across schools and colleges

To calculate these grades, we have been told to consider the following:

- classwork and homework;
- your results in assignments and any mock exams;
- any non-exam assessment or coursework you might have done;
- and your general progress during your course.

Exam boards will then standardise grades across schools and colleges to make sure that, as far as possible, results are fair and that students are not advantaged or disadvantaged because their schools or colleges are more generous or harsh than others when making those judgements. That means the final grade you get could be different from the one your school or college sends to the exam board.

### **2. Completion of work from this point forward**

Your school or college is not required to set additional mock exams or homework for your centre assessment grade, and you won't be disadvantaged if you were not set, or were unable to complete, any work given out after schools were closed.

Your teachers will continue to set work on Moodle up until Friday 22 May 2020. This was the date you were initially due to leave college. As we stated before college closed, this is so that you have opportunity to complete the courses you started. It also gives you a clear sense of purpose during this unstructured time.

***Please be assured, that only work completed up until the college closed on Friday 20 March will be used by teachers when forecasting centre awarded grades.***

### **3. Sharing of centre awarded grades**

The guidance from the government has absolute clarity: centre awarded grades are confidential and cannot be shared. Please do not ask your teachers, or anyone else at the college, to tell you the grades they will be sending to the exam boards or where they have placed you in the order of students.

Nobody in the college, regardless of seniority, will engage into a discussion with parents/carers and/or students about how grades are awarded. Any requests to do so will receive an email reply directing them to the guidance on this webpage with no further information given.

#### **Other points to consider**

##### When will you get your results?

Exam boards are working hard to get results out as soon as is possible – results won't be delayed after the dates they were expected in August (Thursday 13 August), and ideally they will be issued a little earlier, so you can have the certainty you need.

##### What should you do about your university offers?

The advice we've given - and that we reiterate now - is to not make any rash decisions. The following webpage (<https://www.ucas.com/undergraduate/after-you-apply/types-offer/replying-your-ucas-undergraduate-offers>) states the reply dates for your offer but this varies depending on when you received your final decision.

- If you received your last decision on or before 31 March 2020, your reply date is 19 May 2020.
- If you receive your last decision on or before 20 May 2020, your reply date is 4 June 2020.
- If you receive your last decision on or before 4 June 2020, your reply date is 18 June 2020 (except if you're using Extra to find a place).
- If you receive your last decision on or before 13 July 2020, your reply date is 20 July 2020 (including Extra choices)

The careers team will be in touch following the Easter holidays with advice on how best to make the right decision for your future.