

Factsheet 1



Cancellation of GCSE, AS and A levels and other qualifications in 2020

Information for Students and Parents/ Carers - March 2020

Due to the coronavirus (COVID-19) all GCSE, AS, A levels and vocational and technical examinations, which were due to take place in summer 2020, have been cancelled. The priority is to ensure students can move on as planned to the next stage including employment, university, college, sixth form or apprenticeships.

Students **will** be awarded grades for the examinations they were due to sit this summer.

How will grades be awarded?

- The exam regulator, Ofqual and exam boards will work with teachers to provide grades.
- Ofqual will develop and set out a process that will provide a calculated grade to each student which reflects their performance as fairly as possible.
- Exam boards will be asking schools to submit their judgement about the grade that they believe each pupil would have received.
- The grades awarded will be based on a range of information and factors including teacher knowledge of the pupils, regular assessments, recent internal exams and prior attainment. It will not be simply based on mock results.
- In the case of many vocational and technical awards students will already have completed modules or non-exam assessment which could provide evidence to award a grade.
- If coursework has been started but not finished then advice will be given to schools and colleges as to how to use this.
- The approach to awarding grades will be standardised across schools and colleges.

When will the grades be awarded?

- The government aims to provide the grades before the end of July.

What if I don't agree with the grades?

- If you not believe the correct process has been followed in your case, then you will be able to appeal on that basis.
- If you do not believe that the grade awarded reflects your performance, then you will be able to sit examinations as soon as possible once schools and colleges have re-opened.
- You will have the option to sit examinations in summer 2021.

How will the grades be used?

- The grades awarded will be formal grades and will be used for entry to colleges and Universities.
- University admissions processes will continue as usual, using the awarded grades; however, Universities will be flexible.