



# How will GCSE and A Level Grades be awarded 2021?

## April Update

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# Updated Timeline

Date	Event / Action
March 22 <sup>nd</sup> – 26 <sup>th</sup>	Students receive 'Topic Lists' for May Assessments
April 1 <sup>st</sup>	Students receive 'Basket of Evidence' for each subject
April 1 <sup>st</sup>	Students receive May Assessment Timetable
April 6 <sup>th</sup> – 9 <sup>th</sup>	Subject Content Review Sessions
April 19 <sup>th</sup> – April 28 <sup>th</sup>	Quality Assurance of Assessments with Head of Centre
April 19 <sup>th</sup> – April 30 <sup>th</sup>	In class/school preparation for May Assessments
April 27 <sup>th</sup>	Staff TAGs training
May 4 <sup>th</sup> – May 21 <sup>st</sup>	May Assessments to be completed
May 4 <sup>th</sup> – May 28 <sup>th</sup>	Marking & Moderating of May Assessments
May 28 <sup>th</sup>	Initial grades submitted for internal data
June 7 <sup>th</sup> – June 11 <sup>th</sup>	Head of Centre scrutiny to ensure compliance with JCQ regulations
June 14 <sup>th</sup> – June 16 <sup>th</sup>	Internal verification and checking of all grades before submission to exam boards
June 18 <sup>th</sup>	Deadline for submission of all grades to exam boards
July 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Year 11 Prom
July 9 <sup>th</sup>	Year 13 Leavers' Ball

# Assigning the grade

- TAGs will be decided based on a holistic and objective judgment of the evidence of student performance across the basket of evidence
- The grading process is not intended to be a formulaic calculation (JCQ)
- Any access arrangements will be in place for May Assessments
- If any patterns/findings emerge from the May Assessments which demonstrate the **cohort** have been disadvantaged with a particular component of an assessment, this will be considered when making the holistic judgement
- To ensure students are not disadvantaged, we need to have the flexibility to adjust contributions/ weightings of the different components of the basket of evidence
- Teachers are not making grading decisions in isolation. Once grades have been assigned, our internal quality assurance process will ensure that standards are appropriate prior to sign-off by the Head of Centre

# Additional Notes

- JCQ have asked all schools to produce a 'Centre Policy' which gives fuller details about the processes used to arrive at grades
- Fullbrook's policy will be on the website from **April 30<sup>th</sup>**
- **Confidentiality** – All TAGs must remain confidential. Teachers will not disclose the submitted grades until Results Day arrives. Students and parents should not ask for the grades. Any undue pressure could result in a malpractice case.
- Appeals – There is an Ofqual consultation document running from April 21<sup>st</sup> – May 5<sup>th</sup>. You can read it on the Ofqual website, with the opportunity to respond also given to staff, students, and parents
- Current view is that appeals can be made on:
  1. Procedural / Administrative Error
  2. Unreasonable exercise of academic judgement

NB → The consultation clarifies unreasonable exercise of academic judgement with the following example. **It is only where the original decision represents an unreasonable application of academic judgement that a result will be incorrect. For example, a decision to award a grade B will not be unreasonable where the decision maker for the appeal considers the evidence would support either a grade A or a grade B. Both would be reasonable and therefore neither would be unreasonable.**

# May 24<sup>th</sup> – May 28<sup>th</sup>

**Mon 24<sup>th</sup> – Wed 26<sup>th</sup>** – Timetable adjustments.

- Students will follow their usual timetable.
- Adaptations to the curriculum will be made.
- A chance to complete parts of the course which were missed out on due to remote learning.
- Further information will be sent out via email.

**Thurs 27<sup>th</sup>** – Summer Celebration Assembly followed by BBQ (Year 11)

- Periods 1-2 as normal.
- Summer Celebration Assembly during period 3.
- Celebration BBQ straight after. Yearbooks, Hoodies, Memories.
- Leave site at 2:30pm

**Fri 28<sup>th</sup>** – Not in school (no work will be set)

# A Level Bridging Programme

After half term

- Taster lessons delivered by passionate and expert teachers
- Students select 5 subjects they would like to sample
- Real experience of life as a 6<sup>th</sup> former
- Use of the café, common room and all F6 facilities
- Enrichment opportunities
- Finer details to be confirmed and will be communicated at the earliest opportunity