

Exam Results Statement
19th August 2020

After so much uncertainty it was a relief to hear the announcement earlier this week that Centre Assessed Grades would be used for the 2020 Examination Results. It has all been a little complicated so I have listed some points below to help you understand the grades that will be sent out tomorrow morning.

- The vast majority of final student grades that have been awarded by the Exam Boards are the Centre Assessed Grades that we submitted.
- Centre Assessed Grades cannot be downgraded by Exam Boards for the majority of qualifications. The only exception is Health and Social Care where grade boundaries were set as modules. For this reason, schools were not asked to submit a centre assessed grade for the whole course only the outstanding units of work.
- In a very small number of cases Exam Boards have increased grades as a result of the algorithm.
- There are a small number of qualifications (ICT, Engineering and Sports Studies) that have not yet published. The Centre Assessed Grades for these subjects have been shared with students and they cannot be downgraded. We will reissue the results for these subjects next week as soon as the Exam Board provide us with details of any grades that have increased.

The attachment sent out to students with their exam results has two columns of results. The first is the Centre Assessed Grade and the second is the Final Adjusted Grade. **It is the Final Adjusted Grade that is the actual result for that subject.** Please note that this column will be blank for ICT, Engineering and Sports Studies until we receive the outcomes from the exam board. In the vast majority of cases the Final Adjusted Grade will be the same as the Centre Assessed Grade.

In the last week or so there has been a lot of discussion around appeals. Due to the use of Centre Assessed Grades there will now be no appeals process other than for administrative error, e.g. where our Centre Assessed Grade was incorrectly recorded during the submission process. We have not identified any administrative issues.

The process by which we generated our Centre Assessed Grades was rigorous, detailed and conducted in the context of the planned standardisation of results by exam boards that has since been abandoned. To generate the Centre Assessed Grades we looked carefully at work completed in lessons, the quality of homework, classroom assessment and mock exam results. Teachers then submitted a grade that they felt the student would realistically achieve based upon their profile.

This process has meant that our grade profile across the school is broadly what we would have expected if the students had sat their actual exams. It is quite possible that this would not have

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been the case if the algorithm had been applied as was originally planned resulting in students achieving lower grades in some subjects. I am confident that at John Spence we conducted the process as fairly as we possibly could, but do recognise that some students may feel disappointed with their grades as would be the case on a normal exam result day.

We are confident that all of our students will be able to access the course(s) of their choice next year, but please do contact us if there are any issues and we will support where we can.

Senior staff will be available on the phone between 10am and 1pm tomorrow if you would like to discuss results – call the school office on 0191 296 1432.

We wish all of our students the very best for the future and possibly hope to see them again as and when regulations allow.

[Changes to awarding of GCSE, AS and A level: guide for teachers, student, parents & carers: summer 2020](#)

Best wishes

Jonathan Heath
Headteacher

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