



Point 4: Will students get their predicted grade?

- The guidance clearly states that schools will be asked to provide some form of predicted grade that will be based on all forms of prior assessment including non-exam assessments/coursework (see Point 2 of document) and mock exams.
- However, the government has not yet clarified to schools exactly how these grades will be decided, **so please do not email any staff at school asking questions about predicted grades**. As soon as we have this information, we will share it with you.
- Ofqual and exam boards will be discussing with teachers' representatives before finalising an approach, to ensure that it is as fair as possible. More information will be provided as soon as possible.
- The documentation also makes clear that any grades provided by schools will not be final and will be moderated by Ofqual. (see below for more details).

Points 5-6: How will predicted grades be decided?

- Mock exam grades will be used as one of several pieces of evidence to help schools decide predicted grades.
- These grades will be used in conjunction with other evidence that is yet to be stipulated by the Department for Education.
- The school's prior attainment and progress data will also be used by Ofqual to moderate the predicted grades submitted by schools.
- Point 3 which specifically refers to students from disadvantaged backgrounds also suggests that individual students' prior attainment/previous grades will be used to help Ofqual moderate grades. We would expect that this will be the case for all students and that Ofqual will again use this information to help moderate students' grades, although this has not been explicitly stated thus far.

Point 9: Will universities/sixth forms/colleges accept these predicted grades?

AND

Point 11: Will there be an opportunity to take exams this year if a student is unhappy with their grade?

- All educational institutions will accept the grades generated by the system that is being finalised.
- *Universities UK* have already confirmed that they will be encouraging all universities to "be as flexible as possible" with regard to offers made to Year 13 students. A link to *Universities UK's* latest press releases can be found [here](#).
- Some universities, but not all have started converting conditional offers to unconditional offers. Russell Group institutions are yet to announce any clear decisions in regard to offers so students and parents need to keep a close eye on UCAS track to see if any conditional offers become unconditional.
- Also, a reminder, students need to reply to university offers by 5th May 2020 at the latest. Specific guidance on this can be found [here](#).
- If students are unhappy with the grade they have been given by the above explained system, the Department for Education has said an exam season will be provided "as soon as is reasonably possible" in the next academic year. This importantly means that students must continue to work on A-Level and GCSE work being set by their teachers so that they are fully prepared to sit these exams if they are unhappy with the grades that are generated for them this summer.
- In addition, we want to ensure students are fully prepared for their next stages of learning. Whilst the public examinations are the culmination of the examination courses, the learning and practice in the lead up to the examinations is of vital importance to all students as they prepare for the next stage of their education at University or higher level apprenticeship.



Therefore, we will be continuing teaching, via Show My Homework and other platforms following the pattern of the school day. Until there is clarity on how the government requires schools to arrive at vital summer assessments, it is important that students continue to present a strong and sustained academic profile. Therefore we will continue with preparation and learning as planned.

- No date has yet been provided for this exam window. As soon as we know more, we will share this with you.

Point 17: What if I have started my coursework but not finished it?

- The Department for Education documents states "Exam boards will provide advice on this to schools and colleges as soon as possible."
- In the short term, this means that all students who are currently working on coursework must continue to do so and meet all deadlines set by their Subject Teachers and Curriculum Leaders. In some subjects, for example but not limited to music, drama and textiles, the completion of coursework is difficult due to restricted access to facilities within school. In this situation, the Curriculum Leader will contact students and parents to explain which elements of the coursework should be completed and provide revised deadlines.
- If this advice changes when we receive the aforementioned guidance from exam boards, we will let you know immediately.
- As mentioned above, Non-Examined Assessments (NEA) or coursework is likely to be used to help staff predict grades for all students and as such needs to be completed to the very best of each student's ability.

Point 21: If I take the exam option, will I still be able to go to university this year?

- The answer to this question remains unclear. The Department for Education have been non-committal in their guidance to date. They imply that they hope this will be the case, but they cannot guarantee it.