

FAQ sheet – Y11 results

Much of the information in this document is in the student guide published by Ofqual:
https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/907493/Student_Guide_Summer_2020_6.8.2020_12.30.pdf
and the key points are summarised below:

1. I think there might be a mistake with the grades that I have received – what can I do?

If the grade that you have received is not the grade that you expected, this may not be due to a mistake. However, if you do think there is a mistake, or if you have a grade missing, you can speak to us so that we can investigate. We will then make a judgement about whether there has been a genuine mistake and we will make an appeal if necessary.

2. Can I appeal against a grade that I have received because I am not happy with it?

Ofqual have made it clear that this is not a reason for an appeal. Appeals can only be made if you believe there has been a mistake. Ofqual have decided that it would not in the best interests of the students or the fairness of the arrangements overall for appeals to be made for any other reason. Any appeal would have to be undertaken by someone better placed than the student's teachers to judge the likely grade if exams had taken place – in the unique circumstances of this summer, Ofqual do not believe there is any such person.

3. I do not feel that my grade reflects my ability – what can I do?

You have the opportunity to sit the exams in the autumn series. If you have been successful in obtaining a place on your post-16 course, we would advise you not to resit.

4. I've heard that I can use my mock grade instead – is this true?

The details of this are more complicated than it sounds and it is not as straightforward as simply using a mock grade in place of the exam board grade. If a student receives a substantially lower grade than the school has evidence for through mock results, this *may* be grounds for appealing the grade through a formal process that only the school can initiate. Schools set and use mock exams in many different ways so it is possible that a mock grade might not meet the criteria needed by the exam boards for appeal. So one higher mock grade may not be enough grounds for appeal. We are awaiting more detailed information on this process.

5. When will the autumn exams take place?

The GCSE exams will be between 2nd and 23rd November.

6. Will all subjects be available?

Yes. For each subject, there will be the same number of exams and in the same format as if the exams had not been cancelled in the summer.

7. If I choose to sit exams in the autumn, do I have to sit them all?

You can choose which subjects to sit and it doesn't have to be all of the subjects that you would have sat in the summer if exams had not been cancelled. But for each subject you chose to sit, you must sit all of the papers within that subject. For example, if you wanted to sit Geography GCSE, you would need to sit all three papers. Think carefully about this when you are deciding whether to resit as you may not have completed all of the content before the schools closed on March 20th.

8. Will the school help me prepare for the autumn exams?

We will provide you with materials to help you prepare but we will not be able to provide timetabled lessons.

9. Will the autumn exams also take into account any coursework components that I have completed?

The grades that the school sent to the exam board before the summer did take into account student performance in coursework components. However, this will not be taken into account in the autumn exam series. This is very important to think about when deciding whether to resit as students who do particularly well in coursework components will not have this recognised in the autumn series. Results from the autumn series will be based purely on exam performance.

The only exception to this is Art & Design subjects. In the autumn series, students will have to complete a new exam board task (worth 40%) which will be supervised at school and marked by the exam board.

10. Which grade will I keep if I chose to sit exams in the autumn series?

You will keep whichever grade is higher – the one you were awarded in the summer or the one that you are awarded from the autumn series.

11. If I choose to sit exams in the autumn and I have left TOA, where do I sit the exams?

You will resit the exams at TOA.

12. Who pays for the exams in the autumn series?

We pay for the exams that you choose to sit.



13. I am concerned that my GCSE results will not be good enough to meet the entry requirements to stay at TOA in the sixth form – what can I do?

On Thursday 20th August, each Y11 student will have an interview with a senior member of staff to discuss your results and the options open to you, both at TOA and at other providers.

14. Can I find out my Centre Assessed Grades (CAGs)?

If you are interested in knowing your CAGs for Y11 courses, please speak to Mrs Banks on Thursday 20th August. Please do not ask any other member of staff as they will not be able to share this information with you.

Mrs A Banks
14 August 2020