



Harrow Way Community School

Specialist School in Maths & Computing

Harrow Way Community School

Harrow Way
Andover
Hampshire SP10 3RH

Tel: 01264 364533

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adminoffice@harrowway.hants.sch.uk

www.harrowway.hants.sch.uk

Headteacher: Mr M Serridge, MA

Dear Parents

On Thursday 20th August, GCSE results will be released as planned. We would like to set out the process that schools and exam boards have followed over the last few months.

In the early Summer Term, each school was asked to consider what grade a student would have achieved using a process that was devised by exam boards in consultation with Ofqual and the Department for Education. The model underwent technical scrutiny and exhaustive testing on previous years' data to arrive at the fairest system possible under the circumstances.

Schools were instructed to award grades based on how they believed candidates would have performed by the date of the final examination, thus anticipating progress that would have been made since the school closed on 20th March. Assessment is an integral part of the learning process and we were able to use all available evidence when arriving at the centre-assessed grades.

- Records of student performance
- Results from external examinations already taken (eg: Catering, Cambridge National)
- Pre-Public Exam results (mocks)
- In-class assessed work
- Controlled assessments (coursework)
- Recordings of oral work
- Effort and attitude in lessons
- Attendance
- Quality of work submitted in class
- Quality of work submitted through homework.

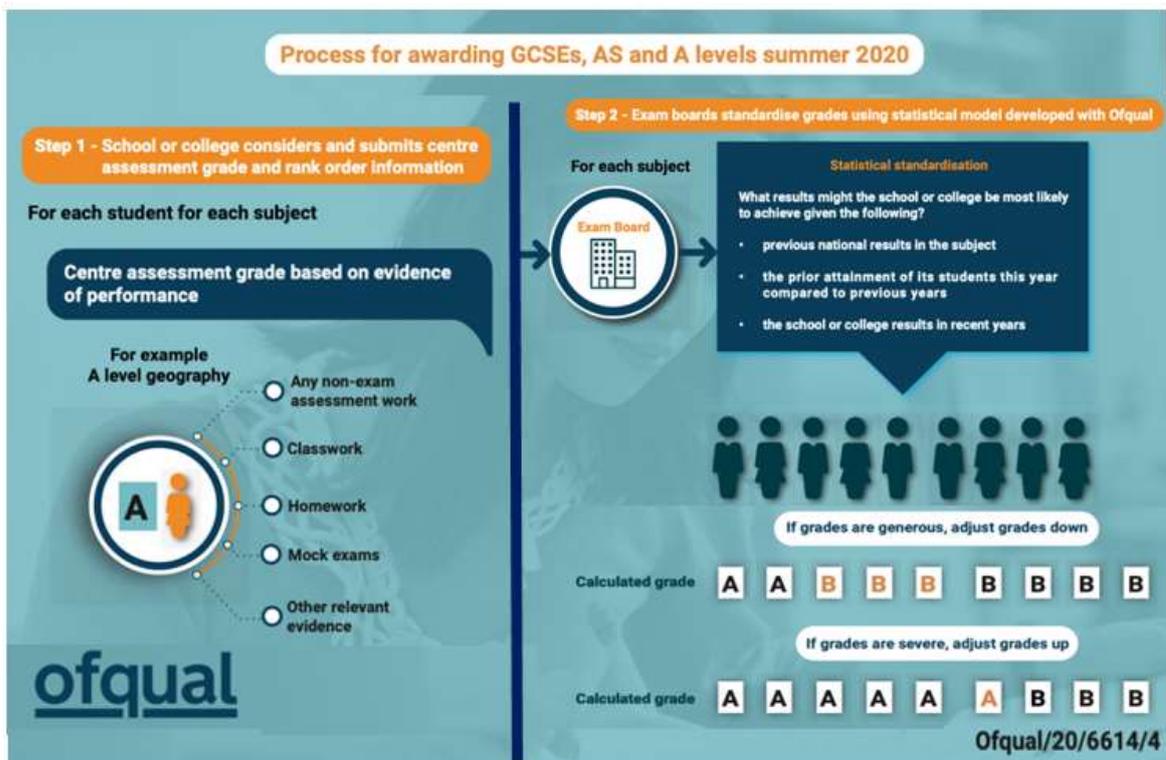
Of course, we had already communicated our predicted grades to students and parents in the Spring Reports.

It was a robust and thorough process. We can assure you that we took this very seriously. We collaborated as a staff; initial results were then analysed by our Curriculum Leaders and, lastly the senior leadership team scrutinised the grades to ensure that the results were fair, objective and free from any unintended bias and took into account any special considerations, including Access Arrangements.

In June, we were asked to submit our assessed grades to the Examination Boards through a secure exam board portal. Every examination board was then expected to standardise schools' grades using a statistical model developed with Ofqual: our grades were subjected to a national moderation process, which could lead to grade changes in a small minority of cases. If the exam boards judged our grades too generous, they would move them down. If they judged them too harsh, they would move them up.

Please understand that teachers and school staff are prohibited from revealing their predictions. As things stand, this non-disclosure rule applies until 40 days after Results Day. Should you have any questions about this process or the results awarded to your son or daughter, the senior leadership team will be on hand to speak to you.

This infographic created by Ofqual should illustrate the process that we have followed:



Should you wish to discuss this process further please do not hesitate to contact me for further information.

Yours faithfully

Mrs Dawn German
Assistant Headteacher
Standards and Culture