

16<sup>th</sup> June 2020

Dear Year 11 and Year 13 parents/ carers and pupils,

We hope that everyone remains well. We also hope that the gradual easing of the lockdown measures is enabling some hope and for pupils, that you are starting to work on preparation for September. For Year 13, this is transition to University, further training or employment. For Year 11, this will be preparation for your courses which start in September.

For those joining our 6<sup>th</sup> form, the coming weeks will see a range of pre-learning materials published so you can begin to prepare for the A-Level and BTEC qualifications you aim to start in September.

A while ago, we wrote to Year 11 and Year 13 to provide an update on the grading process and home-learning packages. At this difficult time, we understand that parents and pupils want to know what is happening and how the cancellation of examinations this summer may affect them. We understand that many parents and pupils may be worried. We are here to help; if you are concerned, please don't hesitate to contact us.

We can confirm that the grading process has now been completed by teachers, faculty leaders and senior staff. A vast amount of work has gone in to ensuring the process is robust and we are confident that the grades entered reflect what pupils would have achieved if they were to have completed their exams as normal this summer. I am confident that we have followed all the guidance carefully. We now have to wait for results day to know the final grades for Year 11 and Year 13.

The actual results for pupils will now be awarded by exam boards following the guidance given to them by OfQUAL. The Department for Education has helpfully released information to help teachers, parents and pupils understand how the exam boards will approach the final grades awarded for pupils. This can be found on page 2.

Like you, we do not know how much adjustment to expect and we will not know the final grades awarded to pupils until results days in August. The Department for Education have stated that:

*"it is highly likely that all centres will see some adjustment, in at least one subject, to their centre assessment grades, however carefully they have made their judgements. Such adjustments are in the interests of fairness to all students because they will ensure, as far as possible, that individual centres have not been too severe or too generous in comparison with other centres."*

On results day, staff will be on-hand to provide advice and guidance including a 1:1 meeting with all those who are due to join 6<sup>th</sup> form to ensure every pupil is supported to progress to the next stage in their education.

We understand that some schools have announced they will be sending results to pupils by email/ post rather than a face-to-face results event. At DEC, we have not made a decision on this as August is a long way off. As long as it is safe to do so, we hope to be able to meet pupils in person (if possible and in line with government guidelines) for their results days.

Until then, if you have any questions or queries, please email [enquiry@decschool.co.uk](mailto:enquiry@decschool.co.uk) and we will do our best to help and reassure. Please note that we are unable to discuss any part of the grading process but we can discuss the support we will provide for pupils to prepare for their courses starting in September.

Yours sincerely



Mr M Dunn  
Head Teacher

# Process for awarding GCSEs, AS and A levels summer 2020

## Step 1 - School or college considers and submits centre assessment grade and rank order information

For each student for each subject

Centre assessment grade based on evidence of performance

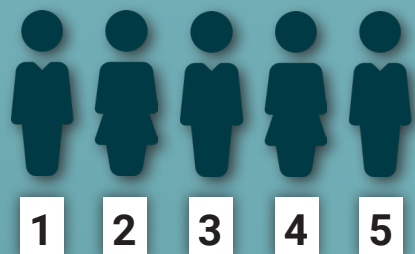
For example  
A level geography



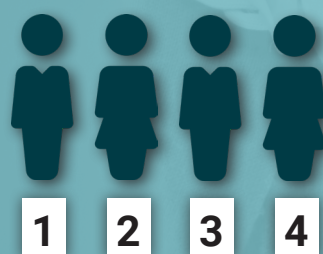
- Any non-exam assessment work
- Classwork
- Homework
- Mock exams
- Other relevant evidence

Position in rank order of students on that grade

Grade A



Grade B



## Step 2 - Exam boards standardise grades using statistical model developed with Ofqual

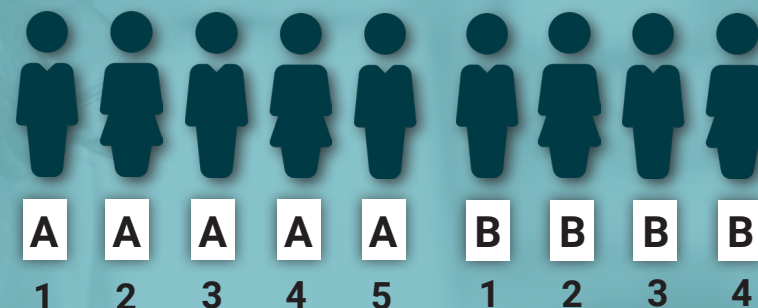
For each subject



### Statistical standardisation

What results might the school or college be most likely to achieve given the following?

- previous national results in the subject
- the prior attainment of its students this year compared to previous years
- the school or college results in recent years



If grades are generous, adjust grades down



If grades are severe, adjust grades up

