

# Summer 2020 Results and Appeals process

## **Results and Appeals**

## Centre Assessment Grades (CAGs) and rank orders

St Edmund's School:

- will not divulge provisional (centre assessment) grades, nor rank orders, with candidates or parents/carers before the issue of results
- understands that any inappropriate disclosure of Centre Assessment Grades (CAGs) and rank order information *before* the issue of results will be investigated by awarding bodies as potential malpractice
- will reveal Centre Assessed Grades and rankings after the issue of results, if requested by a candidate, using the exam data request form prepared for this purpose

#### Final grades

St Edmund's School will:

- issue results in accordance with the Information for Candidates Results, Appeals and Certificates document
- signpost candidates (and parents/carers) to information provided by key stakeholders at the time final grades are issued to support their understanding of the grades awarded

## Arrangements for results day(s)

St Edmund's School will:

- organise results day(s) and inform candidates of the arrangements in place for the collection of/access to their results
- ensure senior members of centre staff are available/accessible to candidates with whom a result/results may be discussed
- prepare information for candidates showing their options if they have concerns about their results
- signpost candidates to relevant Ofqual and/or awarding body information that sets out how their grades were calculated this year and the options available if they believe their result was not properly produced, including access to appeal

## Arrangements for appeals

St Edmund's School will:

 follow information provided by awarding bodies to determine the grounds on which an appeal can be made on behalf of a candidate, or candidates

- make candidates aware of the arrangements in place for appeals prior to the issue of results via the School's website
- provide candidates with a statement of the arrangements promptly when requested
- seek any information the awarding body holds in relation to how final grades were calculated if there
  is a concern about any results
- submit an appeal to the awarding body on behalf of a candidate or candidates where it is believed:
  - the centre itself made an error when submitting Centre Assessment Grade or rank order information to the awarding body and has supporting evidence that confirms an error was made (and will submit its supporting evidence at the earliest stage and explain why data which the Head of Centre declared to be accurate is now considered incorrect)
  - the awarding body made a mistake in the operation of the standardisation model where the wrong data was used to calculate results
  - o the awarding body made an administrative error in the issuing of results
- collect consent from a candidate before any appeal is submitted to the awarding body.

## Internal appeals procedure

St Edmund's School will provide a process for a candidate to appeal against any decision the centre may make:

- not to seek from the awarding body any information the awarding body holds that would be needed for an appeal; and/or
- not to appeal to the awarding body

## How Centre Assessment Grades and rank orders were determined

To respond to any queries, challenges or internal appeals from a candidate (or their parent/carer) St Edmund's School will provide records detailing:

- the process deployed for each subject in calculating Centre Assessment Grades and ranking of all candidates within each grade (or within the cohort where this was required by a particular qualification type)
- the support given to any newly qualified teachers in grading and ranking students
- a summary of the evidence and data used to make objective and professional judgements
- the standardisation process where a cohort was taught across several teachers in a subject area
- how any conflicts of interest were managed
- the review and check for accuracy undertaken as part of the internal sign-off process for each subject
- confirmation of the process for Head of Centre sign-off and submission of the declaration to awarding bodies
- any errors reported by an awarding body after the submission of information and details of how these were resolved

## **Reference publications**

## Ofqual

Awarding qualifications in summer 2020

<u>Decisions on exceptional arrangements for assessment and grading in 2020</u> GCSEs, AS, A levels, Extended Project Qualifications and the Advanced Extension Award in maths

<u>Decisions on exceptional arrangements for assessment and grading in 2020</u> Vocational, technical and other general qualifications

Extraordinary regulatory framework: General Qualifications, COVID-19 Conditions and Requirements

Extraordinary regulatory framework: VTQ, Covid-19 Conditions and Requirements

#### Information for Candidates

## Results, Appeals and Certificates

#### Centre Assessment Grades and rank orders

St Edmund's School has submitted provisional (Centre Assessment) Grade(s) and rank order(s) to the relevant awarding body in accordance with the Ofqual guidance<sup>1</sup> on *Awarding qualifications in summer 2020* and in line with the awarding body instructions.

<sup>1</sup> https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/awarding-qualifications-in-summer-2020

For the reason of fairness, awarding bodies are putting these grades through a standardisation process to ensure grading standards are consistent across all centres. The rank order of candidates will not be changed but the final grades candidates receive may be different to the Centre Assessment Grade.

## Final grades

On candidate statements of results (results slips) and certificates, final grades will be reported in the same way as in previous years.

Final grades will be issued on results day(s) in August as follows:

| Date       | Qualification type                                  |  |  |
|------------|---|--|--|
| 13/08/2020 | GCE (AS, A Levels) and other Level 3 qualifications |  |  |
| 20/08/2020 | GCSE and other Level 2 qualifications               |  |  |

## Arrangements for results day(s)

Parents and pupils will receive a separate email detailing arrangements for results days. Pupils will be able to opt to a) collect results in person, whilst observing appropriate social distancing measures; b) telephone the main office in the morning or c) request results via email.

## Concerns about your results

At results time, Ofqual will be providing information for students that sets out how their grades were calculated this year and the options available if they believe their result was not properly produced, including access to appeal. The *National Careers Service Exam Results Helpline*<sup>2</sup> offers advice each year for students who have not received the results they had hoped for. Ofqual will also make a helpline available to students and their parents or carers to talk about the appeals process and any other questions they may have about their results this summer.

<sup>2</sup> https://www.gov.uk/careers-helpline-for-teenagers

Awarding bodies will also likely provide information for students about results. St Edmund's School will signpost you to any relevant information at results time. There will be additional information provided on the School's website.

If you have a concern about a grade you have been awarded, you can ask Dr Sotillo to:

- check whether an error was made when submitting your Centre Assessment Grade and rank order to the awarding body
- raise a complaint with the Head of Centre (Mr O'Connor) if you feel you have evidence of bias or that
  you were discriminated against; you could also pass such evidence on to the awarding body who
  could investigate for potential malpractice
- seek any information the awarding body holds in relation to how your final grade was calculated

provide information about the opportunity to take an exam in the autumn series or in summer 2021

## Arrangements for appeals

The arrangements for awarding qualifications in summer 2020 state:

Candidates can appeal their grades through their centre if they feel the process this summer was not followed correctly in their case.

## A candidate can:

- ask their centre to appeal on their behalf to an awarding body if there is evidence that leads a candidate to believe:
  - o the centre made an error when submitting a Centre Assessment Grade or rank order information
  - o an awarding body made a mistake when calculating, assigning or communicating a grade
- appeal against the centre's decision
  - not to seek any information the awarding body holds that would be needed for an appeal;
     and/or
  - not to appeal to the awarding body

#### A candidate cannot:

- appeal against their Centre Assessment Grades and position in the rank order
- appeal in respect of the process or procedure used by St Edmund's School in calculating your Centre Assessment Grades and position in the rank order
- appeal directly in any respect to the awarding body (unless a private candidate)

## Certificates

Certificates, when received from the awarding body, will be issued to candidates via post for A-level pupils and other school leavers (signed-for mail within the UK) or via collection from the Exams Officer for pupils who remain at school e.g. attending Sixth Form.

## Internal appeals procedure

## St Edmund's School will:

- inform candidates of the arrangements for appeals prior to the issue of results and the accessibility of senior members of centre staff immediately after the publication of results by issuing this Information for candidates Results, Appeals and Certificates document via the School's website
- appeal to an awarding body on a candiate's behalf if it believes the centre itself made an error when submitting a Centre Assessment Grade or rank order information or if it believes an awarding body made a mistake when calculating, assigning or communicating a grade
- ask the candidate to provide written informed consent (informed consent via candidate email is acceptable) before an appeal is submitted to the awarding body as the appeal could result in the final grade being lower than, higher than, or the same as the grade which was originally awarded
- only collect consent after the publication of results
- where relevant, advise an affected candidate to inform any third party (such as a university or college) that an appeal has been submitted to an awarding body

#### St Edmund's School will not:

- seek any information the awarding body holds that would be needed for an appeal if it does not believe an awarding body made a mistake when calculating, assigning or communicating a grade
- appeal to an awarding body on a candidate's behalf if it does not believe the centre itself made an
  error when submitting a Centre Assessment Grade or rank order information or if it does not believe
  an awarding body made a mistake when calculating, assigning or communicating a grade

An internal appeal can be submitted to the centre where a candidate (or his/her parent/carer) believes there are grounds to appeal against the centre's decision:

- not to seek any information the awarding body holds that would be needed for an appeal and/or
- not to appeal to the awarding body

An appeal should be submitted by

completing and submitting an internal appeals form by 11 September 2020

The appellant will be informed of the outcome of the appeal before the centre's internal deadline for submitting a request for an external appeal.

If the internal appeal is upheld by the centre, resulting in an appeal on the candidate's behalf being submitted to the awarding body:

- awarding body fees which may be charged for an appeal must be paid to the centre by the appellant before the appeal is submitted to the awarding body (fees are available from the Exams Officer)
- if the appeal is upheld by the awarding body, this fee will be refunded by the awarding body and repaid to the appellant by the centre.

| Internal appeals form  |  | F                             | FOR CENTRE USE ONLY               |  |  |  |  |
|--|--|-------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--|--|--|--|
| Summer 2020 award  | ling   | Date receiv                   | red                               |  |  |  |  |
| Please tick box to indicate the nature of your appeal and complete all white boxes on the form below |  | Reference l                   | No.                               |  |  |  |  |
|  | st the centre's decision not to seek any info<br>ded for an appeal | rmation the av                | warding body holds that           |  |  |  |  |
| ☐ Appeal against the centre's decision not to appeal to the awarding body                            |  |                               |                                   |  |  |  |  |
| Name of appellant  |  | Awarding body                 |                                   |  |  |  |  |
| Candidate name<br>if different to appellant  |  | Qualification type<br>Subject |                                   |  |  |  |  |
| Please state the grounds for your appeal below:  |  |                               |                                   |  |  |  |  |
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| If necessary, continu  | ae on an additional page if this form is being completed ele       | ectronically or over          | leaf if hard copy being completed |  |  |  |  |
| Appellant signature:   |  | Date of signature:            |                                   |  |  |  |  |

This form must be signed, dated and returned to the Exams Officer on behalf of the Head of Centre to the timescale indicated in the internal appeals procedure

## Complaints and appeals log

On receipt, all complaints/appeals should be assigned a reference number and logged. Outcome and outcome date should also be recorded.

| Ref No. | Date received | Complaint or Appeal | Outcome | Outcome date |
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