

Centre Assessed Grades (CAGs) Frequently Asked Questions

1. What is a Centre Assessed Grade?

- A Centre Assessed Grade is a school's professional judgement about the grade that each learner would most likely achieve had teaching, learning and assessment proceeded as normal.

2. Who will receive a Centre Assessed Grade?

- Students who were due to complete a qualification in summer 2021.

3. Who will submit the Centre Assessed Grades?

- Centre Assessed Grades will be submitted by subject teachers, before being quality assured by Subject Leaders and Senior Leaders, double checked by myself and then finally 'signed off' by Mrs Whelan (Head of Centre) on 18th June 2021.

4. What evidence will teachers use to inform Centre Assessed Grades?

- Teachers will use all of the evidence available to them to inform the Centre Assessed Grades. This includes:
 - Prior assessment data from interim assessments your child completed in September 2020
 - Prior assessment data from the preliminary exams your child sat in November/December 2020
 - Work completed in class and for homework whilst at school between September 2020-December 2020 and since our return to school on Mon 8th March 2021
 - Independent tasks students have completed using resources from the resource portal on the DPR and uploaded through the DPR collaboration portal
 - Assessment data from indicative assessments your child will be sitting in the first two weeks back after the upcoming Easter holidays.

5. What are the indicative assessments?

- Your child will be sitting assessments in all of their GCSE subjects from **Monday 19th April to Friday 30th April**. These assessments will consist of exam questions and tasks from the exam board.
- These assessments will be blind marked. Once the assessments have been sat, all children's names will be covered up on the assessment paper(s). The assessment papers will be divided equally amongst department teachers, so your child's paper will not necessarily be marked by your child's teacher who may recognise their handwriting. This is to ensure we avoid any unconscious bias whilst marking. The marked assessments will then also be moderated at departmental level.
- The indicative assessments will contribute towards the Centre Assessed Grade alongside the other evidence sources listed above.

6. How can I help my child prepare for the indicative assessments?

- You can help your child to do well in these indicative assessments by ensuring that they are proactively revising using revision materials your child's teacher has provided them with.

- Ensure your child attends the revision sessions being offered during the Easter holidays by our committed teachers. You will receive a letter along with a timetable for these revision sessions from your child's Head of Learning, Ms Douglas this week.
- 7. What about students who have an agreed reasonable adjustment or access arrangement?**
- We will identify the grade that these students would most likely achieve if they had been able to sit their examinations with the intended reasonable adjustment or access arrangement in place.
- 8. Where and when are these Centre Assessed Grades submitted?**
- We will submit Centre Assessed Grades for every student, to the examination board, for each subject.
 - The Centre Assessed Grades will be submitted to the examination boards on **18th June 2021**, following a rigorous quality assurance process internally.
- 9. What will examination boards do, following submission of these grades?**
- Examination boards will check the quality assurance process we took as a school to ensure we awarded accurate Centre Assessed Grades for your child based on the evidence available to us.
 - Examination boards will complete checks of the evidence for a sample of student grades in a sample of subjects, in a sample of schools over **June and July 2021**.
- 10. Can I find out my child's Centre Assessed Grades?**
- We will not disclose any information regarding Centre Assessed Grades to parents/carers. You will receive the grades at the same time as your child on 'Exam Results Day'.
 - We will tell you child what evidence is being used to inform their Centre Assessed Grade(s) (see point 4 above). Your child may at this stage make us aware of any mitigating circumstances that might affect their grade(s).
- 11. When will my child receive their results from the examination boards?**
- The Department for Education has strictly advised against sharing Centre Assessed Grades with students, parents and carers before these grades have been standardised by the examination boards. However as stated above, we will ensure students are aware of the evidence that will be used to inform the Centre Assessed Grades.
 - Results will be issued by the examination boards over the summer, and these will be shared with students, parents and carers, by us on results day which will be **Thursday 12 August 2021**.
- 12. Will grades issued in 2020 carry the same weight as grades issued in previous or future years?**
- The grades awarded to students will have equal status to the grades awarded in other years and should be treated in this way by universities, colleges and employers.
 - On the results slips and certificates, grades will be reported in the same way as in previous years.
- 13. What if a student doesn't agree with the Centre Assessed Grade awarded to them?**
- In the first instance, your child should contact the school to ask us to check whether we have made an administrative or procedural error. If we have made an administrative or procedural error in

submitting the wrong grade to the exam board, we will ask the exam board to change the Centre Assessed Grade.

- If there was no administrative or procedural error, your child can ask us to submit an appeal on their behalf to the exam board. We will provide the exam board with the evidence used to determine your child's grade, together with our justification for awarding that grade, your child's concerns and, if the exam board does not already have it, the process we have used to determine the Centre Assessed Grade.
- The exam board will then make the decision on whether or not the Centre Assessed Grade needs to change. Please note a student's grade could go up or down following an appeal.

14. What if a college or sixth form asks for my child's grade before results day in August 2021?

- Some colleges may ask for references and predicted grades. At HNS, this process was completed in October 2020 as is good practice in all schools and the grades were an indication in October of teacher prediction. Colleges are aware of this and the grades are used only as a guide. They are not current teacher projections.
- Please contact your child's Head of Learning, Ms Douglas should you require any references or predicted grades for a college/sixth form.