

Centre assessment grades and rank orders

Bishop Auckland College and South West Durham Training (thereafter to be termed 'the Organisation') were instructed by Ofqual to make an accurate and professional assessment of what grade each student would have been most likely to achieve, had the academic year progressed as normal. The Organisation was also instructed to place candidates in rank order, i.e. 1 to 200 etc. The purpose of this ranking was to allow adjustments to take place to ensure the distribution of grades at a national level was similar to previous years. As the use of the algorithm to moderate grades was abolished, this ranking became less important. The allocation of grades was carried out by a team of specialist teachers in each subject, including each student's own teacher and was based on a combination of mock exam results, progress made in class, course work and progress from the initial assessment carried out at the start of the year. The grades awarded and process were checked prior to submission by senior managers in the Organisation.

The Organisation submitted its centre assessed grades and rank orders to Pearson, our awarding body having followed a robust and lengthy process to ensure grades awarded were fair and accurate. The process used was in accordance with the Ofqual guidance on *Awarding qualifications in summer 2020 and inline with the awarding body instructions*.

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

Concerns about your results

Ofqual have provided information for students that have concerns about their results and may wish to appeal:

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/910603/6672 - What to do if you have concerns or questions about your grades.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/910603/6672_-_What_to_do_if_you_have_concerns_or_questions_about_your_grades.pdf).

This information for students sets out how grades were calculated this year and the options available if students believe their results were not properly produced, including access to appeal. The National Careers Service Exam Results Helpline offers advice each year for students who have not received the results they had hoped for: <https://www.gov.uk/careers-helpline-for-teenagers>

If you have a concern about a grade you have been awarded, you can ask the Organisation to:

- Check whether an error was made when submitting your centre assessment grade and rank order to the awarding body
- Raise a complaint by contacting the Quality Department (email: Quality@bacoll.ac.uk), if you have evidence of bias or evidence that you were discriminated against
- Seek any information the awarding body holds in relation to how your final grade was calculated by contacting them directly (our awarding body for GCSE English and maths is Pearson Edexcel)
- Request information about the opportunity to take an exam in the autumn series or in summer 2021

Students can request the evidence of centre assessment grades by submitting a subject access request to the Quality Department (email: Quality@bacoll.ac.uk). The Organisation may only share evidence of centre assessment grades and **CANNOT** share grade ranking information.

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:
 - The centre made an error when submitting a centre assessment grade or rank order information
 - 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 the Organisation in calculating their centre assessment grades and position in the rank order
- Appeal directly in any respect to the awarding organisation

Certificates

Certificates, when received from the awarding body, will be issued to candidates by the Organisation immediately.

Internal appeals procedure

The Organisation can:

- Appeal to an awarding body on a candidate'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
- 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

The Organisation 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 may 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

- Not to appeal to the awarding body

An internal appeal should be submitted by:

- Completing and submitting an internal appeals form to the Quality Department (email: Quality@bacoll.ac.uk) by 4th September 2020

The candidate will be informed of the outcome of the internal appeal as soon as a decision has been made and in sufficient time for the centre to take any appropriate action where the internal appeal may be upheld.

If the internal appeal is upheld by the centre, where applicable:

- The centre will request information the awarding body holds that would be needed for an appeal within the time period set by the awarding body
- The centre will submit an appeal on the candidate's behalf to meet the awarding body's deadline for appeals