

Awarding GCSE grades Summer 2021

The process of making grade judgements will follow the guidance provided by Ofqual in February.

- Assess students' performance, only on what content has been delivered to them by their teachers, to determine the grade each student should receive.
- Use evidence of a student's performance from throughout the course to inform the grading judgement.
- Determine the grades as late in the academic year as is practicable to enable teaching to continue for as long as possible.
- Use a broad range of evidence across the taught content to determine the grades to determine the grades before submitting the grades to the exam boards.

Explanation of the evidence

Each of the subject Learning Leaders has decided which type of evidence they will be using when making a grade judgement. This is outlined in the tables under each subject heading below with additional information included to provide further context.

An explanation for what each source of evidence comprises is explained below.

Internal assessments April/May 2021 – These assessments will take place across a four-week period in lessons (see assessment schedule spreadsheet)

December 2020 Mock exams – Reflects the performance in the mock exams that were conducted in December 2020. These exams were conducted in highly controlled conditions and in most cases used actual past papers.

Non examined assessments (NEA)/Coursework – This is only relevant to those subjects that have an NEA component as part of the course. A NEA is the coursework element of a subject and is included to assess knowledge and skills that can't be tested in an examination. Students will not be penalised if they have not completed their NEA by the submission date if it is a result of circumstances that are beyond their control.

Current grading from previous assessment reports – This represents the current grades that have been published on assessment reports over the course of study. These grades were based on a significant piece or pieces of work produced at various points of the course.

Other controlled assessments – These are assessments that have been conducted in lessons at various stages of the course and have reflected exam style questions or tasks that have been marked according to exam standards.

Art GCSE Grading process 2021

Biology A-Level grades will be awarded based on the following evidence:

Evidence	✓ or ✗
Internal assessments April/May 2021	✗
December 2020 Mocks	✗
Non-examined assessments/Portfolio coursework	✓
Current grading on previous GCSE assessment reports	✗
Other controlled assessments marked using exam mark schemes	✗

Teachers will make a holistic judgement of the students' performance when awarding grades. The grade submitted will be based solely on the standard of work displayed in the coursework that is produced.

Biology GCSE (Separate) Grading process 2021

Biology GCSE (Separate) grades will be awarded based on the following evidence:

Evidence	✓ or ✗
Internal assessments April/May 2021	✓
December 2020 Mocks	✓
Non-examined assessments/Portfolio coursework	✗
Current grading on previous GCSE assessment reports	✓
Other controlled assessments marked using exam mark schemes	✓

Teachers will make a holistic judgement of the students' performance when awarding grades. The April/May 2021 internal assessments will cover approximately 60% of the taught Biology GCSE content and all of the assessment objectives. Consequently, the grade achieved in these assessments will carry a significant weighting in determining the final awarded grades in the subject.

Business GCSE Grading process 2021

Business GCSE **grades** will be awarded based on the following evidence:

Evidence	✓ or ✗
Internal assessments April/May 2021	✗
December 2020 Mocks	✓
Non-examined assessments/Portfolio coursework	✗
Current grading on previous GCSE assessment reports	✓
Other controlled assessments marked using exam mark schemes	✓

Teachers will make a holistic judgement of the students' performance when awarding grades. The April/May 2021 internal assessments will cover a variety of topics from all six units of the taught GCSE Business content and all of the assessment objectives. Consequently, the grade achieved in these assessments will carry a significant weighting in determining the final awarded grades in the subject.

Chemistry GCSE (Separate) Grading process 2021

Chemistry GCSE (Separate) grades will be awarded based on the following evidence:

Evidence	✓ or ✗
Internal assessments April/May 2021	✓
December 2020 Mocks	✓
Non-examined assessments/Portfolio coursework	✗
Current grading on previous GCSE assessment reports	✓
Other controlled assessments marked using exam mark schemes	✓

Teachers will make a holistic judgement of the students' performance when awarding grades. The April/May 2021 internal assessments will cover approximately 60% of the taught Chemistry GCSE content and all of the assessment objectives. Consequently, the grade achieved in these assessments will carry a significant weighting in determining the final awarded grades in the subject.

GCSE Computer Science Grading process 2021

Grades will be awarded based on the following evidence:

Evidence	✓ or ✗
Internal assessments April/May 2021	✓
December 2020 Mocks	✓
Non-examined assessments/Portfolio coursework	✗
Current grading on previous GCSE assessment reports	✓
Other controlled assessments marked using exam mark schemes	✓

Teachers will make a holistic judgement of the students' performance when awarding grades. The April/May 2021 internal assessments will cover approximately 100% of the taught Computer Science GCSE content and all of the assessment objectives. Consequently, the grade achieved in these assessments will carry a significant weighting in determining the final awarded grades in the subject.

GCSE Creative iMedia Grading process 2021

Grades will be awarded based on the following evidence:

Evidence	✓ or ✗
Internal assessments April/May 2021	✓
R086 – Digital animation	✓
R085 – Web Development unit	✓
R081 – Pre production skills exam	✓

Teachers will make a holistic judgement of the students' performance when awarding grades. The April/May 2021 internal assessments will cover approximately 62% of the taught Creative iMedia GCSE content and all of the assessment objectives. Consequently, the grade achieved in these assessments will carry a significant weighting in determining the final awarded grades in the subject.

GCSE Design and Technology Grading process 2021

Design and Technology GCSE grades will be awarded based on the following evidence:

Evidence	✓ or ✗
NEA- Coursework	✓
Written assessment- Timber based materials. Including exam board provided questions and mark schemes.	✓
Written assessment- new and emerging technologies. Including exam board provided questions and mark schemes.	
Written assessment- Common specialist technical principles. Including exam board provided questions and mark schemes.	

Teachers will make a holistic judgement of the students' performance when awarding grades. The NEA (Coursework) is worth 50% of the student's overall grade. The written assessments will be worth the remaining 50% of the student's overall grade. All of the assessment objectives for the course will be covered across both elements. Consequently, the grade achieved in these assessments will carry a significant weighting in determining the final awarded grades in the subject.

Drama GCSE Grading process 2021

Drama GCSE grades will be awarded based on the following evidence:

Evidence	✓ or ✗
Internal assessments April/May 2021	✓
December 2020 Mocks	✗
Non-examined assessments/Portfolio coursework	✓
Current grading on previous GCSE assessment reports	✓
Other controlled assessments marked using exam mark schemes	✓

Teachers will make a holistic judgement of the students' performance when awarding grades. The April/May 2021 internal assessments will cover approximately 60% of the taught Drama GCSE content and all of the assessment objectives. Consequently, the grade achieved in these assessments will carry a significant weighting in determining the final awarded grades in the subject.

The other 40% of the grade will come from the NEA devising component that was completed before Christmas.

English Language Grading process 2021

English GCSE grades will be awarded based on the following evidence:

Evidence	✓ or ✗
Internal assessments April/May 2021	✓
December 2020 Mocks	✓
Non-examined assessments/Portfolio coursework	✗
Current grading on previous GCSE assessment reports	✓
Other controlled assessments marked using exam mark schemes	✓

Teachers will make a holistic judgement of the students' performance when awarding grades. The April/May 2021 internal assessments will cover approximately 50% of the taught English Language GCSE content and all of the assessment objectives. Consequently, the grade achieved in these assessments will carry a significant weighting in determining the final awarded grades in the subject.

English Literature Grading process 2021

English GCSE grades will be awarded based on the following evidence:

Evidence	✓ or ✗
Internal assessments April/May 2021	✓
December 2020 Mocks	✓
Non-examined assessments/Portfolio coursework	✗
Current grading on previous GCSE assessment reports	✓
Other controlled assessments marked using exam mark schemes	✓

Teachers will make a holistic judgement of the students' performance when awarding grades. The April/May 2021 internal assessments will cover approximately 70% of the taught English Literature GCSE content and all of the assessment objectives. Consequently, the grade achieved in these assessments will carry a significant weighting in determining the final awarded grades in the subject.

French GCSE Grading process 2021

French GCSE grades will be awarded based on the following evidence:

Evidence	✓ or ✗
Internal assessments April/May 2021	✓
December 2020 Mocks	✓
Non-examined assessments/Portfolio coursework	✗
Current grading on previous GCSE assessment reports	✓
Other controlled assessments marked using exam mark schemes	✓

Teachers will make a holistic judgement of the students' performance when awarding grades. The April/May 2021 internal assessments will cover approximately 80% of the taught Spanish GCSE content and all of the assessment objectives. Consequently, the grade

achieved in these assessments will carry a significant weighting in determining the final awarded grades in the subject.

Geography GCSE (Separate) Grading process 2021

Geography GCSE (Separate) grades will be awarded based on the following evidence:

Evidence	✓ or ✗
Internal assessments Jan to May 2021	✓
December 2020 Mocks	✓
Non-examined assessments/Portfolio coursework	✗
Current grading on previous GCSE assessment reports	✓
Other controlled assessments marked using exam mark schemes	✓

Teachers will make a holistic judgement of the students' performance when awarding grades. The in class assessments completed since January and including the April/May 2021 internal assessments will cover approximately 55% of the taught Geography GCSE content and all of the assessment objectives. Consequently, the grade achieved in these assessments will carry a significant weighting in determining the final awarded grades in the subject.

History GCSE (Separate) Grading process 2021

Chemistry GCSE (Separate) grades will be awarded based on the following evidence:

Evidence	✓ or ✗
Internal assessments April/May 2021	✓
December 2020 Mocks	✓
Non-examined assessments/Portfolio coursework	✗
Current grading on previous GCSE assessment reports	✓
Other controlled assessments marked using exam mark schemes	✓

Teachers will make a holistic judgement of the students' performance when awarding grades. The April/May 2021 internal assessments will cover approximately 50% of the taught History GCSE content and all of the assessment objectives. Consequently, the grade achieved in these assessments will carry a significant weighting in determining the final awarded grades in the subject.

Hospitality & Catering Level 1/2 grades will be awarded based on the following evidence:

Evidence	✓ or ✗
Internal assessments April/May 2021	✓
December 2020 Practical Day	✓
Non-examined assessments/Portfolio coursework	✓
Current grading on previous assessment reports	✓
Other controlled assessments marked using exam mark schemes	✓

Teachers will make a holistic judgement of the students' performance when awarding grades. The April/May 2021 internal assessments will cover approximately 50% of the taught **Hospitality & Catering Level 1/2** NEA assessment objectives. Consequently, the grade achieved in these assessments will carry a significant weighting in determining the final awarded grades in the subject.

Mathematics GCSE Grading process for both Foundation and Higher Tiers 2021

Grades will be awarded based on the following evidence:

Evidence	✓ or ✗
Internal assessments April/May 2021	✓
December 2020 Mocks	✓
Non-examined assessments/Portfolio coursework	✗
Current grading on previous GCSE assessment reports	✓
Other controlled assessments marked using exam mark schemes	✓

Teachers will make a holistic judgement of the students' performance when awarding grades. The April/May 2021 internal assessments will cover the topics provided and cover both non-calculator and calculator parts of the curriculum. Mathematics assessment topics will assess all of the assessment objectives set by the examination board, Edexcel. Consequently, the grade achieved in these assessments will carry a significant weighting in determining the final awarded grades in the subject.

Media Studies (GCSE) Grading process 2021

Media Studies GCSE grades will be awarded based on the following evidence:

Evidence	✓ or ✗
Internal assessments April/May 2021	✓
December 2020 Mocks	✓
Non-examined assessments/Portfolio coursework	✓
Current grading on previous GCSE assessment reports	✓
Other controlled assessments marked using exam mark schemes	✓

Teachers will make a holistic judgement of the students' performance when awarding grades. The April/May 2021 internal assessments will cover approximately 50 % of the taught Media Studies GCSE content and all of the assessment objectives. Consequently, the grade achieved in these assessments will carry a significant weighting in determining the final awarded grades in the subject.

Music GCSE Grading process 2021

Music GCSE grades will be awarded based on the following evidence:

Evidence	✓ or ✗
Internal assessments May 2021	✓
December 2020 Mocks	✓
Non-examined assessments/Portfolio coursework	✓
Current grading on previous GCSE assessment reports	✓
Other controlled assessments marked using exam mark schemes	x

Teachers will make a holistic judgement of the students' performance when awarding grades. The April/May 2021 internal assessments (40% of the course) will cover what has been taught in the specification. The best performance from 3 takes will be used as their performance coursework (30%) submission and their composition coursework (30%) will also be assessed and moderated.

Photography GCSE Grading process 2021

Biology A-Level grades will be awarded based on the following evidence:

Evidence	✓ or ✗
Internal assessments April/May 2021	✗
December 2020 Mocks	✗
Non-examined assessments/Portfolio coursework	✓
Current grading on previous assessment reports	✗
Other controlled assessments marked using exam mark schemes	✗

Teachers will make a holistic judgement of the students' performance when awarding grades. The grade submitted will be based solely on the standard of work displayed in the coursework that is produced.

Physics GCSE (Separate) Grading process 2021

Physics GCSE (Separate) grades will be awarded based on the following evidence:

Evidence	✓ or ✗
Internal assessments April/May 2021	✓
December 2020 Mocks	✓
Non-examined assessments/Portfolio coursework	x
Current grading on previous GCSE assessment reports	✓
Other controlled assessments marked using exam mark schemes	✓

Teachers will make a holistic judgement of the students' performance when awarding grades. The April/May 2021 internal assessments will cover approximately 60% of the taught Physics GCSE content and all of the assessment objectives. Consequently, the grade achieved in these assessments will carry a significant weighting in determining the final awarded grades in the subject.

Physical Education GCSE (Separate) Grading process 2021

Physical Education GCSE (Separate) grades will be awarded based on the following evidence:

Evidence	✓ or ✗
Internal assessments April/May 2021	✓
December 2020 Mocks	✓
Non-examined assessments/Portfolio coursework	✓
Current grading on previous GCSE assessment reports	✓
Other controlled assessments marked using exam mark schemes	✓

Teachers will make a holistic judgement of the students' performance when awarding grades. The April/May 2021 internal assessments will cover approximately 60% of the taught PE GCSE content and all of the assessment objectives. Consequently, the grade achieved in these assessments will carry a significant weighting in determining the final awarded grades in the subject. 30% will go towards students practical grade and 10% will be drawn from the PEP coursework.

Psychology GCSE Grading process 2021

Grades will be awarded based on the following evidence:

Evidence	✓ or ✗
Internal assessments April/May 2021	✓
December 2020 Mocks	✓
Non-examined assessments/Portfolio coursework	✗
Current grading on previous GCSE assessment reports	✓
Other controlled assessments marked using exam mark schemes	✗

Teachers will make a holistic judgement of the students' performance when awarding grades. The April/May 2021 internal assessments will cover approximately 55% of the taught Psychology GCSE content and all of the assessment objectives. Consequently, the grade achieved in these assessments will carry a significant weighting in determining the final awarded grades in the subject.

Combined Science GCSE (Foundation and Higher) Grading process 2021

Combined Science GCSE grades will be awarded based on the following evidence:

Evidence	✓ or ✗
Internal assessments April/May 2021	✓
December 2020 Mocks	✓
Non-examined assessments/Portfolio coursework	✗
Current grading on previous GCSE assessment reports	✓
Other controlled assessments marked using exam mark schemes	✓

Teachers will make a holistic judgement of the students' performance when awarding grades. The April/May 2021 internal assessments will cover approximately 60% of the taught GCSE content and

all of the assessment objectives. Consequently, the grade achieved in these assessments will carry a significant weighting in determining the final awarded grades in the subject.

Spanish GCSE Grading process 2021

Spanish GCSE grades will be awarded based on the following evidence:

Evidence	✓ or ✗
Internal assessments April/May 2021	✓
December 2020 Mocks	✓
Non-examined assessments/Portfolio coursework	✗
Current grading on previous GCSE assessment reports	✓
Other controlled assessments marked using exam mark schemes	✓

Teachers will make a holistic judgement of the students' performance when awarding grades. The April/May 2021 internal assessments will cover approximately 80% of the taught Spanish GCSE content and all of the assessment objectives. Consequently, the grade achieved in these assessments will carry a significant weighting in determining the final awarded grades in the subject.

Statistics GCSE Grading process 2021

Grades will be awarded based on the following evidence:

Evidence	✓ or ✗
Internal assessments April/May 2021	✓
December 2020 Mocks	✓
Non-examined assessments/Portfolio coursework	✗
Current grading on previous GCSE assessment reports	✓
Other controlled assessments marked using exam mark schemes	✓

Teachers will make a holistic judgement of the students' performance when awarding grades. The April/May 2021 internal assessments will cover the topics that are listed separately. Statistic assessment topics will assess all of the assessment objectives set by the examination board, Edexcel. Consequently, the grade achieved in these assessments will carry a significant weighting in determining the final awarded grades in the subject.