



Results day guide for students, parents and carers

GCSE



WELL DONE on getting your GCSE results! We wish you every success in moving ahead to the next stage.

We know this has been a difficult year for all of you and we have been working hard to try and make sure you get the results you deserve. This guide will help you understand your grades, how they were awarded, and what your next steps are.

WE WILL COVER:

- How we calculated your final grades
- What to do if you have any questions about your results
- Questions to help you consider your next steps
- Information about the autumn exam series.

WHAT TO DO IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS ABOUT YOUR FINAL GRADES

If you have any questions or concerns about your final grades, please speak to your teachers. They will be able to give you more information on the process for awarding grades this summer.



HOW WE CALCULATED YOUR FINAL GRADES

The grades you receive this year carry the same value as any other year.

We've standardised the grades your school or college sent to us to make sure that results for each GCSE subject are fair across all schools and colleges.

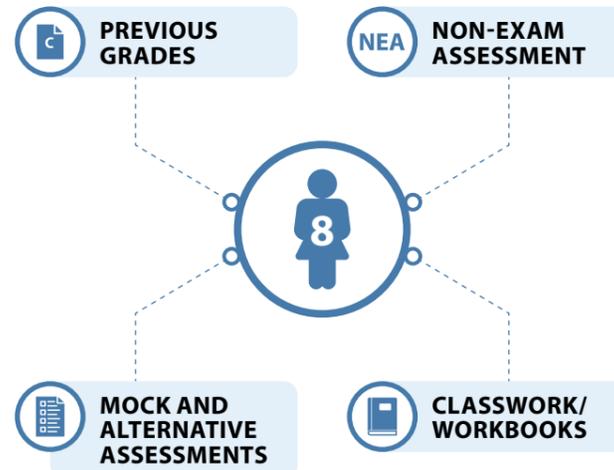
STEP 1

We used the centre assessment grades and rank orders your school or college gave us to calculate your final grade for each GCSE subject.

CENTRE ASSESSMENT GRADES

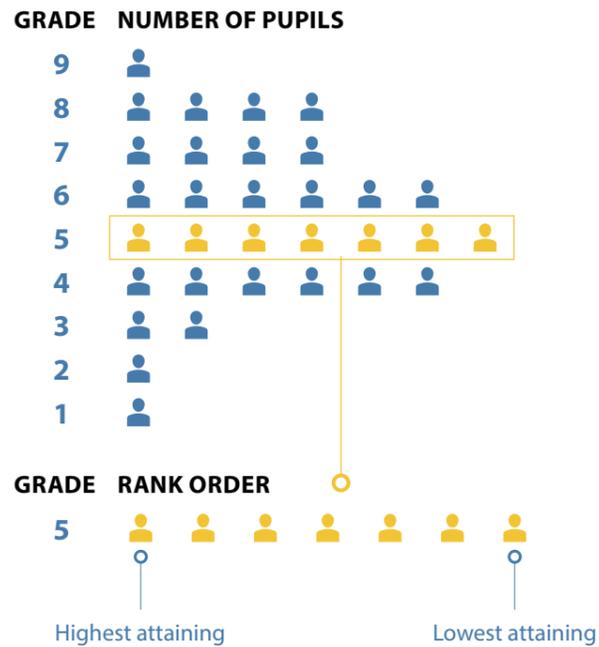
This is the grade your school or college thought you would have most likely achieved in a subject if you had sat exams this summer and completed any non-exam assessment.

They looked at a full range of evidence to decide your centre assessment grade for each subject.



RANK ORDER

Your school or college also gave us a rank order of students within each grade for each subject for example, all students at grade 5 in GCSE Maths, based on performance from highest to lowest.



STEP 2

Once we had all of the centre assessment grades and rank orders, we used a statistical process to make sure that, as far as possible, results for each GCSE subject are fair across all schools and colleges.

STATISTICAL PROCESS

We looked at previous national results for each subject, your school or college's results in recent years and compared this year's students to students in previous years.

This process was used in the same way by all exam boards.



STANDARDISING YOUR GRADES

If the judgements made in some schools or colleges for a subject were more generous than others, we adjusted the final grades of students downwards to bring them into line.

If the judgements made in some schools or colleges for a subject were more severe than others, we adjusted the final grades of students upwards to bring them into line.

If the centre assessment grades were HIGH, we adjusted down.

Calculated grade 5 5 5 5 4 4 4 4 4

If the centre assessment grades were LOW, we adjusted up.

Calculated grade 5 5 5 5 5 5 4 4 4



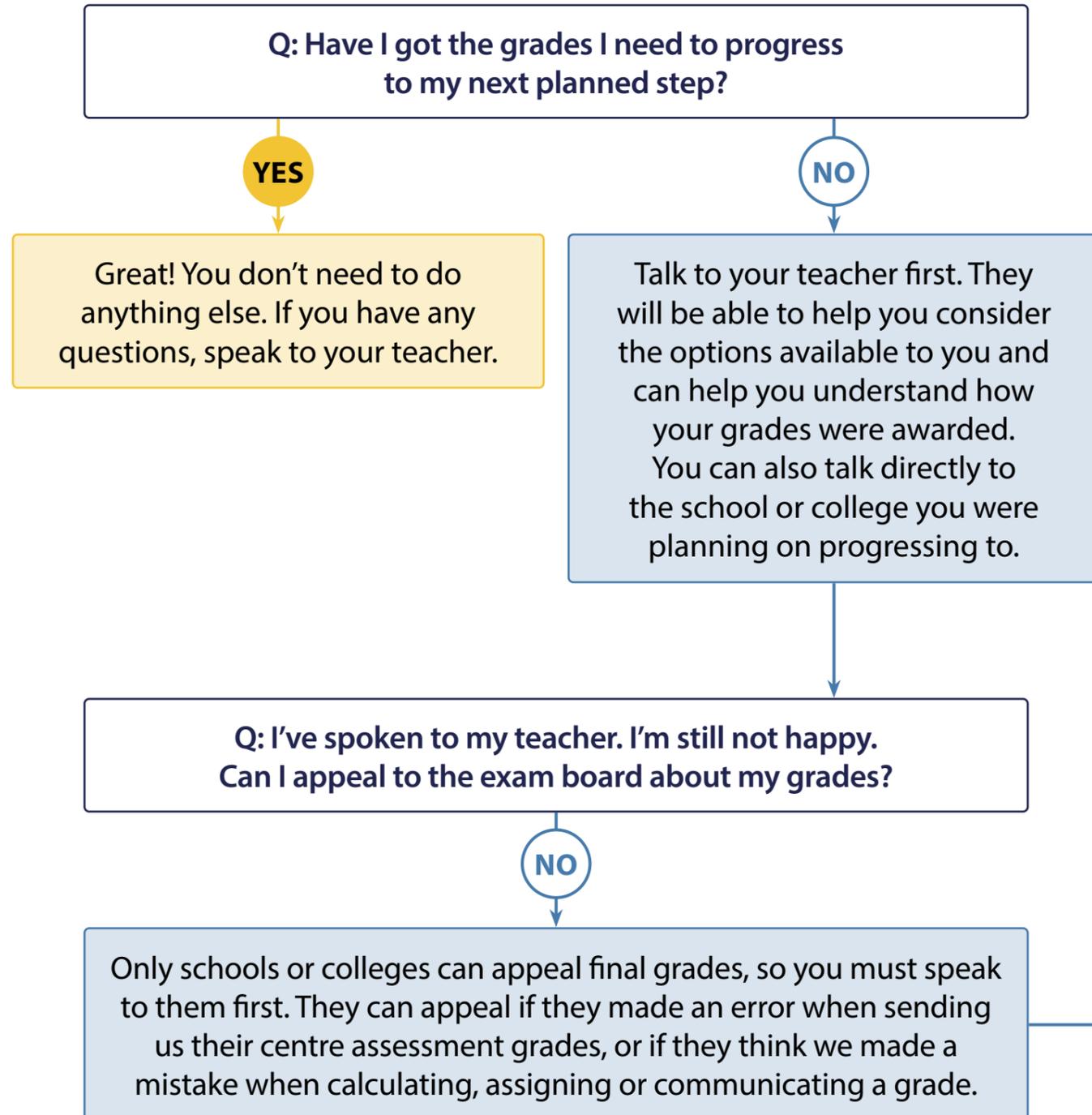
This may mean that your final grade for a subject may be different to the centre assessment grade submitted by your school or college.

If you are unhappy with your results and want to know what your options are, take a look at the 'next steps' section below.

NEXT STEPS – GCSE

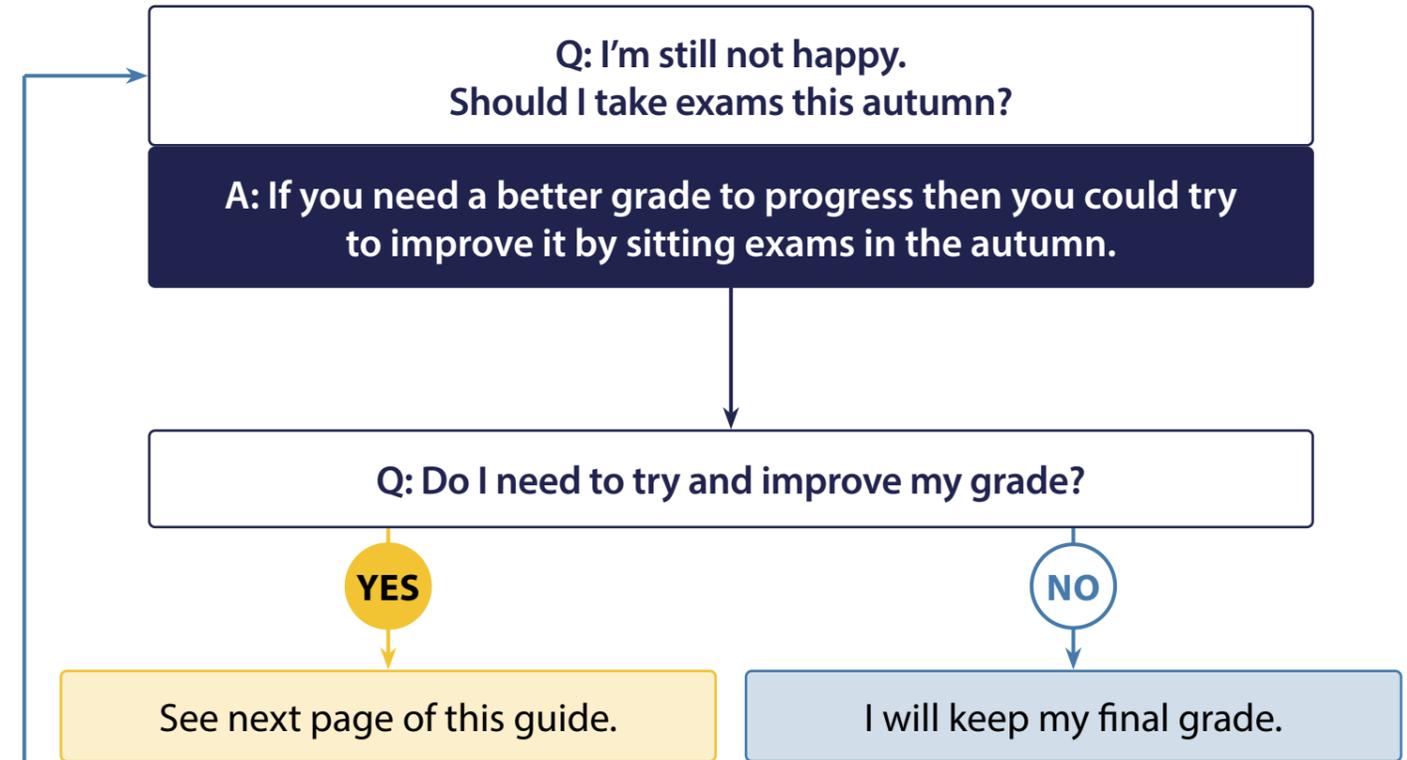
The process for awarding your final grades this summer has been designed to be as fair as possible, so that you can quickly progress to your next planned step.

What are my options?



If you are unhappy with your results, the questions below will help you understand what your options are and decide whether to take any further action. If you're feeling particularly anxious, talk to your teacher.

We would encourage you to consider whether or not your final grades let you progress to your next planned step before you make a decision. Being able to progress to your future is far more important than specific grades, even if you feel disappointed.



THE AUTUMN EXAM SERIES

If you've received your results and they aren't what you hoped for, then the autumn series could give you the opportunity to improve your grade and allow you to carry on to college, university, an apprenticeship or employment.

You will need to speak to your teachers and decide quickly – the key dates to know are below.

Is the autumn series for me?

If you need a different grade to progress on, or if you weren't able to have a centre assessment grade in summer, then the autumn series would give you another chance to receive a grade.

When is the deadline to enter?

- GCSE (except English Language and Mathematics) – 18 September
- GCSE (English Language and Mathematics) – 4 October

This is the official deadline but schools can set their own internal deadlines too, so double check with your exams officer and make sure you meet their deadline.

When will the exams take place?

GCSE exams will take place between 2 November–23 November.

When will I get my results?

GCSE English and Maths results will be released on 14 January.
GCSE results for all other subjects will be released on 11 February.

How much will the exams cost?

Speak to your school to find out how much the exams would cost. Each school will have their own individual policy about exam and administration fees.

Will the autumn exams be like normal exams or are they different?

For most subjects, the autumn exams will be the same as normal. If your subject has a non-exam assessment (NEA) component though, that bit will be different. There will be no NEA for most GCSE assessments in Autumn, except for Art and Design.

If I decide to take an exam in the autumn, which grade will stand – my grade from summer or my grade from autumn?

Both results are valid results, if you sit an exam in autumn you'll have that grade and you will keep your grade from summer too. If the autumn result is your best result, then you can ask us to send you a certificate to reflect your improved grade.

Can I use the autumn exams to sit some GCSEs early?

The autumn exams are only for students who are unhappy with their summer grades and need to get a different grade before they can progress, or for private candidates who were not able to have a centre assessment grade.

Where else can I find advice and support?

Further [guidance for students](#) is available on our website, alongside blogs about how to handle results day if you aren't happy with your results and a blog about anxiety on results day too.

Ofqual, our regulator, has released its own [student guide](#) explaining how results were calculated this year.