



FOUNDED IN 1893
QUEEN MARY'S
HIGH SCHOOL

Summer 2020 Results and Appeals process

July 2020

Information for Centres

Results and Appeals

Centre assessment grades and rank orders

Queen Mary's High 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 and rank order information before the issue of results will be investigated by awarding bodies as potential malpractice
- In the event of a student requesting details of their submitted grades and rankings, please follow the following procedure:
- A student requests their data, Exams Officers should confirm the identity of the student and pass the request to the school's Data Protection Lead (DPL), along with the grades submitted, the ranking position and the number of students whose grades were submitted for each subject. Please note **only students can request their data, parents and third parties cannot**.
- The DPL needs to assess if releasing the ranking could compromise the data of other students, if students compared ranking, how feasible is it that they could work out the position of other student(s).
- The Mercian Trust's view is that if a subject submitted less than 10 results there is a possibility for the ranking of other students to be deduced, therefore for subjects with less than 10 entries the ranking position is not to be is
- sued. On the response email this would be indicated with a star (see below). **Final grades**

Queen Mary's High School will:

- issue results in accordance with the centre's *Information for Candidates - Results, Appeals and Certificates* document (detailed on pages 4-5)
- 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)

Queen Mary's High 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

Queen Mary's High 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 by publishing information on the examinations area of the school 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
 - 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

Queen Mary's High 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) **Queen Mary's High 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](#)

[Decisions on exceptional arrangements for assessment and grading in 2020](#) GCSEs, AS, A levels, Extended Project Qualifications and the Advanced Extension Award in maths

[Decisions on exceptional arrangements for assessment and grading in 2020](#) 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

Queen Mary's High School has submitted provisional (centre assessment) grades and rank orders to the relevant awarding body in accordance with the Ofqual guidance¹ on Awarding *qualifications in summer 2020* and in line with the awarding body instructions.

¹ <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 1/2 qualifications

Arrangements for results day(s)

Examination results will be available in Richardson Hall, **from 8.30am for A Level and 9 am for GCSE on Thursday 13th and 20th August respectively**. Students should attend in person to receive their A Level results.

If your child becomes unable to attend on this day as they are self-isolating because of COVID symptoms, you should inform our Examinations Officer, Mrs Rose, by email: st-rose-a@qmhs.org.uk. Please state your child's full name and form group in this correspondence and Mrs Rose will arrange an alternative way for your child to receive their examination results. Examination results can only be given to another person if they bring a signed letter from the student on the day.

The arrangements for access to school to maintain social distancing and reduce contact whilst moving between venues and in corridors are as follows:

- Enter the school through Foden Gate and proceed to the Richardson Hall **Fire Exit door** on Foden Car Park. If you have to queue on Upper Forster Street, please maintain a distance of 1m plus between people.
- Please use the available hand sanitiser on entry to Richardson Hall.
- Examination results will be available from staff at tables which are clearly labelled alphabetically by student surname from A-Z.
- Students should wait in a socially distanced queue at the correct table to receive their results.
- Students should exit Richardson Hall through the main doors. The area outside Richardson Hall is available for students to talk to one another upon receiving their results.
- Students should exit the school site through **Foden Gate**.

Letters will be sent to students detailing full arrangements for results day(s)

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*² 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.

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

Awarding bodies will also likely provide information for students about results. **Queen Mary's High School** will signpost you to any relevant information at results time.

If you have a concern about a grade you have been awarded, you can ask a member of Senior Leadership Team or the exam officer

- 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 Teacher 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:
 - 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 Queen Mary's High School in calculating their centre assessment grades and position in the rank order
- appeal directly in any respect to the awarding body

Certificates

Certificates, when received from the awarding body, will be issued to candidates by Queen Mary's High School during the autumn term

Internal appeals procedure

Queen Mary's High 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 publishing information in the examinations area of the school website.
- 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
- 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

Queen Mary's High 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 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 centre by **Monday 7th 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
- Where applicable, the centre will submit an appeal on the candidate's behalf to meet the awarding body's deadline for appeals
- Please see Mrs Rose, our Examinations Officer for details of exam fees.

Internal appeals form

Summer 2020 awarding

FOR CENTRE USE ONLY	
Date received	
Reference No.	

Please tick box to indicate the nature of your appeal and complete all white boxes on the form below

- Appeal against the centre's decision not to seek any information the awarding body holds that would be needed for an appeal
- Appeal against the centre's decision not to appeal to the awarding body

Name of appellant		Awarding body	
Candidate name if different to appellant		Qualification type Subject	

Please state the grounds for your appeal below:

If necessary, continue on an additional page if this form is being completed electronically or overleaf 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

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