

# **Summer 2020**

# **Results and Appeals process**

**July 2020**

## **Information for Centre**

### **Results and Appeals**

#### **Centre assessment grades and rank orders**

Manchester Academy:

- 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
- will let candidates have ranking and CAG upon request

#### **Final grades**

Manchester Academy will:

- issue results in accordance with the *Information for Candidates - Results, Appeals and Certificates* document
- 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)**

Manchester Academy 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**

Manchester Academy 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 making the information available on 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**

Manchester Academy 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) Manchester Academy 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

Manchester Academy has submitted provisional (centre assessment) grade(s) and rank order(s) to the relevant awarding body in accordance with the Ofqual guidance<sup>1</sup> on *Awarding qualifications in summer 2020* and in line with the awarding body instructions.

<sup>1</sup> <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)

Results must not be released before 08.00am. Results can be collected and/or candidates will be given access to their results by email. Candidates must give written confirmation for results to be collected on their behalf. Students will be given a time and room to collect their results from. They a separate entrance and exit to and from the school. Two centre staff will be in each room and senior members of staff, exams office and employability staff will be available for answering any queries. Students will be given information the November exams season, the Ofqual student guide and appeals procedure.

#### Concerns about your results

At results time, Ofqual **have provided** information<sup>2</sup> 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*<sup>3</sup> 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.

<sup>2</sup><https://www.gov.uk/guidance/your-results-what-next>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/student-guide-to-post-16-qualification-results-summer-2020>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/student-guide-to-appeals-and-malpractice-or-maladministration-complaints-summer-2020>

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.gov.uk/careers-helpline-for-teenagers>

Awarding bodies will also likely provide information for students about results. The exams Officer 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 The Exams Officer to check whether an error was made when submitting your centre assessment grade and rank order to the awarding body

- raise a complaint with The Exams Officer 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 [insert Manchester Academy] in calculating your centre assessment grades and position in the rank order
- appeal directly in any respect to the awarding body (unless a private candidate)

### **Certificates**

Certificates, when received from the awarding body, will be issued to candidates [insert your centre arrangements here on when and how].

## Internal appeals procedure

Manchester Academy 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 [insert your centre's process detailing how candidates are informed (for example, by issuing this *Information for candidates – Results, Appeals and Certificates* notice/document)]
- 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

Manchester Academy 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 can 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 and/or
- not to appeal to the awarding body

An appeal should be submitted by

- completing and submitting an **internal appeals form** by 4th September 2020 six working days prior to the centre's internal deadline for submitting a request for an appeal)]

The appellant will be informed of the outcome of the five days before the centre's internal deadline for submitting a request for an appeal.

If the internal appeal is upheld by the centre, resulting in an appeal on the candidate's behalf being submitted to the awarding body:

- awarding body fees which may be charged for an appeal [insert your centre's arrangement (for example - must be paid to the centre by the appellant before the appeal is submitted to the awarding body (fees are available from the exams officer)
- if the appeal is upheld by the awarding body, this fee will be refunded by the awarding body and repaid to the appellant by the centre.

## Internal appeals form

Summer 2020 awarding

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

FOR CENTRE USE ONLY	
Date received	
Reference No.	

- 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

### Complaints and appeals log

[Insert your centre's process on the use of this log, for example - On receipt, all complaints/appeals are assigned a reference number and logged. Outcome and outcome date is also recorded.]

Ref No.	Date received	Complaint or Appeal	Outcome	Outcome date