

22nd July 2021



Robert
May's
School

To: RMS Year 11 students and families,

GCSE Grades Summer 2021

Dear Students, Parents and Carers,

We are writing to inform you of the arrangements for the GCSE Grade results this summer. The following information has been confirmed from the Department for Education (DfE) and the Joint Council for Qualifications (JCQ) in respect of the process to be adopted for the Summer 2021 GCSE Public Examinations. We would like to ensure that you fully understand how the GCSE grades will be determined, how the GCSE results will be communicated quickly and effectively, and what the appeals process will be.

Please link to the exam guidance below:

- [RMS Centre Policy Summer 2021](#)
- [Summer 2021 JCQ Guidance for Students and Parents](#)

All staff have followed specific JCQ and Subject specific examination board protocols when determining students' individual grades (further details available in the guidance above). Internal and External quality assurance processes are in place to ensure standardisation of teacher assessed grades, consistency, fairness and objectivity of all decisions.

Submission of Grades and Results Day

Robert May's School submitted grades to the appropriate exam boards by the deadline of Friday 18th June ensuring that quality assurance arrangements by the exam board can ensure consistent judgements are being made.

GCSE Results day will be on **Thursday 12th August 2021**. Exam results will be sent to each student's **Robert May's School email account** no later than 10.00am on Thursday 12th August 2021. A small team of staff, which will include senior leaders, will be on duty in school to answer any immediate queries and to support any students who have initial queries about their results. You can use info@rmays.com or exams@rmays.com to make contact with them. Students will also receive a paper copy of their results on school letter-headed paper which will be sent by post on results day. Information about appeals including the information in this letter will also be sent.

It is important to bear in mind that if you feel that you would have received a better grade had the exams gone ahead this summer, you still have the opportunity to take your exams in November 2021. Entry deadline is still to be confirmed.

Appeals process

Students will not be able to challenge their individual grades as Ofqual and the DfE do not believe there is any person better placed than teachers to determine teacher assessed grades. Although everyone will be working hard to make sure that the grades issued are correct, there will be an appeals process as a safety net to fix any genuine errors that were not identified prior to results day. If students believe that

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an error has been made, then they will need to submit a centre review form and email this to the following school email address exams@rmays.com

Please see below the different stages of the appeals process.

It is important to remember before you proceed that your grade can go up, down or stay the same through either stage of the process.

1. Stage 1 is referred to as “Centre Review”

- a. Student thinks the school has made an administrative error in submitting the grade.
- b. Student thinks there has been a procedural error (in other words, the school did not comply with its Centre Policy, did not undertake internal quality assurance, did not take into account access arrangements and/or mitigating circumstances).

2. Stage 2 is referred to as “Appeal to the Awarding Organisation” (submitted by the school to the relevant examinations board on behalf of a student)

- a. Student still thinks there has been a procedural error.
- b. Student thinks the examination boards made an administrative error.
- c. Student considers the grade awarded was an unreasonable exercise of academic judgement in the choice of evidence. An exercise of judgement will not be judged unreasonable simply because a student considers that an alternative grade should have been awarded even if the student puts forward supporting evidence. There may be a difference in opinion without there being an unreasonable exercise of judgement. The reviewer (examinations board) will not re-mark individual assessments to make fine judgement but will take a holistic approach based on the overall evidence the school will provide.

All requests for a centre review must be made directly to the centre which submitted the grade and must be received by Robert May’s School by **Friday 3rd September 2021**. Appeals which are not submitted by the date above may lead to appeals not being completed in time for consideration by the awarding organisation.

Awarding organisations will not accept appeals directly from students or parents. Requests submitted by students or parents directly to an awarding organisation will not be processed and will need to be re-submitted via the centre.

If you wish to request a centre review please fill in the form (link below) **by Friday 3rd September 2021** and return to exams@rmays.com with the heading Enquiries about Results.

[Centre Reviews Form for Summer 2021](#)

The school will reopen on **Thursday 2nd September** and we will contact you to acknowledge any review requests as soon as possible on our return.

Kind regards,

RMS Examinations Team