

Appeal arrangements for AS, A levels and GCSEs

Information correct on 21st August 2020

OFQUAL have now confirmed the appeals process for GCSEs, AS and A levels following the decision to award students the best of their centre-assessed grade or calculated grade.

This information does not apply to Pearson vocational qualifications (e.g. BTECs) as these are currently being re-graded. We will update students when this is published.

Students can appeal a grade if they have evidence of an administrative error. Students cannot appeal a grade based on a mock exam results, as those were taken into account in deciding centre-assessed grades.

Frequently Asked Questions

I think there might have been a mistake when my school or college submitted my centre assessment grade

You can ask the school to check whether it made an administrative error when submitting your centre assessment grade or rank order information. You can do this by following the appeals process shown below, citing 'clerical error' as the grounds for appeal. Administrative errors might include, for example, mixing up 2 students with similar names, or accidentally copying across the wrong data, but do not relate to the professional judgements of centres in giving centre assessment grades. If we think we made a mistake, we will submit an appeal to the exam board, but it must be supported by clear evidence that an error had been made.

I don't agree with the centre assessment grade that I was given by my teachers

We submitted the grades we believe you were most likely to achieve if exams had gone ahead. Ofqual has concluded that there is no consistent and fair process for students to challenge their centre assessment grades if they are unhappy with them. Any appeal would have to be decided by someone better placed than your teachers to judge your likely grade if exams had taken place. This means you can't appeal your grade just because you don't agree with the centre assessment grade submitted by your school or college. Brine Leas can't appeal against the centre assessment grades that we decided were correct when we submitted them to the exam board. If you'd like an opportunity to improve your grade, you can choose to sit exams in the autumn, or in summer 2021, instead.

I think I could have done better if I had sat my exams

You can't appeal your grade because you think you would have done better in your exams. If you would prefer to take exams you can do so in the autumn exam series for GCSE, AS and A level.

My mock result was higher than my centre assessment grade

You can't appeal your grade to ask to be given your mock exam result. You will receive your centre assessment grade or calculated grade, whichever is higher. Brine Leas considered your mock results when deciding your centre assessment grades.

Further information

All information related to appeals can be found [here](#), specifically pages 11-15.

[This](#) document explains how centre-assessed grades were determined.

To request the centre to appeal on your behalf

If you wish to request an appeal, it is important to remember that:

- You can ask the school to check whether it made a mistake when submitting data to the exam board. If we find a mistake in the data we provided, we can ask the exam board to correct it
- Brine Leas can appeal to the exam board on your behalf if it believes the exam board made a mistake when it communicated your grades
- You cannot challenge the school under the appeals process on the centre assessment grades we submitted or your rank order positions – any appeal would have to be undertaken by someone better placed than your teachers to judge your likely grade if exams had taken place. In the unique circumstances of this summer, Ofqual do not believe there is such a person
- You cannot appeal because your mock exam result was higher than your grade. Your mock grade will have been taken into account in deciding your centre assessment grade.

In order to ask the school to consider an appeal on your behalf, students should follow this process:

1. Register your intent to appeal by emailing bl.exams@brineleas.co.uk by Wednesday 9th September. Please note: any appeal requests sent whilst school is closed will receive an acknowledgement email by Wednesday 2nd September.
2. In your acknowledgement email, you will receive a link to a form. On this form, you will need to state the subject you wish to appeal, on the grounds of clerical error.
3. Forms must be returned by Thursday 10th September. You will receive a further acknowledgement email to confirm receipt of your form.
4. Thereafter, the Exams Officer will liaise with you directly regarding the progress of your appeal.

To request entry in the autumn exam series

Some students may wish to be entered for the autumn exam series.

Students are encouraged to read [this document](#) (detailing the scope of the exams, the role of NEA, etc.) before requesting entry.

In order to be entered for the autumn exam series, students should then follow this process:

1. Register your intent by emailing bl.exams@brineleas.co.uk by Tuesday 1st September (A-level and AS level) / Monday 14th September (GCSE)
2. You will receive a confirmation reply within 24 hours, with a link to an online form. If you have not received a confirmation reply within 24 hours, please call school (01270 625663) and ask for the exams office. Since timescales on these entries are very tight, this is 'back up' to ensure that all requests are received and no emails are lost through typos in the address, for example.
3. Complete all details in the form and return it electronically by 3.15 on Wednesday 2nd September (A-level and AS level) / Tuesday 15th September (GCSE). This form constitutes Candidate Consent as required by JCQ. Please be aware that an entry cannot be made without this completed form.
4. You will receive confirmation of the qualifications for which you are being entered.
5. Thereafter, the Exams Officer will liaise with you directly regarding exam times, dates and venues.