

26<sup>th</sup> February 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

### Summer grades 2021

In the government announcement yesterday the focus for awarding grades highlighted ‘Fairness and flexibility are at the heart of the Government’s plans to ensure young people get to their next stage of education or training’ through awarding teacher assessed grades. The statement can be read in full at [Teacher assessed grades for students - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/teacher-assessed-grades)

This statement confirms that:

- Teachers will submit grades to exam boards by 18 June, allowing as much teaching time as possible before teachers make their assessments.
- Results days for GCSE, A level and some vocational qualifications will take place in the week of 9 August – moved forward from the week of the 23 August. These earlier dates provide additional time for appeals to be completed, so students reliant on those outcomes to achieve their university offer have the best chance of accessing a place.
- To support teachers in making their judgements, exam boards will provide detailed guidance before the end of the spring term.

The Ofqual announcement was also released yesterday. This can be read in full at [How qualifications will be awarded in 2021 - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/how-qualifications-will-be-awarded-in-2021) The infographics below provides the key information for students and parents

## How vocational and technical qualifications will be awarded in 2021



Ofqual/21/6751/1

<b>Qualifications most similar to GCSEs and A levels</b> e.g. BTECs and OCR Cambridge Technicals	<b>Qualifications not similar to GCSEs or A levels</b> e.g. Functional skills and ESOL Skills for Life	<b>Qualifications with occupational skills or proficiency assessments</b> e.g. construction, plumbing and electrical qualifications
<b>Your results</b> Graded by teacher or lecturer judgement Various sources of evidence used Results no later than for GCSEs and A levels	<b>Your results</b> Assessments should continue where possible May be awarded using other evidence or judgements Awarding organisations decide the evidence needed	<b>Your results</b> Assessments can continue as normal where possible Assessments may be delayed Assessments can be adapted if needed
Visit <a href="https://www.gov.uk/ofqual">www.gov.uk/ofqual</a> or search 'Ofqual 2021 qualification explainer tool' for specific details (coming soon)		

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# How GCSEs, AS and A levels will be awarded in summer 2021

Working out your grade	Evidence	Results and appeals
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li> Graded by teacher judgement</li> <li> Not graded by an algorithm</li> <li> School and college assessments can continue</li> <li> You'll only be assessed on what you've been taught</li> <li> Your teacher will tell you what evidence is used to grade you</li> <li> Private candidates to work with a school, college or exam centre to provide evidence for them to be graded</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li> Mocks, tests and work already done can be used as evidence</li> <li> Non-exam assessment should continue</li> <li> Non-exam assessments can be used as evidence even if incomplete</li> <li> Art &amp; design grade based only on your portfolio</li> <li> Teachers can use question banks provided by exam boards if they want to</li> <li> Results will be based on completed and future work, so keep doing your best</li> </ul>	<p><b>Results days</b> AS and A level 10 August GCSE 12 August</p> <p> If you're unhappy with your grade, you can appeal it. First step is to submit an appeal to your school or college.</p> <p><b>You can find out more details from your school, college or exam board, or by visiting the Ofqual website</b></p> <p> <a href="http://www.gov.uk/ofqual">www.gov.uk/ofqual</a></p>

## University applications

If you have applied to go to university starting in September 2021, please make sure you check the regular updates via UCAS at [Get updates from UCAS | Undergraduate | UCAS](#). The level 3 results day is currently scheduled as Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> August. UCAS will receive results as normal to ensure a quick response to applicants on university places. We will keep you updated as we receive more information.

I appreciate this is a lot to take in and will be causing significant anxiety for many students and their parents. As always, UTC staff are available, and it has been great to see so many students online talking through things with the teachers at this unbelievably difficult time.

There will continue to be regular updates on the website, social media and by email/letter to students and parents. Please do contact us if you have any questions or concerns. You can do this by email to [reception@buckinghamshireutc.co.uk](mailto:reception@buckinghamshireutc.co.uk) or by text to 07553 317476 or 07899 691362 or by telephone to reception on 01296 388459

Kind regards and stay safe



**Sarah Valentine**  
Principal