

Woodlands School – Standardisation and Verification Process for the Centre Assessment Grades, GCSE Results Summer 2020

Standardisation Process

- 1) Firstly, we calculated average grade boundaries for each qualification, across all years that the qualification had been running. This was based on Ofqual guidance of, ‘assume that the qualifications are no more difficult or easier than in other years.’
- 2) Secondly, we integrated these average grade boundaries within spreadsheets sent out to all Year 11 teachers. They were asked to provide the overall raw score for each pupil, based on previous assessments for all components, which were sat under exam conditions (where possible). This included a consideration of any access arrangements pupils were entitled to. The spreadsheet then generated a grade for each pupil based on the average grade boundaries we had calculated.
- 3) We then asked staff to consider what progress pupils would have made from this last data entry point in March 2020, based on a range of evidence such as classwork, homework, attitude to learning score, KS2 prior attainment and progress between prior data collection points (as suggested by Ofqual and guidance issued by the National College). We then asked staff to enter the grade they estimated each pupil would be most likely to achieve in the summer examination period.
- 4) We next asked staff to meet remotely within their departments and rank order the pupils within each grade, with the top pupil being the most secure and the bottom pupil, the least secure. Where there were difficulties deciding the exact ranking of two or more pupils, teachers were advised to fall back on the raw scores each pupil achieved and use this as a final deciding factor. All Year 11 teachers within the department were consulted, and the final ranking was confirmed by the Head of Department.

Department-Specific Standardisation Process

Each department also provided detail regarding their internal standardisation process, which was signed off by the Head of Centre (David Wright – Head Teacher), the Head of Department and a second teacher within the department.

Verification Process

- 1) Once provided with the standardised rank order from each department, we analysed their overall attainment data and compared it with the department’s data over the last two years.
- 2) Where the grade variation compared to the previous 2 years was greater than 5%, we analysed the percentage gain between the March data collection window and the summer results over the previous two years.

- 3) If the percentage gain between the March data collection window and the department's teacher-assessed attainment data for this year is in line with the previous two years' gain, the grades have remained unchanged.
- 4) If the percentage gain between the March data collection window and the department's teacher-assessed attainment data for this summer differs, we amended grades to be in line with previous years.