

Appeals Procedures for GCSE examinations
Summer 2020
Friends' School Lisburn



Revised 24.08.2020

Introduction

These procedures apply solely to the review and/or appeal of a result at GCSE issued in summer 2020.

This is an exceptional appeals process. It is a result of the directions that the summer 2020 examination series for GCSE qualifications should be cancelled following the COVID-19 outbreak. The subsequent arrangements made by the regulators to ensure that candidates would receive qualifications based on calculated results moderated by CCEA were changed by the Minister on 17 August, with a decision made to base GCSE results solely on Centre Assessed Grades.

The three qualification regulators for England, Wales and Northern Ireland (Ofqual, Qualifications Wales and CCEA Regulation) were directed to develop an appeals process that focuses on the **accuracy and application of the data provided, rather than challenge teachers' professional judgement on the ability of individual pupils**. Therefore, **there is not an appeals process premised on scrutiny of the professional judgement on which a centre's assessment grades were determined, and also not an appeals process for a pupil to challenge their position in a centre's rank order**.

The only grounds for appeal are that an administrative error has been made by the Centre, or that a candidate, or group of candidates, may have been subject to bias or discrimination. Should you wish for a clerical check to be carried out a ***Request for Review of GCSE Results 2020 form*** should be completed by **Tuesday 1 September**.

Other matters should be raised in the first instance with the Head of Centre. Evidence of bias, discrimination or other improper action by a centre may be presented to an awarding body who may then investigate the matter as alleged malpractice.

If the centre accepts that there are grounds for appeal, the Head of Centre will submit an appeal to the awarding body. Candidates and/or their parents/carers cannot appeal directly to an awarding body.

Any other matters should be raised in the first instance with the Principal and, if necessary, escalated through Complaints Policy, available on the school website.

Further information on appeals can be found at <https://www.jcq.org.uk/exams-office/appeals>