



**Stokesley School
& Sixth Form College**

Being the best we can be

Summer 2020

Results and Appeals process

July 2020

Results and Appeals

Centre assessment grades and rank orders

Stokesley School:

- will not divulge provisional (centre assessment) grades, nor rank orders, with candidates or parents/carers before the issue of results
- understands that any inappropriate disclosure of centre assessment grades and rank order information before the issue of results will be investigated by awarding bodies as potential malpractice
- students will be able to request one or more Centre Assessed Grades or Ranking via a specific trust wide request system. Access to this system will be shared with candidates on their results day.

Final grades

Stokesley School will:

- issue results in accordance with the centre's *Information for Candidates - Results, Appeals and Certificates* document (detailed on pages 4-5)
- signpost candidates (and parents/carers) to information provided by key stakeholders at the time final grades are issued to support their understanding of the grades awarded

Arrangements for results day(s)

Stokesley School will:

- organise results day(s) and inform candidates of the arrangements in place for the collection of/access to their results
- ensure senior members of centre staff are available/accessible to candidates with whom a result/results may be discussed
- prepare information for candidates showing their options if they have concerns about their results
- signpost candidates to relevant Ofqual and/or awarding body information that sets out how their grades were calculated this year and the options available if they believe their result was not properly produced, including access to appeal

Arrangements for appeals

Stokesley School will:

- follow information provided by awarding bodies to determine the grounds on which an appeal can be made on behalf of a candidate, or candidates
- make candidates aware of the arrangements in place for appeals prior to the issue of results via the school website
- provide candidates with a statement of the arrangements promptly via the school website

- seek any information the awarding body holds in relation to how final grades were calculated if there is a school concern about any results
- submit an appeal to the awarding body on behalf of a candidate or candidates where it is believed:
 - the centre itself made an error when submitting centre assessment grade or rank order information to the awarding body and has supporting evidence that confirms an error was made (and will submit its supporting evidence at the earliest stage and explain why data which the Head of Centre declared to be accurate is now considered incorrect)
 - the awarding body made a mistake in the operation of the standardisation model where the wrong data was used to calculate results
 - the awarding body made an administrative error in the issuing of results
- collect consent from a candidate before any appeal is submitted to the awarding body.

Internal appeals procedure

Stokesley School will provide a process for a candidate to appeal against any decision the centre may make:

- not to seek from the awarding body any information the awarding body holds that would be needed for an appeal; and/or
- not to appeal to the awarding body

How centre assessment grades and rank orders were determined

To respond to any queries, challenges or internal appeals from a candidate (or their parent/carer) Stokesley School have already shared the full details of our process for quality assuring all Centre Assessed Grades and Rankings on Tuesday 21st April 2020. This included:

- the process deployed for each subject in calculating centre assessment grades and ranking of all candidates within each grade (or within the cohort where this was required by a particular qualification type)
- the support given to all teachers, including newly qualified teachers in grading and ranking students
- a summary of the evidence and data used to make objective and professional judgements
- the standardisation process where a cohort was taught across several teachers in a subject area
- how any conflicts of interest were managed
- the review and check for accuracy undertaken as part of the internal sign-off process for each subject
- confirmation of the process for head of centre sign-off and submission of the declaration to awarding bodies

Reference publications

Ofqual

[Awarding qualifications in summer 2020](#)

[Decisions on exceptional arrangements for assessment and grading in 2020](#) GCSEs, AS, A levels, Extended Project Qualifications and the Advanced Extension Award in maths

[Decisions on exceptional arrangements for assessment and grading in 2020](#) Vocational, technical and other general qualifications

[Extraordinary regulatory framework: General Qualifications, COVID-19 Conditions and Requirements](#)

Information for Candidates

Results, Appeals and Certificates

Centre assessment grades and rank orders

Stokesley School has submitted provisional (centre assessment) grades and rank orders to the relevant awarding body in accordance with the Ofqual guidance¹ on *Awarding qualifications in summer 2020* and in line with the awarding body instructions.

¹ <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/awarding-qualifications-in-summer-2020>

For the reason of fairness, awarding bodies are putting these grades through a standardisation process to ensure grading standards are consistent across all centres. The rank order of candidates will not be changed but the final grades candidates receive may be different to the centre assessment grade.

Final grades

On candidate statements of results (results slips) and certificates, final grades will be reported in the same way as in previous years.

Final grades will be issued on results day(s) in August as follows:

Date	Qualification type
13/08/2020	GCE (AS, A Levels) and other Level 3 qualifications
20/08/2020	GCSE and other Level 1/2 qualifications

Arrangements for results day(s)

Parents/Carers and students were advised of our Examination Day Results processes for both Thursday 13th August and Thursday 20th August via letter on Thursday 9th July 2020.

Copies of arrangement letters are available on the school website.

Concerns about your results

At results time, Ofqual have provided information for students that sets out how their grades were calculated this year and the options available if they believe their result was not properly produced, including access to appeal. The *National Careers Service Exam Results Helpline*² offers advice each year for students who have not received the results they had hoped for. Ofqual will also make a helpline available to students and their parents or carers to talk about the appeals process and any other questions they may have about their results this summer.

² <https://www.gov.uk/careers-helpline-for-teenagers>

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/your-results-what-next>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/student-guide-to-post-16-qualification-results-summer-2020>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/student-guide-to-appeals-and-malpractice-or-maladministration-complaints-summer-2020>

Awarding bodies will also likely provide information for students about results. Stokesley School will signpost you to any relevant information at results time. All enquiries for appeals must be sent via email to exams@stokesleyschool.org

If you have a concern about a grade you have been awarded, you can ask Stokesley School to:

- check whether an error was made when submitting your centre assessment grade and rank order to the awarding body
- raise a complaint via our exams@stokesleyschool.org if you feel you have evidence of bias or that you were discriminated against and a member of the team will contact you directly. You could also pass such evidence on to the awarding body who could investigate for potential malpractice
- seek any information the awarding body holds in relation to how your final grade was calculated
- provide information about the opportunity to take an exam in the autumn series or in summer 2021

Arrangements for appeals

The arrangements for awarding qualifications in summer 2020 state:

Candidates can appeal their grades through their centre if they feel the process this summer was not followed correctly in their case.

A candidate can:

- ask their centre to appeal on their behalf to an awarding body if there is evidence that leads a candidate to believe:
 - the centre made an error when submitting a centre assessment grade or rank order information
 - an awarding body made a mistake when calculating, assigning or communicating a grade
- appeal against the centre's decision
 - not to seek any information the awarding body holds that would be needed for an appeal; and/or
 - not to appeal to the awarding body

A candidate cannot:

- appeal against their centre assessment grades and position in the rank order
- appeal in respect of the process or procedure used by Stokesley School in calculating their centre assessment grades and position in the rank order
- appeal directly in any respect to the awarding body

Certificates

Certificates, when received from the awarding body, will be issued to candidates in December. Updates for specific dates for collection will be advertised on the school website and social media.

Internal appeals procedure

Stokesley School will:

- inform candidates of the arrangements for appeals prior to the issue of results and the accessibility of senior members of centre staff immediately after the publication of results via the school's website.
- appeal to an awarding body on a candidate's behalf if it believes the centre itself made an error when submitting a centre assessment grade or rank order information or if it believes an awarding body made a mistake when calculating, assigning or communicating a grade
- ask the candidate to provide written informed consent (informed consent via candidate email is acceptable) before an appeal is submitted to the awarding body as the appeal could result in the final grade being lower than, higher than, or the same as the grade which was originally awarded
- only collect consent after the publication of results.
- where relevant, advise an affected candidate to inform any third party (such as a university or college) that an appeal has been submitted to an awarding body

Stokesley School will not:

- seek any information the awarding body holds that would be needed for an appeal if it does not believe an awarding body made a mistake when calculating, assigning or communicating a grade
- appeal to an awarding body on a candidate's behalf if it does not believe the centre itself made an error when submitting a centre assessment grade or rank order information or if it does not believe an awarding body made a mistake when calculating, assigning or communicating a grade

An internal appeal may be submitted to the centre where a candidate (or his/her parent/carer) believes there are grounds to appeal against the centre's decision:

- not to seek any information the awarding body holds that would be needed for an appeal
- not to appeal to the awarding body

An internal appeal should be submitted to:

- Head of Centre, Mrs Hannah Millett, in writing, detailing the grounds for appeal within one calendar week from receiving their Centre Assessed Grade and Ranking request.

The candidate will be informed of the outcome of the internal appeal as soon as a decision has been made and in sufficient time for the centre to take any appropriate action where the internal appeal may be upheld.

If the internal appeal is upheld by the centre:

- where applicable, the centre will request information the awarding body holds that would be needed for an appeal within the time period set by the awarding body;
- where applicable, the centre will submit an appeal on the candidate's behalf to meet the awarding body's deadline for appeals;
- parents/carers are expected to pay any fees required by the examination board.