

## **Your Examination Results and Next Steps**

### **How were the grades submitted?**

The grades submitted by the Academy to the examination boards were a holistic judgement in the format of a rank order based on the grade we thought you would have achieved had the exams gone ahead.

The following process was followed in deciding these grades;

1. Grading and ranking decisions were based upon a holistic professional judgement which balanced different sources of evidence and data.
2. The professional experience of teaching staff was deployed to make a fair and objective judgement of the grade they believed you were most likely to achieve had you sat your exams this year. Newly qualified or less experienced members of staff were given additional support in this process by their Curriculum Leader.
3. A range of evidence was used including; progress review data, classwork, bookwork, your performance in any internal assessment or mock paper and your levels of participation in subjects such as music, drama and PE.
4. Grades and ranking were decided on an objective basis and not on any characteristics protected under equalities legislation such as your sex, race, religion/belief, disability status, gender reassignment or sexual orientation.

It should be noted that the majority of students achieve a higher grade in non-examined work than they would under the pressure of a written exam paper.

### **How were the grades moderated?**

The rank order was to enable Ofqual (The Office of Qualifications and Examinations Regulation) to conduct its own moderating process of "statistical standardisation" across every school in the country to improve consistency across schools. This approach means that your final grades may well have changed from those submitted by your teacher as they will also reflect areas such as; your performance at KS2, the academy's performance over time and the national distribution of grades in previous years. This is designed to ensure that no school is being either too generous or severe in the awarding of a particular grade.

For example, if Ofqual think we have awarded too many grade 7s in maths Ofqual would use the school's rank order of the "most secure" to "least secure" grade 7 candidates, with the "least secure" likely to have their grade moderated to a grade 6.

### **What if I am unhappy with my grades?**

If you are unhappy with your awarded grade in any subject then you will be able to sit your examinations in the autumn term. If you choose to do this you will be able to keep both your teacher assessed and exam grade, and use the higher of the two grades for references. On the back of this letter is a sheet that you should fill in should you wish to sit any examinations in the autumn term. Please fill this in and have a discussion with a member of the Leadership Team before returning it to Ms Hill. Please note the deadline for your decision about sitting examinations is Friday 28<sup>th</sup> August.

It is important to remember that these results have been moderated by Ofqual, as a result you should not question your teacher if you are disappointed with your grades but refer your query to one of the following staff: Ms Hill (Exams Officer) Mr Cosby, Ms Browne, Ms Stokes, Ms Franklin or Ms Moise-Dixon, they will be able to clearly reference next steps which can include a request for further information related to your grades and how they were submitted to the exam boards.

It is worth noting that there are only two areas in which you can raise an appeal against your grades.

1. You can question whether an error was made when submitting a centre assessment grade or in your position in the rank order – *This is unlikely as the data was checked several times before submission.*
2. You can raise a complaint if you have evidence of bias or that you were discriminated against; in which case this evidence will be passed on to the exam board who could investigate for potential malpractice – Refer to the Point 4 above regarding protected characteristics. – *This is unlikely as we are a very diverse school community and there will be evidence of students from each of the protected characteristics achieving to a high standard.*

**You will not be able to appeal in respect of the operation or outcome of the statistical standardisation model applied by Ofqual.**

**The national results helpline**

The National Careers Service will be delivering the Exam Results Helpline during August 2020. You can contact the helpline on 0800 100 900 to speak to a professionally qualified careers adviser if they need advice on next steps. The helpline will be open from 8 am to 10 pm from Thursday 13 August until Friday 28 August. After these dates, you will be able to access ongoing support from the National Careers Service at any time by calling 0800 100 900, visiting [nationalcareers.service.gov.uk/contact-us](https://nationalcareers.service.gov.uk/contact-us) or searching for the National Careers Service on Facebook and Twitter.

**Request for entry into the Autumn examination series of examinations**

**Student Name:**\_\_\_\_\_ **Date:**\_\_\_\_\_

**To be completed by student:**

I confirm that I wish to be entered for the Autumn examinations indicated above in the following examinations.

Subject	Level GSCE/BTEC/A Level

I agree to pay the full cost of examination entries, plus an administration fee of £30 should I fail to sit the examination without withdrawing my entry before the 3<sup>rd</sup> September, or without a valid doctor's note.

I understand that a change to my grade is unlikely to alter my programme of study at Alec Reed Academy sixth form.

Signed:

Name:

Date:

**To be completed by a member of staff:**

I confirm that I have discussed these examinations with \_\_\_\_\_ and they fully understand the implications and are making an informed decision about sitting these subjects in the Autumn term.

Signed:

Name:

Date:

**Office use:**

☐ Spoken to member of staff

☐ Agreed

☐ Entered

Notes: