

1)FOI Case 2020-0042783; Dear Department for Education, Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, please provide a copy of all correspondence (including emails) and written directions between the Department for Education and: (a) Ofqual (b) Examination Awards Bodies (e.g. AQA, Cambridge Assessment) Between 4 August 2020 and 10 August 2020.

Generated from 4th August

From: @ofqual.gov.uk>
Sent: 04 August 2020 14:01
To: education.gov.uk>;
Subject: Re: results week questions

Hi

Sorry to be late back on this. Yes if all queries your end could come through one person that would be great please. Also, they can send any questions directly to xxx copying in x and myself- xx I can then respond directly, which we did last year and it seemed to work better.

Thanks

From: @ofqual.gov.uk>
Sent: 05 August 2020 12:15
To: @education.gov.uk>; Kate Keating <Kate.Keating@ofqual.gov.uk>;
Subject: RE: Ofqual social media this week

Hi

Sorry for the delayed response!

There will be social going out over the coming week and best channels to watch are Ofqual twitter, Facebook and Instagram accounts.

xx – would you be able to link-in with xx and give her a sense of timings?

Thanks

From: @education.gov.uk>
Sent: 05 August 2020 12:11
To: Kate Keating <Kate.Keating@ofqual.gov.uk>; **Subject:** RE: Ofqual social media this week

Hi all

Appreciate you're busy. We're keen to support you. Please do flag what you think will go out this week and we'll keep a watchful eye out for it.

Many thanks

From: @ofqual.gov.uk>
Sent: 05 August 2020 15:14
To: @education.gov.uk>
Subject: RE: Catch-up (16/07) - KS4 Strengthening high level timeline - TBC

Great, yes, I shall send you an invite.

From:
Sent: 05 August 2020 15:13
To:
Subject: RE: Catch-up (16/07) - KS4 Strengthening high level timeline - TBC

Hi – thanks, yes, I'm free now for a catch-up. Shall we do a quick Teams chat?

Thanks,

From:
Sent: 05 August 2020 15:05
To:
Subject: RE: Catch-up (16/07) - KS4 Strengthening high level timeline - TBC

Hi

I heard that the finance conversation went well today and that colleagues at DfE are comfortable with additional spends on strengthening after 31st March 2021. Are you free for a quick catch-up at all before 3.30?

Thanks

From:
Sent: 04 August 2020 16:52
To:
Cc: Subject: RE: Catch-up (16/07) - KS4 Strengthening high level timeline - TBC

Many thanks for the update,— let's speak tomorrow.

All the best,

From:

Sent: 04 August 2020 16:31

To:

Subject: RE: Catch-up (16/07) - KS4 Strengthening high level timeline - TBC

Hi

I have just heard that the finance conversation has been put back to tomorrow lunchtime. Will keep in touch.

Thanks

From:

Sent: 04 August 2020 11:00

To:

Subject: RE: Catch-up (16/07) - KS4 Strengthening high level timeline - TBC

Morning,

Thanks for this. I'll be keeping an eye out for the finance update today too so we can touch base after that and then I can approach colleagues for views on the revised plan. It looks likely we are going to need to go to our Reg Board on Monday, but I will do my best to sound out provisional views before then.

Thanks

From:

Sent: 04 August 2020 10:50

To: Subject: RE: Catch-up (16/07) - KS4 Strengthening high level timeline - TBC

Hi,

Just following up on our discussion yesterday - have added tweaks to timings in red to the back end of the process for Option 1 (below), mainly to build in more time for receiving advice from Ofqual, developing and sending up advice to Ministers and securing a decision over the summer, with recess over August (but still allowing for publication of interim list by end Sept 21 and final list by end Nov 21). Hope helpful and happy to discuss as needed. Will look out for update on the finance discussion later (and will share anything we hear from our side too).

All the best,

From: @education.gov.uk>

Sent: 04 August 2020 14:26

To: @ofqual.gov.uk>;

Subject: RE: Policy KiT

Hi , I don't think we have anything. Really, it's going to be all results the next three weeks, so I would suggest we drop the meetings for this week and results weeks, and pick up anything else that emerges in between, unless anyone else on the DfE side disagrees?

From:

Sent: 04 August 2020 14:22

To:

Subject: Policy KiT

Afternoon all –

Do you have anything to discuss in today's KiT? We don't have anything that particularly needs a chat, but happy to still meet if you would like to.

Thanks –

Many thanks Jackie

How about 10am on Thursday? Would this work for you?

Best wishes

From: SPATCHER, Jacquie <Jacquie.SPATCHER@education.gov.uk>

Sent: 04 August 2020 20:47

To:

Subject: RE: A brief conversation

Hi – I'm very happy to have a word about this. Do you have some time on Thursday morning – or Friday between 10.30 and 2.30?

Jacquie

From: @ocr.org

Sent: 04 August 2020 17:33

To: DYSON, Michelle <Michelle.DYSON@education.gov.uk>

Cc: SPATCHER, Jacquie <Jacquie.SPATCHER@education.gov.uk>

Subject: RE: A brief conversation

Thanks Michelle

Yes it does feel very intense at the moment!

I'll speak with Jacquie.

All best

From: DYSON, Michelle <Michelle.DYSON@education.gov.uk>

Sent: 04 August 2020 17:25

To: @ocr.org

Cc: SPATCHER, Jacquie <Jacquie.SPATCHER@education.gov.uk>

Subject: RE: A brief conversation

Dear

Thanks for getting in touch – and thank you very much for all the work you

and colleagues are doing at the moment. I'm sure it feels very intense in these critical weeks.

On the KS4 performance table issue, I'd suggest you speak to Jacquie who is closer to the detail on this than I am.

Best wishes

Michelle

From: @ocr.org

Sent: 04 August 2020 15:19

To: DYSON, Michelle <Michelle.DYSON@education.gov.uk>

Subject: A brief conversation

Dear Michelle

I hope all is well with you and yours in these challenging times.

Would it be possible to have a brief conversation in the near future? In particular, I would value a conversation about arrangements for submitting qualifications for approval on the 2024 Key Stage 4 performance tables. The current proposal from the Department is that exam boards should submit their revised qualifications for approval by early November this year.

As you will be aware, this timescale clashes with a period of intense strain on our resources, caused by Covid-related activities, including the provision of an additional series in the autumn.

We believe it would be possible to delay the proposed submission deadline without serious implications and it would be extremely helpful if we could talk this through.

We could also use the opportunity to talk more broadly about the run up to results days and beyond if you felt that would be useful.

If you are happy to go ahead with a meeting I will ask my executive assistant, Amanda, to make contact to organise a date.

Best wishes

From: SPATCHER, Jacquie <Jacquie.SPATCHER@education.gov.uk>

Sent: 04 August 2020 16:35

To: Julie Swan <julie.swan@ofqual.gov.uk>

Subject: RE: Update?

Yep, that works well.

Jacquie

From: Julie Swan <julie.swan@ofqual.gov.uk>

Sent: 04 August 2020 16:35

To: SPATCHER, Jacquie <Jacquie.SPATCHER@education.gov.uk>

Subject: Re: Update?

Should be free at 5.15. Any good for you?

From: SPATCHER, Jacquie <Jacquie.SPATCHER@education.gov.uk>

Sent: Tuesday, August 4, 2020 4:18:18 PM
To: Julie Swan <julie.swan@ofqual.gov.uk>
Subject: Update?

Hi – let me know when you're free for another word. I have a meeting at 4.30 but can push it back (or shorten it) if necessary.

Jacquie

From: Julie Swan <julie.swan@ofqual.gov.uk>
Sent: 04 August 2020 18:21
To: SPATCHER, Jacquie <Jacquie.SPATCHER@education.gov.uk>
Subject: HE

We have sent the small subjects data to UCAS today. We're waiting to hear what they make of it before deciding whether/what we should send to HEIs. I think UCAS is seeking to understand whether it will be an issue for many/any centres.

Julie

lucy.sydney@ofqual.gov.uk>
Sent: 04 August 2020 18:52
To: @education.gov.uk
Subject: 2021 - PTQs

When we meet tomorrow it would be really helpful if we could pick up on the below question, please.

Lucy Sydney

(below email out of scope as Ofqual to Ofqual)

From: Julie Swan <julie.swan@ofqual.gov.uk>
Sent: 05 August 2020 09:38
To: SPATCHER, Jacquie <Jacquie.SPATCHER@education.gov.uk>
Subject: Re: Policy and Implementation Board 5 August- Agenda

O

From: SPATCHER, Jacquie <Jacquie.SPATCHER@education.gov.uk>
Sent: Wednesday, August 5, 2020 9:36:13 AM
To: Julie Swan <julie.swan@ofqual.gov.uk>
Subject: RE: Policy and Implementation Board 5 August- Agenda

Hi Julie. Nick Gibb wants to talk to me at 11.30 about the outliers issue so I'll have to duck out of PIB. It would be enormously helpful if we could have had the discussion about appeals and HE comms first, so that I'm as up to speed as possible before I talk to the Minister – do you think it would be possible to rejig the agenda so that we could do that?

Jacquie

From: @Ofqual.gov.uk

Sent: 04 August 2020 17:28

To: Julie Swan <julie.swan@ofqual.gov.uk>; Cath Jadhav <cath.jadhav@ofqual.gov.uk>; Michelle Meadows <Michelle.Meadows@ofqual.gov.uk>; Richard Garrett <richard.garrett@ofqual.gov.uk>; Kate Keating <Kate.Keating@ofqual.gov.uk>; SPATCHER, Jacquie <Jacquie.SPATCHER@education.gov.uk>; Lucy Sydney <lucy.sydney@ofqual.gov.uk>;

Subject: Policy and Implementation Board 5 August- Agenda

Dear all,

Below is the agenda for the meeting tomorrow.

Policy & Implementation Board – 5th August

11:00 Technical and operational issues – if required

11:10 Appeals update

11:25 Helpline arrangements

11:35 Comms with HE

11:50 Autumn technical and operational issues

12:05 Timeline review

12:10 AOB

Kind regards,

From: DYSON, Michelle <Michelle.DYSON@education.gov.uk>

Sent: 04 August 2020 17:26

To @pearson.com

Subject: RE: DfE letter on exam rebates
– thanks v much for letting us know.

Best wishes

Michelle

From: @pearson. com

Sent: 04 August 2020 16:34

To: DYSON, Michelle <Michelle.DYSON@education.gov.uk>

Cc: SPATCHER, Jacquie <Jacquie.SPATCHER@education.gov.uk>

Subject: Re: DfE letter on exam rebates

Hi Michelle,

Further to this exchange I wanted to let you know that we are now ready to communicate further with schools and colleges. Given that the Autumns series has now been confirmed we are in a better position to provide information as to the extent of the savings that will be passed back to schools and colleges.

We intend to go out with the message below this week (there may still be slight tweaks to the wording).

Best wishes,

Dear Colleagues

Now that the summer holidays are here, we do hope you will get chance to relax and enjoy a break from what has been an extremely challenging few months in schools and colleges for you and your colleagues.

We know that you will be keen to hear an update on the level of credit you will be receiving due to the cancellation of the 2020 summer exam series for general qualifications including GCSEs, AS and A levels.

Earlier in the year, we made a commitment to pass any savings back to you. Our priority has been to support teachers, students and invest in our examining community. We have put new processes in place to ensure students can move on to the next stage of their education and employment. We've also provided free additional support to help schools, colleges and students. To find out more you can download our [guide](#) that highlights what is included in qualification fees and the extra support we put in place this summer.

We can confirm that we will be giving a 23% rebate on GCSEs, AS and A levels to all schools and colleges. This will be applied as a credit on your account during September for future use. This rebate reflects the associated net cost savings as a result of the cancellation of the 2020 summer examinations.

For our Vocational Qualifications (including BTEC, Work-Based Learning, Higher Nationals), fees are paid at the start of the course and cover a range of different processes including internal and external assessment. Overall, we have incurred most of the costs as planned plus some additional costs specific to this summer's extraordinary awarding process. We will update you in September on where there are any remaining net cost savings to pass on to you.

We will continue to support you in the run up to results day and beyond as you prepare for the new academic year. Please do continue to visit our dedicated support pages for general qualifications and vocational qualifications, and follow us on Twitter (@PearsonEdexcel and @teachBTEC) to keep up to date with the latest news and support available to you. Please do not hesitate to contact us directly should you

have any questions about the information contained in this email. In the meantime, we wish you and your students all the very best for the results period.

From: @ofqual.gov.uk

Sent: 05 August 2020 15:45

To Kate Keating <Kate.Keating@ofqual.gov.uk>; SPATCHER, Jacquie <Jacquie.SPATCHER@education.gov.uk>;

Subject: Official sensitive: comms planner

OFFICIAL-SENSITIVE

Dear colleagues,

Please find below the Ofqual publications plan for the week ahead.

Please note, this can be shared within DfE and other central government departments, but not with any other third parties.

Monday 10 August

- Blog: What to expect

Wednesday 12 August

- Roger Taylor op-ed in The Times – TBC
- xx op-ed in Schools Week

Thursday 13 August – A level results day

- News story: guide to results
- Infographic
- Technical report inc. subject breakdown, centre variability, equalities analysis etc.
- Executive summary of the technical report
- Requirements document

All best,

Hi

It's the strategy, risk and research directorate- sorry should have been clearer!

Thanks

From: @ofqual.gov.uk
Sent: 05 August 2020 18:02
To: @education.gov.uk
Subject: RE: Business impact target

Hi xx – thanks for this – we’ll seek out who might be your best contact in this regard. Just a quick Q (sorry if it’s a silly one!) – what is SRR team? (I thought it was strategic relations team at first, but maybe not?)

Thanks and all the best!

Hi

Colleagues in our SRR team are currently doing work on the business impact target and are keen to set up a meeting with someone from the DfE better regulation unit. Could you look into this please and let us know who the best person to contact to arrange this would be.

Please just come back to me if you need any further information.

Thanks

From: @ofqual.gov.uk
Sent: 05 August 2020 16:28
To: @education.gov.uk
Subject: Re: Resource for review

Hi

Please find attached a final draft of our malpractice complaints guide as requested. We plan to publish this tomorrow.

Please just let me know if you have any questions.

Thanks

(resulted in following publication)

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/student-guide-to-post-16-qualification-results-summer-2020/student-guide-to-appeals-malpractice-maladministration-complaints-summer-2020-html-version>

Generated from 6th August

From: Kate Keating
Sent: 05 August 2020 22:35
To: @education.gov.uk
Subject: Tele front page

Let's catch up early tmrw?

<https://www.tomorrowpapers.co.uk/daily-telegraph-front-page-2020-08-06/>

Pupils face exam chaos 'life sentence'

Head teachers raise concern over Covid-19 grading system as children are denied right of appeal

By Camilla Turner Education Editor

PUPILS face being handed a "life sentence" if they are not allowed to appeal incorrect grades in their GCSE or A-level exams, it is warned today.

The majority of teenagers in England will next week receive grades that have been calculated using a statistical model after coronavirus interrupted exam seasons.

However, the exam regulator has decreed that appeals will only be allowed on technical grounds and not simply if a student believes they have been awarded an unfair grade.

Fears are growing that next week's results day could descend into chaos with thousands of pupils handed questionable results. One source familiar with the predicted grades model said that "all hell would break loose". Leading head teachers are now urging Ofqual to overhaul the system and concerns it could punish a generation of teenagers.

Dr Martin Stephen, the former High Master of St Paul's Boys' School in London, said that the current results system was tantamount to "imposing a life sentence on children, with no effective right of appeal".

Ian Power, the general secretary of the Headmasters' and Headmistresses' Conference, warned that allowing students the right to appeal against their grades this summer was a matter of "natural justice" and warned that exam results could face a wave of legal challenges unless the rules were changed.

Earlier this week in Scotland, exam results day was labelled a "shambles" after close to 125,000 predicted grades were downgraded by the Scottish Qualifications Authority.

The Scottish and English regulators drew up statistical models to generate pupils' grades after all public exams were cancelled. Both models take into account factors including data on a school's historic grades in subjects.

A source told *The Daily Telegraph* that the statistical model being used to predict English exam results shared the same "basic principles" with the Scottish one.

But while pupils in Scotland are able to appeal against their results, English students are currently barred from doing so apart from on narrow technical grounds. Pupils who believe their GCSE or A-level marks are lower than what they could have achieved are only allowed to appeal by setting a new set of exams in the autumn.

Last night, education chiefs heaped pressure on Ofqual to allow students a broader set of grounds on which they can appeal.

Mr Power said that appeals were the "biggest concern" about this year's process for HMC, which represents the country's most exclusive schools including Eton, Harrow and Winchester.

"Having the right to appeal a result is natural justice," he said. "The appeals process this year is even more narrow than normal. Parents will take the action they feel they have to, and if that involves legal action that could happen. That is part of the frustration."

Writing in today's *Telegraph*, Dr Stephen explains that the current system works fairly "only for those schools whose performance has been static for three years", adding that it is "grossly unfair" to year groups who are unusually gifted.

Appeals are only allowed by Ofqual if *'We currently have an appeals process that only serves the well-heeled and the sharp-elbowed'*

a school can prove that the process was not followed correctly, for example, if an error was made during the calculation process.

Robert Halfon MP, the Tory chairman of the education select committee, said that as things stand, student parents would need to enlist a lawyer to navigate the appeals process. "We currently have an appeals process that only serves the well-heeled and the sharp-elbowed. If you are not an upwardly mobile professional you don't have a chance," he said.

"It has got to change, it has to be a level playing field for all students. Everyone should have a chance at getting a fair grade."

The exam regulator launched a consultation in June that proposed some additional grounds on which students could challenge results.

The consultation, which Ofqual is due to respond to this week, outlined plans that would allow students to appeal if they believed they were the victim of discrimination or bias.

Under the proposals, teenagers would be allowed to appeal to exam boards if they believed there was evidence of "serious malpractice" by their school.

Yesterday, Kate Green MP, the shadow education secretary, wrote to Gavin Williamson to demand answers over A-levels and GCSEs, following the "disastrous" handling of Scottish results.

"Ministers must urgently set out how they'll ensure the results next week will not exacerbate existing inequalities, and what extra support they'll give to students who feel they've been unfairly graded to navigate the appeals process," she said.

An Ofqual spokesman said: "It is important that students understand their options, including the possibility of an appeal, if they do not receive the grade they expected."

"Students will be able to appeal, through their school or college, if they believe a mistake has been made or that something has gone wrong in their case."

"We are committed to helping students, and their families, understand the options available to them and will be publishing information on how appeals will operate this summer."

Reports: Page 6
Martin Stephen: Page 10
Editorial Comment: Page 17

Kate Keating

From: @ofqual.gov.uk>
Sent: 06 August 2020 08:33
To: @education.gov.uk>;
Subject: COPD
Importance: High

Hi all

We wanted to make a referral to CPD, using the address that was on the ERH briefing: mailbox.cpod@education.gov.uk

However, it bounced back. Please could you confirm as soon as you're able what the correct contact details are for us to make a referral to the child protection unit's safeguarding mailbox please.

These details will also need updating on the ERH briefing, but we can do this once these are confirmed.

Thanks

From: @ofqual.gov.uk>

Sent: 06 August 2020 17:44
To: @no10.gov.uk>; @education.gov.uk>

Subject: RE: No10 Briefing - 2020 Results [OFFICIAL]

Hi

No problem – 10am tomorrow is fine, I'll hold an hour but let me know if we need less/more. Can you send a scheduler with a Teams or Zoom link?

The following can attend from our side:

Sally Collier (Chief Regulator) – sally.collier@ofqual.gov.uk
Roger Taylor (Chair) – roger.taylor@ofqual.gov.uk
Julie Swan (Exec Director, General Quals) – Julie.swan@ofqual.gov.uk
Cath Jadhav (Director, Standards and Comparability) – cath.jadhav@ofqual.gov.uk
Richard Garrett (Director, Policy and Strategic Relationships GQ) – richard.garrett@ofqual.gov.uk

Many thanks

From: @ofqual.gov.uk>
Sent: 06 August 2020 17:34
To: @education.gov.uk
Subject: RE: No10 Briefing - 2020 Results [OFFICIAL]

Hi,

Apologies, please ignore the times below!

Could we do 10am? Sorry!

From: @education.gov.uk
Sent: 06 August 2020 17:23
To: @ofqual.gov.uk>
Subject: RE: No10 Briefing - 2020 Results [OFFICIAL]

Thanks very much xx, so sorry to be difficult, but could you possibly do either 3.30 or 4.30 tomorrow? Am trying to make sure we get the right people on our side! Otherwise 11.30 would probably be the best time from your window.

I think we'd want to discuss AS and A level and GCSE primarily, and then suggest that we work on the applied general results outside of the meeting.

Many thanks,

From: @ofqual.gov.uk>
Sent: 06 August 2020 16:53

To: @education.gov.uk
Subject: RE: No10 Briefing - 2020 Results

Many thanks xx, xx hopefully that slot will work on your side?

Can I check whether the briefing should have primarily an A and AS level focus or whether you would also like to talk through the applied general results which will come out next week (I'm thinking primarily about BTECs)? So we can make sure the right people attend.

Thanks,

From: @education.gov.uk
Sent: 06 August 2020 16:37
To: @ofqual.gov.uk>
Subject: RE: No10 Briefing - 2020 Results

Wonderful – thank you so much. I'm cc'ing in at No10 and hoping she will be able to confirm if a window within the time below is suitable, and to confirm attendees from No10.

Jacque and myself will join from DfE I imagine, and possibly joined by our special advisers, I have cc'd the special advisers' office in too here.

Many thanks,

From: @ofqual.gov.uk>
Sent: 06 August 2020 16:31
To: @education.gov.uk
Subject: RE: No10 Briefing - 2020 Results

Hi

Thanks for your email. That's no problem to arrange for tomorrow – I think our best availability would be between 10.30am and 12.30pm, if a slot during that time would work for No 10?

Do you know who our team would be briefing? I'll revert with who can attend from our side.

Many thanks

From: @education.gov.uk
Sent: 06 August 2020 15:48
To: @ofqual.gov.uk
Subject: No10 Briefing - 2020 Results

Hi,

I trust you're well – I'm writing from DfE SoS' private office – DfE colleagues kindly gave me your details.

In discussions with No10 colleagues today on results arrangements, No10 have expressed interest in a briefing direct from Ofqual.

My understanding is that they would like this to cover what the data is telling us about our results this year, the headlines, and the data that will be published.

It would be helpful to know what availability might be your side – No10 are keen for this to be held tomorrow (Friday), if at all possible – though I appreciate that is quite short notice at this point. Please let me know what might be achievable?

Thanks,

From: Kate Keating <Kate.Keating@ofqual.gov.uk>
Sent: 07 August 2020 13:08
To: GLANZ, Sam <Sam.GLANZ@education.gov.uk>
Cc: Catherine Oakes <Catherine.Oakes@ofqual.gov.uk>
Subject: TES article - social media reaction
Importance: High

As flagged, quite a lot of noise on social about today's TES piece – see summary below – plus PA and Mail f/u.

We'd like to publish the following statement on our website – can then respond on social and point ppl to the statement.

Please let me know any urgent thoughts?

Response to TES story about centre assessment grades
A statement about the role of centre judgements in this summer's awarding

“Although exams and assessments have been cancelled, most students will still be able to progress to further study or employment as planned with results which carry the same value as any other year. We know teachers worked extremely hard to deliver this year's arrangements and the majority of grades students receive will be the same as their centre's judgements - reflecting the skills, professionalism and integrity of those involved.

“Final grades this summer will be calculated using both centre assessment grades and a rank order of students provided by the centre. Centre judgements will then be moderated by exam boards, to make sure the standard is consistent between schools and colleges. It is wrong to conclude that centre judgements will be adjusted simply

because they have gone through the moderation process. There will only be adjustments where they are needed to ensure fairness for students.

“Centres with lower entries, overall or in particular subjects, will have more weight placed on their centre judgements because that is the more reliable source of evidence. We will publish full details of the moderation process, including details for low entries, next week.

“Results for students will almost always be broadly in line with centres’ and teachers’ expectations, and the awarding process has been designed to allow leniency where this can be done without undermining fairness.

For more information about awarding this year, read our latest blog <https://ofqual.blog.gov.uk/2020/08/06/fairness-in-awarding/>

From: Catherine Oakes <Catherine.Oakes@ofqual.gov.uk>
Sent: 07 August 2020 16:32
To: GLANZ, Sam <Sam.GLANZ@education.gov.uk>
Cc: Kate Keating <Kate.Keating@ofqual.gov.uk>
Subject: TES enquiry - stats

Hi Sam,

Had the following request in from Catherine at TES:

I was wondering if Ofqual holds information on pupils’ level of deprivation? The SQA has these, showing that the most deprived pupils were most likely to have their Higher pass rate downgraded. Also, if Ofqual does not collect this data, would it be possible to get a comment about this by the end of today? We will do a story on how this data is not available for England if so?

We are planning on responding with the below – for your information and for you to share internally as you see fit – we’re working to a 5pm deadline.

Many thanks for your note. By way of background exam boards don’t collect the data. [As we covered at the symposium last month](#), we have data on ethnicity, socioeconomic status, FSM eligibility, SEN, etc. that we’ve used to do our early analysis of grades this summer. Our analysis of the set of provisional results shows that the processes of grading this year has not disadvantaged any specific groups. We will be completing an equalities analysis of the finalised data and will publish on results days.

In terms of entry numbers per subject by school type, we don’t publish this data but DfE publish statistics after the summer series which include centre type – for example <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/key-stage-4->

[performance-2019-revised](#). Our [provisional entry statistics for the exams this summer](#) do lay out the overall proportion of entries by centre type.

Thanks
Catherine Oakes

From: Richard Garrett <richard.garrett@ofqual.gov.uk>
Sent: 07 August 2020 13:02
To: @education.gov.uk
Subject: RE: Letter to HE

Hi

[Letter to heads of admissions, higher education - 7 August 2020 - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)

[\(Email trail resulted in final published version in link above\)](#)

Please find attached the final signed off draft of our letter that Sally has cleared – I've attached both the pdf and word versions.

Please let know when you are happy that they are sent. I am hoping UCAS will send out just as soon as we have your confirmation that there is nothing further from the Minister, but I have yet to confirm with them they will.

Thanks,
Richard

From: @education.gov.uk
Sent: 07 August 2020 12:22
To: Richard Garrett <richard.garrett@ofqual.gov.uk>
Subject: Letter to HE

Hi

Just checking – will you be able to send the letter through shortly?

From: SPATCHER, Jacquie <Jacquie.SPATCHER@education.gov.uk>
Sent: 08 August 2020 15:17
To: @aqa.org.uk
Subject: RE: Appeals fees

Thanks xx– that's helpful.
Just a word of caution on your final point – as you probably know we'll be publishing

on Tuesday (I hope) our policy on supporting centres with autumn exams, including meeting the cost of exam fees for the autumn series. The calculation we will do where centres claim for autumn fees will take account of the full rebate that they received on summer exams so we need to be careful we're not suggesting that they have the money to spend twice. Of course in many cases the rebate may cover both the cost of autumn fees and the cost of appeals but we can't be sure of that, and if it doesn't then appeals will be an additional cost.

It would be great to see your statement before it issues, thanks.

Jacquie

From: '@aqa.org.uk'
Sent: 08 August 2020 15:09
To: SPATCHER, Jacquie <Jacquie.SPATCHER@education.gov.uk>
Subject: Re: Appeals fees

Hi Jacquie

No need to apologise - busy times!

AOs plan to go tomorrow. I'll ask the team to share our statement with you, probably Monday morning, before it goes out. You'll have seen ASCL and others asking for no fees. We will of course highlight centres have had 26% of their AQA fees returned from this summer.

Thanks

On 8 Aug 2020, at 13:21, SPATCHER, Jacquie
<Jacquie.SPATCHER@education.gov.uk> wrote:

Hi – sorry we didn't get back to you yesterday on this. I'm copying in Jen and John who are leading on summer results and appeals (Josh is leading on the autumn series).

The short answer is no, we're not planning to say anything on appeals fees – other than reactively. So no need to coordinate timing with us I think, though if you were able to coordinate with the other boards that would obviously be helpful (I appreciate you aren't able to discuss actual fee levels with each other). It would be really helpful though to know when you're going out, and what you're planning to say – clearly there's some media interest in this.

Thanks

Jacquie

From: @aqa.org.uk
Sent: 07 August 2020 10:35
To: @education.gov.uk>
Subject: Re: Appeals fees

Hi

Further to my email below, I just wanted to let you know that we will probably be announcing our appeals fees on Monday. There are conversations about whether we can align timing with other AOs. However, I wanted to check if DfE is planning to say anything on the appeals fees - just so we can coordinate timing if needed.

Best

From: @aqa.org.uk
On 6 Aug 2020, at 14:12,

Hi

Do you have a very quick 5 mins to discuss the above? I know you've been speaking to John Croker re autumn fees but I wanted to check something with you.

Many thanks

From: @ocr.org.uk

Sent: 06 August 2020 16:58

To: SPATCHER, Jacquie <Jacquie.SPATCHER@education.gov.uk>

Subject: OCR rebate



Rebate_comms_draft_letter_Vers3.docx

Dear Jacquie

Please find attached the comms that will go out to schools and colleges tomorrow about OCR rebate on exam fees.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Best wishes

From: @ocr.org.uk

Sent: 07 August 2020 09:04

To: @education.gov.uk

Subject: RE: Briefing from OCR on summer awards (VTQ)

Many thanks all

I will confirm 13th or 14th later today, as soon as I've had a chance to check availability with OCR colleagues.

From: @education.gov.uk

Sent: 06 August 2020 20:53

To: @education.gov.uk

Subject: RE: Briefing from OCR on summer awards (VTQ)

Hi

Thanks for getting in touch and for the invite. Jen's suggested dates works for us on the VTQ side too.

Thanks

From @education.gov.uk

Sent: 06 August 2020 20:33

To: @ocr.org.uk

Subject: RE: Briefing from OCR on summer awards (VTQ)

Dear

Many thanks for getting in touch with this offer. We'd like to take you up on it!

I hope that we will have a bit of a breathing space next week post-A level results, so

would a slot on Thursday 13th in the afternoon or Friday 14th suit you?
Best wishes

From: @ocr.org.uk
Sent: 05 August 2020 13:15
To: @education.gov.uk
Subject: Briefing from OCR on summer awards (VTQ)

Dear Colleagues

I hope all is well with you; it has been a while and when the dust has settled a little it would be really good to have some catch ups. In the meantime, I wondered if it would be useful for some of you or your colleagues if OCR provided a short briefing on the approach we have taken to awarding our Cambridge Nationals and Cambridge Technicals qualifications this summer. I appreciate it is short notice but we thought it might be helpful to provide some insight so that you have a clear understanding of the differences and similarities in approach to general qualifications in the period following results day.

I fully understand if this is logistically impossible but if you are able to free up any time (30 mins would probably suffice) we would be happy to present and take a few questions. We are also planning to extend this offer to Ofqual so it may be possible to do something in combination. I am aware that our colleague Philip Parker at Cambridge Assessment International Education has made a similar proposal and we would be happy to follow on from that if it helped with the logistics.

All that said, we fully understand if it is impossible to fit this in before either results day, but we think it would still be of value in the weeks afterwards.

Best wishes and take care

From: Michael.Hanton@ofqual.gov.uk
Sent: 06 August 2020 09:07
To: SPATCHER, Jacquie <Jacquie.SPATCHER@education.gov.uk>
Subject: RE: Letter to schools

Thanks Jacquie

We could and are exploring that too. it would take us a few days to get in place as we'd have to use a private company to distribute.

If that's the best route, that is workable – as I say just thinking what's quickest and most effective.

Thanks

From: SPATCHER, Jacquie <Jacquie.SPATCHER@education.gov.uk>
Sent: 06 August 2020 09:06
To: @ofqual.gov.uk
Subject: RE: Letter to schools

– could you or xx pick this up and get back to Michael, please? Obviously we don't generally send stuff direct to schools so I suspect the only route would be to link to a published letter in the weekly Covid email to schools – not sure when that's next due to go out.

Michael – can I just clarify why Ofqual can't send direct to schools? Generally it's easier for you to do that as you don't have the same restrictions on writing to schools that we have.

Thanks

Jacquie

From: Michael.Hanton@ofqual.gov.uk
Sent: 06 August 2020 08:48
To: SPATCHER, Jacquie <Jacquie.SPATCHER@education.gov.uk>
Subject: Letter to schools

Hi Jacquie,

We are considering writing to schools with the hope of a letter getting sent on to parents to reassure about results next week and talk about appeals.

Would DfE have a mechanism that we could use to get that to schools please? We're looking at best options to get that message out.

Thanks,
Michael

Generated from 7th August

From: Kate Keating <Kate.Keating@ofqual.gov.uk>
Sent: 07 August 2020 17:32
To: @education.gov.uk>
Subject: op ed

The fairest possible way to recognise students' achievements this year - by Roger Taylor, Chair - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)

Kate Keating

From: Kate Keating <Kate.Keating@ofqual.gov.uk>
Sent: 07 August 2020 13:08
To: @education.gov.uk>
Subject: TES article - social media reaction
Importance: High

(email trail withheld but resulted in final publication)

Response to TES story about centre assessment grades - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)

From: Kate Keating <Kate.Keating@ofqual.gov.uk>
Sent: 06 August 2020 09:09
To: @education.gov.uk>
Subject: Ox Univ blog

<https://www.ox.ac.uk/news/science-blog/scottish-higher-results-education-professors-comments#>

Kate Keating

From: @ofqual.gov.uk
Sent: 07 August 2020 11:55
To: @education.gov.uk
Cc: SPATCHER, Jacquie <Jacquie.SPATCHER@education.gov.uk>
Subject: RE: Quick Q - SR discussions - upcoming meetings

Hi ,

Yes of course – I think that would be really helpful. We haven't booked them yet but will include you both when we do.

Thanks,

From: @education.gov.uk
Sent: 07 August 2020 11:05
To: @ofqual.gov.uk
Cc: SPATCHER, Jacquie <Jacquie.SPATCHER@education.gov.uk>
Subject: Quick Q - SR discussions - upcoming meetings

Hi

I hope you're well.

Just a very quick note - I understand there will soon be a sequence of meetings coming in from HMT (to happen between now and the end of September, I think) on Ofqual's SR return. Just wanted to quickly check that you'd be happy for Jacquie and/or I to come along to these meetings from a sponsor perspective?

Many thanks and all the best,

From: @ofqual.gov.uk
Sent: 07 August 2020 16:21
To: SPATCHER, Jacquie <Jacquie.SPATCHER@education.gov.uk>; Richard Garrett <richard.garrett@ofqual.gov.uk>;

Subject: Fwd: Statement re: exam results - social mobility commission

Hi both

To be aware in case you haven't received too. we're received following from SMC ...
were considering lines as anticipating media queries

Pls can you share any relevant lines and we'll do same when we have them!

Thanks

From: Kate Keating <Kate.Keating@ofqual.gov.uk>

Sent: 08 August 2020 15:41

To: SPATCHER, Jacquie <Jacquie.SPATCHER@education.gov.uk>

Subject: RE: Off sen - letter to parents

Hi Jacquie, cd accommodate nearly all of those (couple of places where you were at odds with changes this end). Hope the attached is a good compromise! I think we're at the limit of accepting changes here, so it's really only if Spads think there's something particularly problematic. Also, if it's not at the mail house on Monday at 9, it won't go in time. So depending how straightforward – or not – any amends are, we need them quickly! Hoping none. Pl keep Cathy in the loop, I'll be offline tmrw.
Thanks.

From: SPATCHER, Jacquie <Jacquie.SPATCHER@education.gov.uk>

Sent: 08 August 2020 14:23

To: Kate Keating <Kate.Keating@ofqual.gov.uk>

Subject: RE: Off sen - letter to parents

Hi Kate – thanks for sharing this. It looks really helpful overall but and I had some thoughts, as per the attached. I think wants to share with spads too but isn't around to do that until tomorrow – if you're online today and were able to consider these comments and send us back a clean copy that we can show them by the end of the day, that would be really helpful.

Jacquie

From: Kate Keating <Kate.Keating@ofqual.gov.uk>

Sent: 07 August 2020 19:17

To: SPATCHER, Jacquie <Jacquie.SPATCHER@education.gov.uk>;

Subject: Off sen - letter to parents



CLEAN_letter_to_parents_v4docx.docx

Hello, fyi we're going to be sending the attached letter to parents via centres on Monday (they will receive it on Tues). Thanks, Kate

Kate Keating

From: Julie Swan <julie.swan@ofqual.gov.uk>
Sent: 07 August 2020 19:06
To: SPATCHER, Jacquie <Jacquie.SPATCHER@education.gov.uk>
Subject: RE: Wales

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-wales-53693531>

From: Julie Swan
Sent: 07 August 2020 19:06
To: SPATCHER, Jacquie <Jacquie.SPATCHER@education.gov.uk>
Subject: FW: Wales

To see, for info
J

Coronavirus in Wales: Exam results lowered after 'generous grading'

Thousands of estimated A-level and GCSE grades in Wales will be lowered to account for teachers being "generous" and inconsistency across schools and colleges, the exams watchdog has said.

Exams were cancelled due to coronavirus so results are based on how teachers predict a student would have performed and formula applied by the exam board. Results will be released in the next fortnight.

Qualifications Wales said the process was as fair as possible.

It said a majority of learners would receive their estimated grade and a small percentage would receive a grade that is higher.

The rest, it said, would receive a lower grade, with "a small percentage" of final grades "two or more grades lower" than they had been estimated.

Similar processes have been adopted in other parts of the UK, which **led to a row in Scotland last week** when many pupils were unhappy that they had been awarded lower grades than they had been predicted.

§ Bitesize guide to Covid exam results

§ Could results be affected by bias?

§ Exam limbo - sixth-formers' views

A-level and AS results are released to pupils on 13 August and GCSE grades will be published a week later.

Grades will also be published for the Welsh Bacc.

Schools and colleges submitted estimated grades to the WJEC exam board in June, as well as ranking pupils within grades in each subject.

The exam board then looks at information such as how pupils have performed in previous years and the results of the school and college in the past.

'Not a criticism of teachers'

Chief Executive of Qualifications Wales Philip Blaker said without such an approach "big variations in outcomes would reduce confidence in results and therefore disadvantage this year's learners".

"On the whole, CAGs [centre assessed grades] were generous and there was also evidence of inconsistency between exam centres," he said.

"This is in no way a criticism of teachers as there was no opportunity amid the pandemic to train them."



Image copyrightGETTY IMAGESImage captionThe watchdog said there was a "clear difference" between the estimated grades and previous years' exam results. He said the watchdog's analysis showed a "clear difference between CAGs and exam results in previous years, highlighting the need for standardisation to secure fairness for learners".

"Qualifications awarded in Wales this year are of the same value as those awarded in any other normal year," he added.

He said the approach had been "carefully thought through to be as fair as possible in the circumstances and protect the value of results".

Analysis by the regulator showed that, based on the estimated grades, more than 40% of A-levels would have been awarded at A* or A compared with 27% in 2019.

At GCSE, 73% would have had an A* to C grade, compared with 62% in 2019.

He said the "clear difference" between the estimated grades and previous years' exam results highlighted the need for a standardisation process.

"Changes of this magnitude are unprecedented and unchecked would not be credible", Mr Blaker said.

"They would also be at odds with our aim that results this year at a national level are broadly similar to previous years - something that most people agreed with when we consulted on our aims."

Generated from 8th August

Generated from 9th August

From: @ofqual.gov.uk>

Sent: 10 August 2020 13:29

To: SPATCHER, Jacquie <Jacquie.SPATCHER@education.gov.uk> Julie Swan <julie.swan@ofqual.gov.uk>; Michelle Meadows

<Michelle.Meadows@ofqual.gov.uk>; Cath Jadhav
<cath.jadhav@ofqual.gov.uk>; Richard Garrett
<richard.garrett@ofqual.gov.uk>;
Subject: RE: DfE/Ofqual catch up on 2020 exams

Thanks Jacquie.

We'll rebook for 2:30 for those that can make it

From: SPATCHER, Jacquie <Jacquie.SPATCHER@education.gov.uk>
Sent: 10 August 2020 13:22
To: Julie Swan <julie.swan@ofqual.gov.uk>; Michelle Meadows
<Michelle.Meadows@ofqual.gov.uk>; Cath Jadhav
<cath.jadhav@ofqual.gov.uk>; Richard Garrett
<richard.garrett@ofqual.gov.uk>;
Subject: RE: DfE/Ofqual catch up on 2020 exams

I have to brief the SoS at 2 now. Could possibly do 2.30, but it depends how long that runs on. I think Jen could do it.

Jacquie

From: @ofqual.gov.uk
Sent: 10 August 2020 12:34
To: Julie Swan <julie.swan@ofqual.gov.uk>; Michelle Meadows
<Michelle.Meadows@ofqual.gov.uk>; Cath Jadhav
<cath.jadhav@ofqual.gov.uk>; Richard Garrett
<richard.garrett@ofqual.gov.uk>; <Jacquie.SPATCHER@education.gov.uk>;
Subject: RE: DfE/Ofqual catch up on 2020 exams

Hi Everyone

As we all know it's a very dynamic environment today...

We think there is a high likelihood we will have an internal meeting with Sally and Roger at 2pm.

At least some of us could meet at 2:30pm. Would be helpful to know if DfE folks might be able to move – I guess unlikely.

Thanks

From: @ofqual.gov.uk
Sent: 22 July 2020 11:48
To: Julie Swan; Michelle Meadows; Cath Jadhav; Richard Garrett;
Jacquie.SPATCHER@education.gov.uk;
Subject: DfE/Ofqual catch up on 2020 exams
When: 10 August 2020 14:00-14:30 (UTC+00:00) Dublin, Edinburgh, Lisbon,

London.

Where: Microsoft Teams Meeting

Hi all

This week meetings will be on Mon, Tue, Fri. Hope the times are convenient.

Jacque please let me know if you need me to change the timing of any of these meetings.

Many thanks,

From: @pearson.com

Sent: 10 August 2020 11:21

To @education.gov.uk

Subject: Re: DfE Exam Support Service announcement - Tuesday

Hi

Just to confirm, we communicated our decisions regarding Autumn fees on 17th July.

From:

Sent: 09 August 2020 17:22

To:

Subject: RE: DfE Exam Support Service announcement - Tuesday

Thanks

From: @pearson.com

Sent: 09 August 2020 15:34

To: @education.gov.uk

Subject: Re: DfE Exam Support Service announcement - Tuesday

Hi

Thanks for the heads up. As you know, we've certainly made the decision to charge our normal entry fees for Autumn. An inflationary price rise would normally kick in for the Autumn but we have maintained the fee at the summer 2020 level.

I need to check with the team whether we have communicated this to centres - if I hear today I will come back to you later on.

From: @education.gov.uk

Sent: 09 August 2020 14:49

To: @pearson.com

Subject: DfE Exam Support Service announcement - Tuesday

Hi both

It now looks certain we are going to announce the package of DfE support for autumn exams on Tuesday. There may be some tweaks to wording, but the approach will be as per the draft centre guidance I sent to you on Tuesday 4 August.

I think we may be asked whether the exam boards will be charging fees for autumn exams. Can you let me know if Pearson has published its autumn fee schedule? (I couldn't see on the website (sorry if I missed)).

From: @ocr.org.uk
Sent: 10 August 2020 11:40
To: @education.gov.uk
Subject: RE: DfE Exam Support Service announcement - Tuesday

Hi

OCR has published its autumn fee schedule – it was communicated here:
<https://www.ocr.org.uk/administration/support-and-tools/siu/summer-2020-rebate-entry-fees-591948/>

We're going to look at whether this is visible enough given you couldn't find it.

Hope all is well with you.

From: @education.gov.uk
Sent: 09 August 2020 14:51
To: @ocr.org.uk
Subject: DfE Exam Support Service announcement - Tuesday

Hi all

It now looks certain we are going to announce the package of DfE support for autumn exams on Tuesday. There may be some tweaks to wording, but the approach will be as per the draft centre guidance I sent to you on Tuesday 4 August.

I think we may be asked whether the exam boards will be charging fees for autumn exams. Can you let me know if OCR has published its autumn fee schedule? (I couldn't see on the website (sorry if I missed)).

Generated from 10th August

From: @ofqual.gov.uk
Sent: 10 August 2020
To: @education.gov.uk
Subject: RE: Sponsor KiT

Sounds good – I'll cancel for this week, but you know where we are if need be.

Thanks –

From: @education.gov.uk
Sent: 10 August 2020 10:35
To: @ofqual.gov.uk
Subject: RE: Sponsor KiT

Hi, all – hope you had lovely weekends too.

I don't have anything in particular for the sponsor kit later (and 's on leave today) – happy to take time back, unless anyone's got anything to raise sponsor-wise?

All the best,

From @ofqual.gov.uk
Sent: 10 August 2020 10:07
To: @education.gov.uk
Subject: Sponsor KiT

Morning all –
Hope you had a great weekend. Do you have anything for the Sponsor KiT today?
Thanks –

From: SPATCHER, Jacquie <Jacquie.SPATCHER@education.gov.uk>
Sent: 10 August 2020 09:34
To: sally collier <sally.collier@ofqual.gov.uk>; 'julie.swan@ofqual.gov.uk' <julie.swan@ofqual.gov.uk>;
Subject: Meeting with Nick Gibb at 1pm today

All

Just to say that I'm not planning to set a particular agenda for the meeting with the Minister at 1pm today – I think it's just an opportunity for you to catch him up on where you are with preparation for results and talk through some of the issues that have been coming up in the media and that you expect over the coming days.

See you later.

Jacquie

From: @ofqual.gov.uk

To: @education.gov.uk

Hi

Great thanks for coming back so quickly

From: @education.gov.uk

Sent: 10 August 2020 10:11

To: @ofqual.gov.uk

Subject: RE: Correspondence

Hi

Thanks for this – for Office of the Children’s Commissioner, your contacts will be @childrenscommissioner.gov.uk or @childrenscommissioner.gov.uk (who is Anne’s PA).

As for the response to the Kate Green letter, I haven’t seen this case, I don’t think – will follow up with Exams Mailbox colleagues to see if anyone can shed some light.

Many thanks,

From: @ofqual.gov.uk

Sent: 10 August 2020 09:35

To: @education.gov.uk

Subject: RE: Correspondence

Thanks.

Also, do you have a phone / email for Children’s Commissioners Office as we’re going to offer a call ahead of results?

Thanks

From: @ofqual.gov.uk

Sent: 10 August 2020 09:34

To: > @education.gov.uk

Subject: Correspondence

Hi both

Please would you be able to share with us the SoS response to the Kate Green letter?

Thanks

From @aqa.org.uk

Sent: 10 August 2020 17:12

To: SPATCHER, Jacque <Jacque.SPATCHER@education.gov.uk>; 'Kate Keating'

<Kate.Keating@ofqual.gov.uk>

Subject: AQA statement on appeals fees

Dear all,

We're just about to publish our summer 2020 appeals fees on our website. Here's our media statement – and this messaging will also be reflected on the website.

An AQA spokesperson said:

“Appeals will be free if they're successful - unless a school's appealing because they sent us the wrong data. For anything else, we'll charge a small fee to cover some of our costs. We've always said we have no wish to gain financially from this summer's special arrangements – so we're already refunding 26% of exam entry fees, which can be used for any appeal costs.”

Note:

We're returning £42 million in summer entry fees to schools – and we expect anything they spend on appeals to be a very tiny fraction of this.

Best wishes,

From: Richard Garrett <richard.garrett@ofqual.gov.uk>

Sent: 10 August 2020 13:32

To: SPATCHER, Jacquie <Jacquie.SPATCHER@education.gov.uk>

Subject: BBC on Scotland

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-scotland-scotland-politics-53719477> - it points to the automatic appeal option...

Richard Garrett

From: sally collier <sally.collier@ofqual.gov.uk>

Sent: 10 August 2020 11:30

To: DYSON, Michelle <Michelle.DYSON@education.gov.uk>

Subject: FW: Norway and IBO

FYI

<https://www.datatilsynet.no/contentassets/04df776f85f64562945f1d261b4add1b/advance-notification-of-order-to-rectify-unfairly-processed-and-incorrect-personal-data.pdf>

From: Lucy Sydney <lucy.sydney@ofqual.gov.uk>

Sent: 10 August 2020 11:18

To: SPATCHER, Jacquie <Jacquie.SPATCHER@education.gov.uk>;

Subject: OFF SEN - GDPR concerns re awarding - International Baccalaureate and Norway



IBO_Norway_briefing.docx

DfE colleagues

You will wish to be aware of the issue highlighted in the attached. We will provide an update as soon as we know more (legal discussions underway today).

Lucy Sydney

From: @ofqual.gov.uk>
Sent: 10 August 2020 17:35
To: @education.gov.uk>
Subject: daily mail query - standardisation

Think Kate mentioned earlier had interest from Daily Mail re IBO and Norway in the context of standardisations.

Lines below for info

We have been transparent about the principles of our standardisation model since April and the data it would make use of. Precise detail of the model will be published after results are issued as to do so beforehand would mean results could be calculated in advance which would be unfair for students. The arrangements in place are the fairest possible to facilitate students progressing on to further study or employment as planned.

Thanks

From: @ofqual.gov.uk>
Sent: 10 August 2020 12:16
To: @education.gov.uk>
Cc: Kate Keating <Kate.Keating@ofqual.gov.uk>;
Subject: RE: Today prog

Hi

Below is what was sent across to Today programme, following interview request for Roger in context of Telegraph piece.

"We understand this has been a very difficult year for students, who have not had the chance to prove their knowledge and skills in exams. The arrangements in place this summer are the fairest possible to enable most to move on to further study or employment as planned – with grades based on judgements from their schools or colleges and standardised by exam boards."

“We expect the vast majority of the grades awarded to be within one grade of the centre assessment grades submitted by teachers. However, it is essential that grades are moderated to ensure they are consistent between schools and colleges and comparable over time.

“We have set out our approach to standardisation – extensively testing possible variations of the model and taking technical decisions that work in students’ favour and mean overall results will be slightly better than last year.

“Overall, students will get the best estimate of the grade they would have achieved if exams had gone ahead. Schools and colleges can appeal if they believe there has been an error or that the moderation process has not produced a reliable result.”

From: @ofqual.gov.uk>
Sent: 10 August 2020 16:20
To: @education.gov.uk>
Cc: Kate Keating <Kate.Keating@ofqual.gov.uk>
Subject: TES/telegraph enquiries - SES data on results day

Hi

We’ve been asked by both TES and Telegraph if on results day we intend to publish breakdown of data as SQA did – CAGs alongside calculated grades with a breakdown socio-economic status etc.

We’re planning to go back with the below:

we will publish equalities data, including analysis by socio-economic status, on results day

Thanks

From: Kate Keating <Kate.Keating@ofqual.gov.uk>
Sent: 10 August 2020 16:49
To: @education.gov.uk>
Subject: Off sen - statement on Scotland for Ofqual website
(email trail withheld but resulted in published document)

Response to media coverage about results in Scotland - GOV.UK
(www.gov.uk)
