

**From:** Jeremy Benson [mailto:Jeremy.Benson@Ofqual.Gov.Uk]  
**Sent:** 03 September 2012 13:19  
**To:** BEGOL, Hardip; [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** FREEDMAN, Sam; Fiona Pethick; [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** RE: AQA line - check

(hangs head in embarrassment)

Jeremy

**Jeremy Benson**  
**Deputy Director - Policy, Ofqual**

• **Direct:** [REDACTED] • **Office:** 0300 303 3344 • **Mobile:** [REDACTED]  
• 1410 Spring Place, Herald Avenue, Coventry Business Park • Coventry • West Midlands • CV5 6UB

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**From:** Hardip.BEGOL@education.gsi.gov.uk [mailto:Hardip.BEGOL@education.gsi.gov.uk]  
**Sent:** 03 September 2012 13:16  
**To:** Jeremy Benson; [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** Sam.FREEDMAN@education.gsi.gov.uk; Fiona Pethick; [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Re: AQA line - check

Smart-alec - the line is right - it says six percent of entrants (not six percent of those getting a A-C\*).

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**From:** Jeremy Benson [mailto:Jeremy.Benson@Ofqual.Gov.Uk]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 03, 2012 01:12 PM  
**To:** [REDACTED] BEGOL, Hardip  
**Cc:** FREEDMAN, Sam; Fiona Pethick <Fiona.Pethick@Ofqual.Gov.Uk>; [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** RE: AQA line - check

6 percentage points not 6%. (6% of 60% is 3.6%, so a 6% increase on 60% would be only 63.6%).

(I'm sure I learnt that at GCSE).

Jeremy

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**Deputy Director - Policy, Ofqual**

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 03 September 2012 13:05  
**To:** Hardip.BEGOL@education.gsi.gov.uk; Jeremy Benson  
**Cc:** Sam.FREEDMAN@education.gsi.gov.uk; Fiona Pethick; [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** RE: AQA line - check

*As requested*

*If pressed:* The AQA awarding organisation has suggested that if the grade boundaries used in January for the English GCSE controlled assessments [English and English Language] are used for the June cohort, an additional **6% of entrants** for those exams would receive a grade C. Ofqual has said this would lead to candidates getting grades "which are not justified by the evidence [page 17 of its report]".

[REDACTED] on  
[REDACTED] on  
Sanctuary Buildings, Great Smith Street, Westminster, SW1P 3BT  
[REDACTED]

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**From:** BEGOL, Hardip  
**Sent:** 03 September 2012 13:01  
**To:** 'Jeremy.Benson@Ofqual.Gov.Uk'; [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** FREEDMAN, Sam; 'Fiona.Pethick@Ofqual.Gov.Uk'; [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Re: AQA line - check

[REDACTED] can you send the if pressed line on AQA figures we're using to Jeremy to check please. It would be prudent to add his final sentence on if other grade boundaries had not moved.

Hardip

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**From:** Jeremy Benson [mailto:Jeremy.Benson@Ofqual.Gov.Uk]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 03, 2012 12:37 PM  
**To:** BEGOL, Hardip  
**Cc:** FREEDMAN, Sam; Fiona Pethick <Fiona.Pethick@Ofqual.Gov.Uk>  
**Subject:** RE: AQA English spec

Could you ring me? If Ministers use this, I'd suggest they say

'if the AQA controlled assessment units in June were regraded using the January boundaries, AQA estimate there would be a six percentage point increase in their candidates getting A\*-C. That assumes other grade boundaries stay the same.'

We've been emphasising the importance of fairness across cohorts. If we did that, it would give some 2012 June students grades they wouldn't have got if they were in other years.

Jeremy

**Jeremy Benson**  
**Deputy Director - Policy, Ofqual**

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**From:** Jeremy Benson  
**Sent:** 03 September 2012 12:11  
**To:** 'Hardip.BEGOL@education.gsi.gov.uk'  
**Cc:** Sam.FREEDMAN@education.gsi.gov.uk; Fiona Pethick  
**Subject:** RE: AQA English spec

Fine. We've seen various figures of that order, but pl could you let us have whatever details you have from them on the assumption we'll be asked about it if the SoS uses it? In particular, is that a qual level increase or a unit increase?

Thanks

Jeremy

**Jeremy Benson**  
**Deputy Director - Policy, Ofqual**

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**From:** Hardip.BEGOL@education.gsi.gov.uk [mailto:Hardip.BEGOL@education.gsi.gov.uk]  
**Sent:** 03 September 2012 11:46  
**To:** Jeremy Benson  
**Cc:** Sam.FREEDMAN@education.gsi.gov.uk; Fiona Pethick  
**Subject:** RE: AQA English spec

We've got a quality-assured figure from AQA – 6% - Ministers might decide to use that.

Hardip

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**From:** Jeremy Benson [mailto:Jeremy.Benson@Ofqual.Gov.Uk]  
**Sent:** 03 September 2012 11:43

Hardip

Thought it might be useful for you to have the attached. This was accredited in December 2009, ie before Ofqual came into formal existence (though we existed in interim form as part of QCA) - at that point, much of the work on accreditation was done by QCDA.

Got your vmail this morning - I have been in meetings all morning but am around now if you want a word, or if there's anything you want me to look at.

Jeremy

**Jeremy Benson**  
**Deputy Director - Policy, Ofqual**

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