



23/10/2023

## Approach to Grading Arrangements in Wales

Dear Colleague,

Our approach to the grading arrangements in place in Wales this academic year was confirmed in September.

### Exams and assessments 2024

The arrangements for this academic year broadly reflect the usual, pre-pandemic arrangements that you will be familiar with. There will be no additional support in the form of advance information, as there was in summer 2022.

The intention is that this year's results will be broadly in line with pre-pandemic outcomes. Actual outcomes may vary, of course, depending on the cohort of learners entered in each subject. However, there will be some statistical protection in place to prevent outcomes in any subject falling substantially below those in 2019.

AS awards from summer 2023, which were awarded so that outcomes were broadly midway between 2019 and 2022, will contribute to the 2024 A level awards in the usual way. This means that A level results may be slightly higher than normal in 2024, but we believe that this effect will be minimal and should not affect consideration of these results as being at the pre-pandemic standard.

Grading arrangements for vocational qualifications will continue as normal, with awarding bodies adopting the same approach for the academic year 2023 to 2024 as they did previously.

### Other UK jurisdictions

Qualifications Wales is the regulator for Made for Wales qualifications and our decision relates only to those qualifications. Education is a devolved matter and regulators in each jurisdiction in the UK has made its own decisions about the approach to grading this year.

#### Qualifications Wales

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#### Cymwysterau Cymru

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Parc Imperial,  
Casnewydd  
NP10 8AR  
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As you begin to process applications from learners with qualifications taken across the UK and the world, I ask that you treat learners in Wales with parity when making decisions about places on courses starting this year.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Philip Blaker', written in a cursive style.

**Philip Blaker**  
*Chief Executive*