



# Blackfen School for Girls

Raising aspirations - releasing potential

The process in Blackfen School for Girls to generate centre assessed grades and ranking was led by the Headteacher and Deputy Headteacher for Curriculum, Teaching, Learning and Assessment.

## 1 - Points of reference

The 'Association of School and College Leaders' (ASCL); 'Joint Council for Qualifications' (JCQ); the 'Office of Qualifications and Examinations Regulation' (Ofqual); Pearson Qualifications; 'Schools, students and teachers network' (SSAT).

## 2 - Devising the school process

The documents and webinars listed below were used to set up the process in school for generating centre assessed grades and ranking:

Reference 1: ASCL 'Emerging principles and guidance regarding teacher-assessed grades for Summer 2020' - 30.3.20.

Reference 2: Ofqual letter to students – Summer 2020 grading – 3.4.20.

Reference 3: Ofqual 'Summer 2020 grades for GCSE, AS, A level EPQ, AEA in Maths – guidance for teachers, students, parents' – 3.4.20.

Reference 4: ASCL 'Coronavirus (Covid-19) Guidance regarding centre assessed grades for Summer 2020' - 8.4.20.

Reference 5: JCQ 'Update on the Summer Series 2020' - 28.4.20.

Reference 6: ASCL Team Webinar and accompanying PowerPoint presentation on centre assessed grading – 30.4.20 (<https://vimeo.com/413110422>).

Reference 7: SSAT 'A guide to teacher assessment and ranking by Tom Middlehurst' - 10.5.20.

## 3 - Overview of the school process

4th May – 22nd May 2020: Generation of centre assessed grades and ranking for GCSE, AS, A level and EPQ qualifications.

21st May – 2nd June 2020: Input of grades for completed BTEC and Technical units / generation of centre assessed grades for BTEC and Technical units as stipulated by awarding bodies.

25th May – 5th June 2020: Checking and verification of data entry for GCSE, AS, A level and EPQ centre assessed grades and ranking.

5th June – 12th June 2020: Generation of ranking for BTEC and Technical qualifications.

8th June – 10th June 2020: Upload of centre assessed grades and ranking for GCSE, AS, A level and EPQ centre assessed grades / Department and Head of Centre sign-off.

12th June – 17th June 2020: Upload of calculated results and ranking for BTEC and Technical qualifications / Department and Head of Centre sign-off.

#### 4 - Managing the school process

- Issued to staff (1) on 3.4.20 – ‘Ofqual Summer 2020 grades for GCSE, AS, A level EPQ, AEA in Maths – guidance for teachers, students, parents’

First guidance to teachers: outline of the process for generating centre assessed grades and ranking for GCSE, AS, A level and EPQ courses.

- Issued to staff (2) on 9.4.20 – ‘Ofqual Summer 2020 results for vocational, technical and other qualifications’.

First guidance to teachers: outline of the process for generating calculated results for BTEC and Technical qualifications, which takes into account marks for completed units submitted previously.

- Issued to staff (3) on 21.4.20 – ‘Ofqual Summer 2020 grades for GCSE, AS, A level EPQ, AEA in Maths – guidance for teachers, students, parents FINAL’.

Guidance to teachers: outline of the process for generating centre assessed grades for GCSE, AS, A level and EPQ which is ‘holistic’ and takes into account the ‘full range of available evidence rather than solely assigning grades based on performance in a mock exam, for example.’ (Page 12). ‘Schools and colleges will judge the grade that students [with access arrangements] would most likely have achieved if they had been able to sit their examinations with the intended reasonable adjustment or access arrangement in place.’ (Page 11).

- Issued to staff (4) on 27.4.20 – ‘Ofqual – Awarding vocational and technical qualifications this summer’.

Guidance to teachers: Each awarding body will run its own process to award calculated results for BTEC and Technical qualifications because the “complexity of the landscape for vocational and technical qualifications means a single approach is not appropriate.” (Page 2).

- Issued to staff (5) on 1.5.20 – ‘Pearson BTEC summary Awarding summer 2020 results support’.

Guidance to teachers: Pearson’s proposed approach to awarding calculated results in Summer 2020 for vocational, technical and other general qualifications in the UK.

- Issued to staff (6) on 6.5.20 – ‘School document CAG – Stage 1 (FINAL)’.

The school process for generating centre assessed grades/ranking for GCSE, AS, A level and EPQ qualifications.

- Issued to staff (7) on 7.5.20 – ‘School document CAG – Stage 1 data input (FINAL)’.

The school process for data entry of centre assessed grades/ranking for GCSE, AS, A level and EPQ qualifications.

- Issued to staff (8) on 14.5.20 – ‘Ofqual BTEC Guidance for Centres – what to expect for VTQs summer 2020’.

Updated guidance on Ofqual’s expectations of awarding organisations and further detail on what centres should expect to happen during the process of generating calculated results.

- Issued to staff (9) on 19.5.20 – ‘Ofqual Guidance on objectivity in grading and ranking’.

Guidance to teachers about making objective and ‘holistic’ estimates of student performance for centre assessed grades and calculated results.

- Issued to staff (10) on 20.5.20 – ‘Pearson Assessment grade and rank order guidance’.

Updated guidance to teachers about eligibility of BTEC/Technical units for centre assessment grades.

- Issued to staff (11) on 20.5.20 – ‘School document – guidance for BTECs’.

Guidance to BTEC teachers for generating BTEC centre assessed grades and data entry.

- Issued to staff (12) on 1.6.20 – ‘School document CAG Stage 2 – Checking exercise. All staff (Final).

Guidance to all teaching staff for reviewing centre assessed grades, noting the specific guidance issued by Ofqual (‘Ofqual Guidance on objectivity in grading and ranking’ - issued on 19.5.20) and implementing the practical guidance in these extracts. Page 5 – 7: Agreed access arrangements / special consideration requests; Page 9: Objectivity in grading and ranking decisions; Page 10: Unconscious effects on objectivity; Page 11: Reviewing judgements.

- Issued to staff (13) on 1.6.20 – ‘Ofqual Summer 2020 Awarding GCSEs, A-Levels – Info for Heads of Centre.’

Updated guidance to teachers about making ‘holistic professional’ judgements of student performance; generating a subject rank order; the importance of objectivity; the process of statistical standardisation to be run by examination boards following the upload of school data; arrangements for signing off data by each department and the Head of Centre.

- Issued to staff (14) on 9.6.20 – ‘School document Signing-off process for GCSE, AS, A-level and EPQ courses’

The process in school for signing-off GCSE, AS, A level and EPQ qualifications by the Subject Leader and LT line manager.

- Issued to staff (15) on 15.6.20 – ‘School document Signing-off process for BTEC and Technical courses’

The process in school for signing-off BTEC and Technical qualifications by the Subject Leader and LT line manager.