

The Minster School | Qualifications 2021

This document outlines the school's approach to the awarding of student grades this summer. We are still awaiting additional information from individual exam boards, and so elements of this plan may be subject to change.

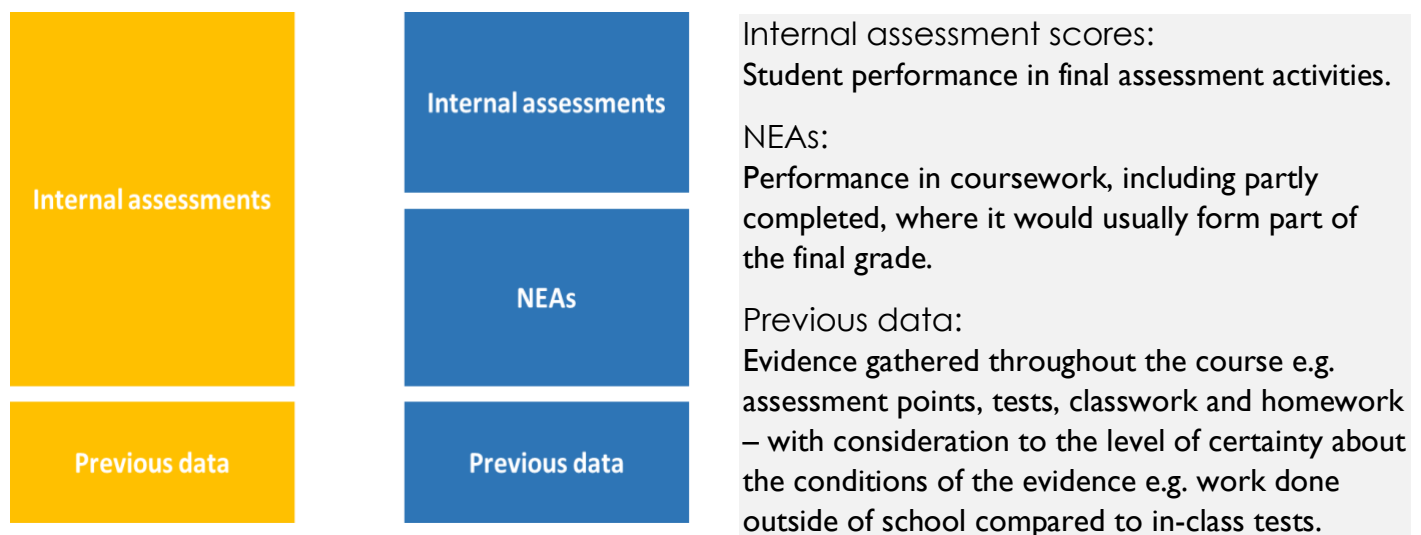
How grades will be decided

Student grades will be decided by their teachers. They will not be adjusted by an algorithm.

Schools have been encouraged to gather evidence to support their grading decisions, including through a series of assessments. We think a series of small assessments is a fair and supportive model for students. In each subject, students will sit a number of in-class assessments, usually 3 or 4 in a subject. Each assessment will be small (an hour at most and often shorter) and students will have prior knowledge of the topics covered. Lessons will also be used to prepare students in advance of these assessments.

The results of these small assessments will then be compared against our prior data.

Different courses will have a different approach to deciding the final grade, depending on the components. Because they are our most recent evidence the internal assessments will be an important part of the final grade decisions, but other data will be considered. Two example models are shown in the diagrams below.



Access arrangements



The guidance is clear that arrangements must be in place for students who would usually have support accessing an exam e.g. laptop, rest breaks, extra time, a scribe or a reader. Arrangements will be made to support students to access our internal assessments and ensure they are not disadvantaged by the process.

Special consideration

As in a normal year, there is also a list of students for whom special consideration should be given to their final grades. Staff must review any grades against this list, and it will be checked by the SLT lead for exams.



The upcoming internal assessments

Taken together, these assessments must cover the range of taught content and allow students to show a range of knowledge and skills needed to assess their grade. Assessments will be done in classroom, under test conditions.

Qualification timeline

8 th Mar	15 th Mar	22 nd Mar	29 th Mar	Easter break	19 th Apr	26 th Apr	3 rd May	10 th May	17 th May	24 th May
Revision and preparation			Prep. &...		Preparation and internal assessments					

Revision and assessment preparation

Completion of course material, beginning of preparation for internal assessments and the end of the course. A small number of internal assessments may take place during this time.

Preparation and internal assessments

Continued preparation and revision alongside internal assessments, 3 or 4 in each subject, over the seven-week block.

If an activity will be a significant part of the final qualification grading process it will be highlighted to students and will be recorded on Show My Homework, along with a list of content it will cover. Content will be shared at least a week in advance and usually much further.

We are currently preparing our final timetable of assessments and will publish dates to students shortly.

Results will not be shared with students. General feedback may be given to the group and the initial review of assessments will inform future lessons.

The window closes at the end of the first summer half term. A student will have no more than three internal assessment on any given day.

Final grades timeline

- **Internal assessments finish:** 28th May
- **Final grades deadline for schools:** 18th June
- **Exam results days:**
 - **A-level:** 10th August
 - **GCSE:** 12th August

Our message to students

Your final grade will be decided by your teachers using the results of additional classroom assessments, alongside other work you have completed during the course.

We will place heavier weighting on work produced during the end of the course, rather than at the beginning. Unless there are exceptional circumstances.