



Dear Year 11 parents and students,

Please find below the important information about the appeals process this summer. Any questions regarding this process please email our Examinations Officer: gradeappeals@bthcc.org

How were my / my child's grades arrived at this year?

Teacher Assessed Grades were submitted this year following a rigorous process of assessment, moderation and quality assurance.

These grades were then approved by the relevant exam board, following external quality assurance checks.

What do I do if I'm not happy with my / my child's grade?

All students have the opportunity to appeal their grade if they meet the eligibility criteria. It is important to note that an appeal **may result in a grade being lowered, staying the same, or going up**. If a student puts in an appeal and their grade is lowered, they will receive the lower mark.

There is also the option to *sit* GCSEs in the autumn 2021 at their Post-16 centre. The design, content and assessment of these papers will be the same as in a normal year with results in January 2022.

What are the grounds for appeal?

There are 4 main grounds for appeal, as dictated by the Joint Council for Qualifications (JCQ). They are:

- You think we have made an **administrative error**: an example of this would be putting the wrong information into a spreadsheet.
- You think we have made a **procedural error**: this means we haven't properly followed our own process, as approved by the exam board.
- You think the **academic judgement on the selection of evidence was unreasonable**: you think the evidence used to grade you was not reasonable.
- You think the **academic judgement on the grade you were given was unreasonable**.

What does 'unreasonable' mean?

'Unreasonable' is a technical term in this context and means that no educational professional acting reasonably could have selected the same evidence or come up with the same grade.

It also means that the independent reviewers will **not** remark or grade students' evidence. Instead, they will look to see whether any teacher acting reasonably could have arrived at the same grade.

What will be the outcome of an appeal?

When placing an appeal, the student will have to sign a declaration saying that they accept the fact their grade may go down and they may get a lower grade than their original TAG.

What should I do before appealing?

Students and parents must read the JCQ Student and Parent guide before appealing, which will be available on the JCQ website by results days.

<https://www.jcq.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/03/JCQ-Guidance-for-Students-and-Parents-on-Summer-2021.pdf> page 6 onwards

How do I make an appeal?

Following results days, pupils must read the guidance above along with the parents/carers should fill in the first section of the JCQ form [here](#) and send it to gradeappeals@bthcc.org by Tuesday 31st August.

What are the deadlines?

To help us ensure our examination team meet the examination board deadlines, we ask that all non-priority appeals are also made by to the centre by Tuesday 31st August.

You know my/ my child's grades. Why can't you tell us?

Sharing Teacher Assessments ahead of Results Days is forbidden by the examination board.

Kind regards

Mr Jonathan Regan
Assistant Headteacher i/c of Year 11