

5 August 2020

Dear Cambridge International students,

We understand that the Covid-19 pandemic has been a very unsettling time for students who would have normally taken their exams in the June 2020 series. We know that many students were very disappointed not to be able to take exams when they had worked so hard towards them.

We have put in place special arrangements for awarding grades in the June 2020 series, to make sure that you can continue with your education or work journey.

To help you understand how we are awarding grades in this series, we have included some of the key issues below:

### 1. Key dates

11 August	Provisional results release for Cambridge IGCSE, O Level, AS & A Level, IPQ, AICE, ICE.
13 August	Provisional results release for Cambridge Pre-U

You can see an example of what your results statement could look like [here](#).

### 2. How June 2020 grades are being calculated

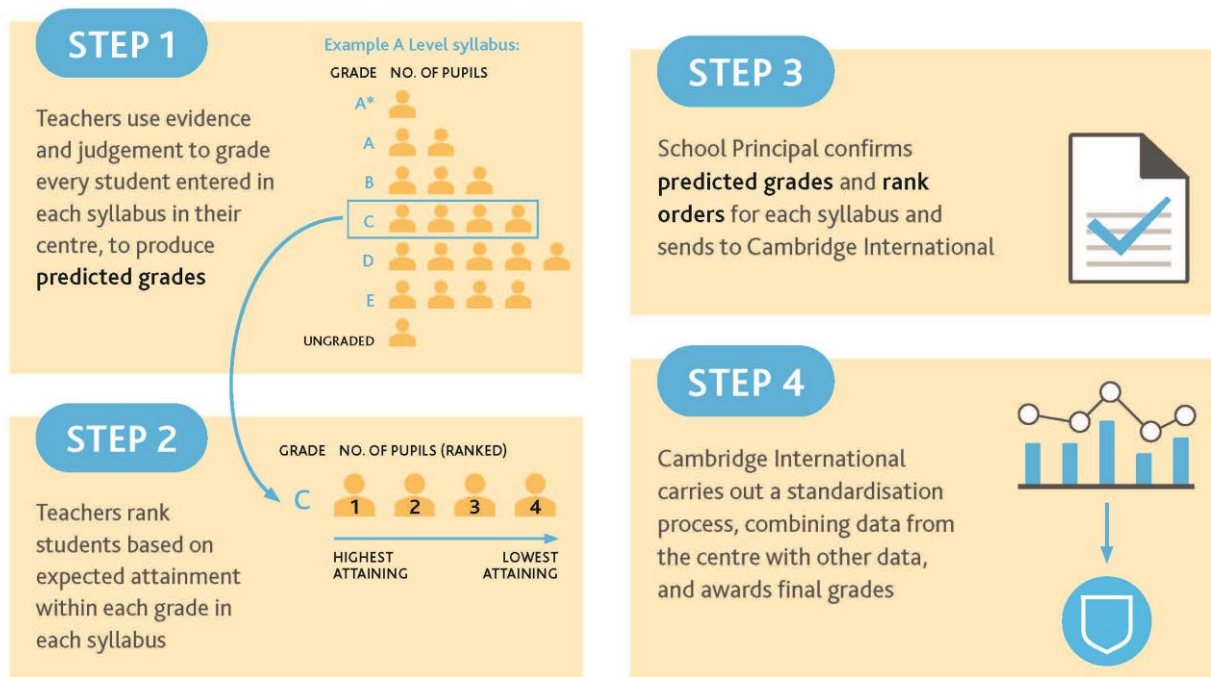
As students were not able to take their exams in the usual way, we developed an alternative process that has four steps:

**Step 1.** Teacher determines a predicted grade for each student in each subject where they would normally have taken an exam, based on a range of evidence, including coursework, classwork and mock exam results.

**Step 2.** The school was asked to provide a rank order of students within each grade for each subject. This shows which students the school thought were the most likely to achieve each grade. The rank order is needed for the statistical standardisation process to work in the fairest way possible.

**Step 3.** The head of school reviews the predicted grades and rank orders, and sends them to Cambridge International.

**Step 4.** Cambridge International carries out a standardisation process to make sure that the standard of grades is maintained between years. This standardisation combines data from the school with other data (see more below). Cambridge International then awards final grades.



### 3. How does the statistical standardisation work?

Statistical standardisation is the final stage of our process to award grades. It is carried out by Cambridge International using various types of information:

- The predicted grade that your school provided
- The rank order of all candidates that your school provided
- The results achieved by students in your school in each syllabus in the previous three years (June 2017, June 2018 and June 2019 exam series)
- Results achieved globally in each syllabus in the June 2019 exam series.

This exercise may mean that you were not awarded the same final grade as your school predicted. You can find more information about the process on our [website](#).

### 4. Why did Cambridge International need to do this standardisation exercise?

We had to make sure that the grades we award are fair to all students who are receiving grades in this series. Schools may have done things differently from one another, so we needed to make sure grades are consistent.

We have worked closely with universities around the world to be sure that they will accept these grades.

The grades you received have been through the standardisation process, so that we maintain the same standard from last year worldwide. This means you can be sure that they will allow you to

compete on the same basis as students who have taken exams in the normal way in previous years, and with those who will take exams in the future.

### **5. Can I get into university with the grades awarded in this series?**

Yes. The grades awarded in this series hold the same value as grades awarded in other series. We have worked closely with many universities around the world to make sure they understand and accept the assessed grade method we are using in the June 2020 series. If you would like to read some statements of support from universities for the method, you can do so [here](#).

### **6. What do I do if I am not happy with my result?**

Your result will be your final standardised grade - this may not be the same as the predicted grade that your school submitted.

We understand that many students would have preferred to take exams. If your results aren't what you were expecting, you should talk to your school about your options. This could include progressing to further study or taking exams in a later series.

### **7. Can I take exams in a later series?**

Yes. Cambridge International plans to run a normal exam series in November 2020. You should speak to your school if you may be interested in taking exams in a later series.

If you or your parents have any further questions, please contact your school in the first instance, or check all the information on the June 2020 series [here](#).

We wish you the very best at this challenging time.

Yours faithfully,



**Christine Özden**

Chief Executive, Cambridge Assessment International Education