

## Understanding Centre Assessed Grades (CAGs) and Appeals

We recognise that you are disappointed by your centre assessed grade and that you may feel it is not a fair reflection of your ability, progress or hard work. It is important that you understand the process by which CAGs were arrived at and how these grades are different from other types of grades.

### CAGs are not:

- **UCAS predicted grades.** These are usually very aspirational grades – the highest grade a student could achieve.
- **Predicted Grades for Progress Reports/Reviews** - based on performance to date, this is the grade a teacher thinks that an individual student will get in their final exam
- **Key Assessment/Mock Exam Grade** – a snapshot in time. These assessments do not test all the content or skills that students have learnt

### CAGs are:

**Calculated grades based on student performance using a broad evidence base including key assessment grades, mock results and contextual information. CAGs also had to take into account the results that students had got at the college over a three - year period.** Although this is quite a complicated process, essentially it means that the grades students got this year couldn't be very different from the grade profile (by subject) of the previous three years. So if a college or school, on average, got the following grades in German (5% A\*; 15% A; 40% B; 20% C; 15% D; 5% E) then that school or college would be expected to produce CAGs for their German students this year which were in line with this profile.

This is most difficult in relation to high grades because it means we were unable to award as many A\*-B grades as we would have wanted to.

The use of historical data is problematic because the performance of past students affects the grades for current students. This was not the approach we would have chosen to take. This was a methodology imposed on us by OFQUAL and it meant that the CAGs were not the grades we hoped students would have got if they had sat the exams but the most realistic outcome within the constraints we were given.

Although teachers made a very important contribution to this process, **CAGs are not teacher grades but centre grades.**

### What Next?

Unfortunately there are limited routes of appeal open to you and to us:

- You can ask us to check that there has not been an administrative error. In other words, to check that the grade entered for your CAG was the grade that we arrived at through the internal standardisation process. *You should understand that we have checked all data for all candidates multiple times and we can confirm that no data entry errors have been made.*
- You could appeal but only on the basis of bias or discrimination. You will need to show evidence of this – speculation or accusation will not count as evidence. Examples of this can be found in the [OFQUAL guidance](#).
- If you would like appeal or complain of discrimination, you must do so in writing (letter or email) to Nuweed Razaq at the College or [nra@woking.ac.uk](mailto:nra@woking.ac.uk). Your letter of appeal or complaint must clearly indicate the grounds for appeal as directed by the Ofqual guidance.
- Please note from the Ofqual guidance (page 5), you cannot simply appeal against the process for generating the CAG or your rank order position.

**Autumn Exams.** If you feel that you would have got a higher grade than your CAG if you had sat the examinations, you can sit them in the autumn series without charge. **You must let us know by 28<sup>th</sup> August** if you wish to be entered for one or more of your subjects.