



Bluecoat Aspley

Teacher Assessed Grades 2021

At Bluecoat Aspley Academy we want you to maximise every opportunity to demonstrate your learning and ability. We aim to ensure that all pupils are ready for 2021 assessment by addressing gaps in their learning and deepening their understanding of concepts, knowledge and skills.

Supporting you...

We recognise that your results are important to you and that this can result in an increased feeling of pressure. The next few weeks will be intense as you prepare for your final assessments. Your pastoral and teaching teams are here to support you.

We will...

- **Plan an assessment calendar so you know when your assessments will take place**
- **Have clear guidance available for you about your assessments and where to find supportive resources**
- **Continue to offer careers interviews to support you with your future**
- **Provide an open and safe environment for you to talk to us about any pressure you may feel**



Prepare

- Work with your teachers to prepare for mocks and the teaching that will take place after the mocks.
- Complete all revision activities, classwork set, practise questions and homework, as this will support you in achieving the best possible outcome/grade.
- We will use different types of evidence to assess you including Autumn and Spring mock grades and the mini assessments that teachers are planning for May.
- All evidence that we use must be moderated, standardised and marked according to exam mark schemes
- You should continue to produce work to the best of your ability for all qualifications. You will continue to work on coursework for your BTECs.

Mocks and feedback

- Moderation and marking will be completed by teachers by 4 May 2021. Grades for mocks will be available to view on Go4S. This will show you how well you are currently performing. **It is NOT your final grade.**
- Mock feedback: Teachers can share mock exam/NEA assessment grades/information with you.
- BTEC – feedback will be provided in line with Pearson guidance throughout the March to May process.
- BTEC – some students will sit mock exams if they have elected to enter themselves for a resit

Boost

- Teachers will use the mocks to identify areas that you need to revisit, to stretch and deepen your learning to support them in making a judgment about your grade.
- You will be taught topics and/or areas of the specification that need to be assessed to boost your evidence portfolio.
- You will still have any access arrangements you are entitled to.
- BTEC - teaching will continue and any gaps in your coursework will be filled in to ensure we have a full picture of your ability.

Formal assessment

- In-class assessments will take place using exam board questions. These are NOT another set of MOCKS. But these are formal assessments and will undergo the same checking and marking processes. They will count towards your final grade.
- You will still have any access arrangements you are entitled to.
- All work must be your own.
- BTEC - teaching will continue and any assessments that are needed to be complete will be done in this time.

Checking

- All BOOST assessments must be standardised according to exam board descriptors and sampled.
- **20th May Drop Down Day:** Teachers will work together to moderate and mark your work. Any extenuating circumstances from across the year will be applied.
- The Senior Leadership Team will then review all the grades and check that grades match the evidence provided and challenge any bias.

Results

- The results will be reviewed by the exam board and final grades will then be awarded. You can then confidently progress to the next stage of your education or employment.
- Results day will be on 10th August for Year 13 and 12th August for Year 11.

FAQs

How will my grades be awarded?

A **Teacher Assessed Grade (TAG)** will be submitted for each student for each subject. This will be based upon the standard at which you are performing. This will be based on a range of evidence, namely, mocks, coursework, and mini assessments completed in May. Pupils improve over time so the May assessments should show us how well you are performing. The evidence used must be consistent across the year group. Teachers make the final judgements about what evidence is to be included. This is not a negotiation. Teachers will then make a judgment on the overall grade and will do this objectively. This is not based on your potential but on your current performance. This grade will be reviewed by other teachers within school.

What happens if I have been affected by personal circumstances?

This will be taken into consideration by your teachers before they submit the grade. You can raise any personal concerns with your year leader.

What happens if I have access arrangements?

Teachers will ensure that during the mini assessments you will have any access arrangements that you are entitled to.



FAQs

Will I be given the assessment questions before the assessment?

No. Teachers can tell you broadly the topic, subject content or skill that you are working on and can even do practice questions or parts of questions with you to support your learning as they do in lessons, but they will not tell you the questions that will be on the assessment.

What happens if I do badly in one assessment?

Pupils improve as they attend lessons and complete the work set. We understand that different people do well on different elements of the qualification and that not everyone makes the same progress at the same time. One assessment will not determine your whole grade. Missing lessons and not working your hardest will impact your assessments. You must work hard to ensure you get the best grades for you.

What happens if I do not get my target grade?

Not everyone will get their target grades and not everyone will get the grades they want. If you are concerned speak to your teacher or a member of the pastoral team and we will support you.



FAQs

What happens if I miss an assessment?

We have tried to ensure that no assessments take place during Eid. If you are ill, you will be supported in catching up with assessments as soon as you are able to. This might take place during the catch up window at the end of May or could be on a Thursday afternoon. We need to protect lesson time as much as possible.

What will I be assessed on in the May assessments?

The topics will be information you have already learnt and may include areas that you have not yet been assessed on. They may include content, skills and knowledge from only some areas of the specification as it is not necessary to assess you on all content.

Will I get my mock results back?

Your teachers will share mock grades with you but they cannot tell you the grade they will submit to the exam board. You will not get grades given to you for the mini assessments as these on their own do not produce a grade but are part of the evidence that is needed for the TAG. Please do not ask your teachers for the TAG or May assessment grades.

