

Your guide to the new GCSE grading

In summer 2017, students' GCSE English and GCSE Maths exam results will be graded from 9–1 instead of from A*–G.

From summer 2019, all GCSE subjects will be graded this way.

How does the numerical system work?

We currently have eight grades and when the new grading is introduced we will have nine with grade 9 being the best. So how will they correlate to each other?

- The new system allows for greater differentiation, having nine numerical grades in place of eight letter grades.
- The new numbered grades will not map directly across from the old grades A*–G, but we do know that approximately the same proportion of students who currently receive:
 - a grade A or higher will receive a grade 7 or higher
 - a grade C or higher will receive a grade 4 or higher.
- Grade 9 will be a new grade for very high performing students, to be set as the top fifth of the current A and A*.
- Grade 5 will be the benchmark for a 'good pass'.
- The bottom of grade 1 will be the same as the bottom of grade G.

New GCSE Grading Structure Ofqual

| NEW GCSE GRADING STRUCTURE | CURRENT GCSE GRADING STRUCTURE |
|----------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 9 | A* |
| 8 | A |
| 7 | A |
| 6 | B |
| 5 | B |
| 4 | C |
| 3 | D |
| 2 | E |
| 1 | F |
| | G |
| U | U |

GOOD PASS (DfE)
5 and above = top of C and above

AWARDING
4 and above = bottom of C and above

Why is the current system changing?

The Government wants to raise the standard of the current GCSEs to help students compete with the best performing countries around the world.

They also want to provide more differentiation amongst the highest performing students and feel this is the best way to achieve this.

Want to know more?

Visit the 9–1 grading page on our website today

aqa.org.uk/9-1