

A spokesperson for Cambridge International said:

“This year we responded quickly to a unique situation to ensure our students stayed safe, but could receive their qualifications and continue their education. We had to use a very different system for awarding grades, but our aim throughout was to make sure students could get on with their education and receive grades trusted by universities and employers globally. We worked with schools and teachers to give students assessed grades.

“After releasing results on 11 August, we listened to feedback from our schools and students. It is important to us that Cambridge students can compete on an equal basis with students who have similar national or international qualifications, and that their hard work and achievements are compared fairly. We recognised the urgent need to help Cambridge students get on with their education and their lives. We decided that the grades issued for the June 2020 series would not be lower than the predicted grade submitted by schools. Where grades issued, were higher than the predicted grade, that higher grade will stand.

“We have been issuing new provisional grades to affected students and have been sharing these with universities and admissions organisations.”

In the June 2020 series, Cambridge International issued over 950,000 grades to students in about 4,000 schools in 139 countries.

Regarding our November 2020 series:

“We are running exams for the November 2020 series where schools believe it is safe and where they have the necessary permissions from government authorities. We believe exams remain the fairest and most reliable way to assess student achievement and our schools are telling us they want to hold exams if they can. Question papers will be dispatched to schools and exam centres very soon.

“We are providing guidance and support to Cambridge schools and exam centres to help them run the exams. We will not be running an alternative system to exams using predicted grades.”