

Parents' Guide to GCSE 9 to 1 grades

International GCSEs from Oxford International AQA Examinations are graded 9 to 1, where 9 is the highest grade. These are the same grades as used in England. They replace the old A* to G grades.

Students who take GCSEs with 9 to 1 grades can:

- ✓ achieve an 'outstanding' grade 9 – higher than A* and only awarded to students at the very top of the ability range
- ✓ use grade 9 to differentiate from students with A* in university applications
- ✓ receive a 'strong pass' – grade 5, the new benchmark for GCSEs, above the old grade C
- ✓ receive results that are in line with students in England.

"The day may come when universities start looking at the grade 9 and you would be disadvantaged if you haven't taken the exam that at least allows you access to the grade that is higher than the A."*

Barnaby Lennon, Chairman of the Independent Schools Council, speaking to The Times.

"We're excited about the 9 grade, because it will really allow our best boys to shine."

John Maguire, Deputy Head at Haberdashers' Aske's Boys' School, speaking to The Daily Telegraph.



"These reforms represent another step in our drive to raise standards, so that pupils have the knowledge and skills they need to compete in a global workplace."

Nick Gibb,
Minister for Schools

NEW GCSE GRADING STRUCTURE

9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	U
A*		A	B		C	D	E	F	G

OLD GCSE GRADING STRUCTURE

Find out more at oxfordaqaexams.org.uk/gcse-grades

Any questions? Talk to your child's school or email us: enquiries@oxfordaqaexams.org.uk

Oxford International AQA Examinations is a joint venture between Oxford University Press, a department of the University of Oxford, the world's number one university, and AQA, the UK's number one exam board.