

# Report Grades at Key stage 4 – Year 10 and Year 11

## How do you explain the grades in the new GCSEs and Vocational Qualifications?

The qualification changes of 2017-19 have made understanding the 'new' GCSE and Vocational grades a mysterious thing. GCSEs are now graded 9-1, with 9 the highest grade. Vocational qualifications are graded pass, merit, distinction at level one, then level 2 pass (roughly equivalent to GCSE grade 4) then climbing to Level 2 distinction (roughly GCSE level 7) before the top grade of Level 2 Distinction star (L2D\*). The information below shows how the new grades correlate with old A\*-G grades. The summary table from the qualifications regulator (OFQUAL) can be seen below.

Grade explanation source: [www.gov.uk/government/publications/gcse-new-grading-scale-factsheets](http://www.gov.uk/government/publications/gcse-new-grading-scale-factsheets)

9	A*	Level 2 Distinction* (L2D*)	Old GCSE grade A*
8	A	Level 2 Distinction (L2D)	Old GCSE grade A
7			
6	B	Level 2 Merit (L2M)	Old GCSE grade B
5			
4	C	Level 2 Pass (L2P)	Old GCSE grade C
3	D	Level 1 Distinction (L1D)	Old GCSE grade D
2	E	Level 1 Merit (L1M)	Old GCSE grade E
1	F	Level 1 Pass (L1P)	Old GCSE grade F
U	G		
	U		

Also useful: [GCSE 9 to 1 grades: a brief guide for parents - The Ofqual blog](#)

Our vocational qualifications can be further understood by reading the subject pages and visiting the OCR exam board's webpage for Guidance on Cambridge Nationals:

<https://ocr.org.uk/qualifications/cambridge-nationals/moving-to-cambridge-nationals/>

### **GCSE Science: Combined/Double award**

It is worth noting that Science double award will report on 2 grades i.e. 44 This means the student has two GCSE's at grade 4 (2 separate GCSE's). Equally 45 means one science GCSE at grade 4 and one science GCSE at grade 5.