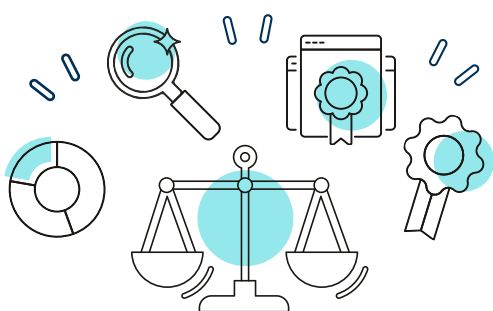


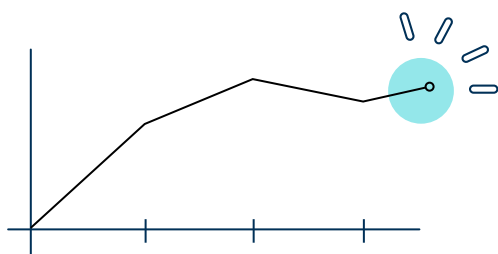
# Understanding grade boundaries 2023

For 2023, the approach all exam boards have taken to grading was to return to pre-pandemic grading, while giving students protection against any impact of disruption. Results in summer 2023 therefore will be far more in line with summer exams that were sat in 2019, but lower than in 2022, when grades awarded were based on a mid-point between 2019 and 2021 outcomes.

All exam boards have used data from 2019 as a starting point for grading. Using data is important to support alignment between exam boards, so that it is no easier to get a grade with one exam board than another.



Senior examiners have then reviewed the quality of student work over a range of marks and recommended grade boundaries based on all the available evidence.



Grade boundaries are set each year to reflect any differences in both the demand of the question papers and ability of the cohort, and this year is no exception.

Grade boundaries in 2023 may be lower or higher than when summer exams were sat in 2019, as in any other year. However, with protection in place it means that a student who would have achieved a grade before the pandemic should be just as likely to receive the same grade in 2023, even if the quality of their work is a little weaker.

## Helpful links

For further information on the approach to summer 2023 grading, please take a look at the information provided by Ofqual below.

- [Exam results 2023: 10 things to know about GCSE, AS and A level grades](#)
- [Looking ahead to results days for qualifications this year](#)
- [A letter to students from Ofqual and UCAS](#)