REQUIREMENTS

Requirements for the calculation of results in summer 2020

GCE (AS/A level), GCSE, Extended Project and Advanced Extension Award Qualifications

20 August 2020

ofqual

Contents

Summer 2020 Requirements

Condition GQCov3.2(a)(i) allows us to specify requirements and guidance in relation to the calculation of results to be issued for GQ Qualifications in summer 2020.

This document, together with the annexes to it, sets out our requirements for the purposes of Condition GQCov3.2(a)(i).

An awarding organisation must comply with these requirements in calculating each result for a GQ Qualification[1] that it issues under Condition GQCov3.1.

Under Condition GQCov1.6, where there is any inconsistency between the requirements set under Condition GQCov3.2(a)(i) and a requirement elsewhere in our regulatory framework, an awarding organisation must comply with the former.

For clarity, and without prejudice to the generality of Condition GQCov1.6, in respect of results issued under Condition GQCov3.1, an awarding organisation is not required to comply with existing requirements published under the following conditions, save where those requirements set out the relevant specified levels of attainment (grades) to be used –

a) in relation to advanced extension awards, Condition AEA3.1,
b) in relation to extended project qualifications,[2] Condition Project3.1,
c) in relation to pre-reform GCE qualifications, Condition GCE(Pre-reform)2.1(b),
d) in relation to post-reform GCE Qualifications, Condition GCE9.1, and
e) in relation to post-reform GCSE Qualifications, Condition GCSE9.1.

Condition GQCov3.2(a)(i) allows us to supplement the requirements set out in this document and its annexes with particular specifications. This allows for the possibility that, because of the unique situation for results in summer 2020, some technical amendments may need to be made with respect to these requirements as they are worked through by awarding organisations.

Throughout these requirements, reference is made to a 'subject'. By this is meant a particular GQ Qualification (e.g. GCSE English language), or a particular GQ Qualification awarded with specific endorsements (e.g. A level design and technology: fashion and textiles) as set out in Annex A.

Unless otherwise stated, these requirements do not apply to the Award Scheme Development and Accreditation Network (ASDAN).

[1] GQ Qualifications are: advanced extension awards (AEA); extended project qualifications; pre- and post-reform GCE qualifications, and; post-reform GCSE qualifications.
[2] An extended project qualification is a level 3 project qualification. Level 1 and 2 project qualifications do not fall within the definition of a GQ Qualification and the GQCov framework does not apply to them.

The process to be used in summer 2020

In respect of a GQ Qualification which it makes available, an awarding organisation must follow the process set out below in order to calculate each result issued under Condition GQCov3.1 –

1. Save where specified in (a) and (b) below, together with the other awarding organisations offering GQ Qualifications, an awarding organisation must construct a collective historical Learner level dataset in line with the requirements specified in Annex B. This requirement does not apply to the following qualifications –

    a. For Advanced Extension Awards, Pearson Education Ltd (Pearson) must construct the historical Learner dataset as specified in Annex B.

    b. Ofqual will assist in the construction of the historical dataset as specified in Annex B in relation to extended project qualifications made available by City and Guilds of London Institute (City and Guilds).

    The historical datasets must include data from all relevant subjects in the specified series and year.

2. Save where specified in (a) and (b) below, together with the other awarding organisations offering GQ Qualifications, an awarding organisation must construct a collective summer 2020 Learner level dataset in line with the requirements specified in Annex C. This requirement does not apply to the following qualifications –

    a. For Advanced Extension Awards, Pearson must construct the summer 2020 Learner level dataset as specified in Annex C.

    b. Ofqual will assist in the construction of the summer 2020 Learner level dataset as specified in Annex C in relation to extended project qualifications made available by City and Guilds.

    The summer 2020 Learner level dataset must include data from all awarding organisations offering the relevant subject in summer 2020.

3. An awarding organisation must generate statistical predictions for the relevant subject, and together with the other awarding organisations offering GQ Qualifications construct a national prediction for the subject, as specified in Annex D.

4. Applying the process set out in Annex E, an awarding organisation must use –

a. the historical Learner level data generated under Annex B,

b. the summer 2020 Learner level data generated under Annex C,

c. the statistical predictions generated under Annex D,

to standardise the information provided by Centres under Condition GQCov3.2.

5. An awarding organisation must ensure that the result issued to each Learner under Condition GQCov3.1 is the higher of –

a. the Learner's Centre Assessment Grade,[3] or

b. the result calculated for that Learner following standardisation applying the process set out in Annex E,

and reissue any results previously issued under Condition GQCov3.1 in order to ensure that they meet this requirement.

6. An awarding organisation must provide to Ofqual the information specified in Annex F, in the form and according to the timetable specified.

[3] Centre Assessment Grades are as defined in our publication 'Summer 2020 grades for GCSE, AS and A level, Extended Project Qualification and Advanced Extension Award in maths Information for Heads of Centre, Heads of Department and teachers on the submission of Centre assessment grades'.

Annex A

Subjects

This information is published as a separate document.

Annex B

Data specification for historical Learner data

Each awarding organisation must collaborate with the other awarding organisations awarding the relevant subjects in summer 2020 to construct historical Learner level datasets split into the following three files –

1. Level 2 qualification file relating to GCSE subjects.
2. Level 3 qualification file comprising AS, A level and extended project qualifications.
3. Advanced extension award qualification file.

The datasets comprising these three files must use the following data –

a. For all phase 1 GCSE subjects first awarded in 2017 and all phase 2 GCSE subjects first awarded in 2018, historical Learner data from 2018 and 2019.

b. For all phase 3 GCSE subjects first awarded in 2019, historical Learner data from 2019.

c. For all phase 4 GCSE subjects being awarded for the first time in 2020, historical Learner data from 2019 in relation to the relevant pre-reform subject.

d. For all AS and A level subjects except –

   i. AS and A level design and technology: fashion and textiles, and

   ii. AS and A level design and technology: design engineering, and

   iii. AS and A level design and technology: product design,

historical Learner data from 2017, 2018 and 2019.

e. For –

   i. A level design and technology: fashion and textiles, and

   ii. A level design and technology: design engineering, and

   iii. A level design and technology: product design

   historical Learner data from 2019.

f. For –

   i. AS design and technology: fashion and textiles, and

   ii. AS design and technology: design engineering, and

   iii. AS design and technology: product design

   historical Learner data from 2018 and 2019.

g. For extended project qualifications, historical Learner data from 2017, 2018 and 2019.

h. For advanced extension award qualifications historical Learner data from 2017, 2018 and 2019.

The data used to generate the datasets must be based on mark/grade held by awarding organisations as at 23 May 2020. This means that it must reflect any changes to results made after they have been issued through, for example a review of marking or appeal.

The data used must relate to results from summer assessment series only and to subjects listed in Annex A only.

The data must be recorded in the form specified in the table below.

Variable Name	Variable Description	Source	Notes
ReportingDate	Date data submitted	Awarding organisation data	
ExamSeries	Exam series of result	Awarding organisation data	
Country	Country of Centre	Calculated from first two digits of National Centre Number (NCN)	Based on NCN as below: UK = 10000 to 71999 Wales = 68000 to 68999 Scotland = 69000 to 70999 N Ireland = 71000 to 71999 Isle of Man = 45000 to 45999 Channel Isles = 67000 to 67999 England = UK minus (Wales + Scotland + N Ireland + IoM + CI)
QualificationLevel	Level of qualification	Awarding organisation data	
Type	Qualification Type	Awarding organisation data	
AwardingOrganisation	Name of awarding organisation of qualification	Awarding organisation data	
QAN	Qualification number	Awarding organisation data	
ReformPhase	Phase of reform	Annex A	
JCQCode	JCQ subject classification code (broad subject area)	Annex A	
JCQTitle	JCQ subject classification title (broad subject area)	Annex A	
IBTitle1	Inter-awarding organisation subject code (broad subject area)	Annex A	

IBTitle2	Inter-awarding organisation subject code (fine subject area)	Annex A	
SubjectGroup	Subject group mapping	Annex A	
OMCode	Outcome matrix number	Annex A	
OMTitle	Outcome matrix subject title	Annex A	
SpecificationCode	Awarding organisation code used for specification	Awarding organisation data	
SpecificationTitle	Title of specification	Awarding organisation data	
CertificationCode	Certification code	Awarding organisation data	
CentreNo	NCN Centre number	Awarding organisation data	
CentreType	Type of Centre	NCN Centre type data lookup file	Centre types are based on the following groups 1 – Secondary Comprehensive or Middle (Community, Voluntary Aided Controlled) 2 – Secondary Selective (Community, Voluntary Aided Controlled) 3 – Secondary Modern (Community, Voluntary Aided Controlled) 4 – Secondary Comprehensive or Middle (Foundation) 5 – Secondary Selective (Foundation) 6 – Secondary Modern (Foundation) 7 – Independent 8 – FE Establishment 9 – Sixth Form College 10 – Tertiary College 11 – Other (including Private Candidates) 13 – City Academy 14 – Free Schools Matched from NCN Centre type data lookup file using NCN
UniqueCandidateIdentifier	Learner ID	Awarding organisation data	

YearEndAge	Age calculated from the year in which the Learner certificated	Calculated based on the date-of-birth in the awarding organisation data	Age calculated as of 31 August in the corresponding academic year for all Learners except those in Northern Ireland Age calculated as of 30 June in the corresponding academic year for all Learners in Northern Ireland
Year GCSE sat when aged 16 **[GCE data only]**	Indicates the year the prior GCSE attainment measures come from	Obtained from prior GCSE attainment dataset	Learners matched against prior GCSE attainment data when they were aged 16. All Learners of ages: 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22 and 23 matched with prior GCSE attainment. NGCSEs and MeanGCSE calculated based on GCSE qualifications only (does not include level 1/level 2 certificates or international GCSEs). Normalised mean GCSE calculated by Ofqual GCSE prior attainment variables matched with awarding organisation data using procedure specified on page 14 of this Annex. Matching only undertaken for Learners that took 3 or more GCSEs
NGCSEsTaken **[GCE data only]**	Number of GCSEs taken by Learner at age 16	Obtained from prior GCSE attainment dataset	
MeanGCSE **[GCE data only]**	Learners mean GCSE score	Obtained from prior GCSE attainment dataset	
TenPointScaleFlag **[GCE data only]**	Flag to indicate if mean GCSE is on 10-point scale	Calculated based on the specific prior GCSE attainment dataset.	
NormalisedMeanGCSE_ENGLAND **[GCE data only]**	Mean GCSE score normalised by age within year for Learners who took GCSEs at Centres in England	Obtained from prior GCSE attainment dataset	
NormalisedMeanGCSE_UK **[GCE data only]**	Mean GCSE score normalised by age within year for Learners who took GCSE at Centres in the UK	Obtained from prior GCSE attainment dataset	
YearKS2SatWhenAged 11 **[GCSE data only]**	Indicates the year the prior KS2 attainment measure comes from	Obtained from prior KS2 attainment dataset	Learners matched against prior attainment data from Key Stage 2 Assessments (KS2) taken when they were aged 11. All Learners of ages: 15, 16, 17 and 18 matched with prior KS2 attainment KS2 variables matched with awarding organisation data using procedure specified on page 15 of this Annex
NormalisedKS2Score **[GCSE data only]**	Learners Normalised KS2 score	Obtained from prior KS2 attainment dataset	
PartialAbsence	Whether the Learner was absent for some of their	Awarding organisation data	

	assessments within the qualification		
SubjectLevelUniformMark	Uniform mark achieved by Learner on qualification, where UMS used	Awarding organisation data	Includes any post-results changes (ie mark/grade is the **final** mark/grade awarded to Learners)
SubjectLevelScaledMark	Raw mark after scaling of components achieved by Learner on qualification, for linear qualifications	Awarding organisation data	
SubjectLevelGrade	Grade Learner was awarded on qualification	Awarding organisation data	
PrivateCandidate	Indicates if Learner is a Private Candidate for that specification	Awarding organisation data	
Learner name		Awarding organisation data	
Learner sex		Awarding organisation data	
Learner DoB		Awarding organisation data	

Finding a match with prior GCSE attainment for level 3 qualifications

In respect of each Learner identified in the Level 3 qualification file and the advanced extension award qualification file, an awarding organisation must use the following process to find a match and determine if it should be classified as a valid match.

Name Processing

Names are processed in the following way:

- Convert full name to uppercase.
- Surname is everything before a delimiter of ":" or "," or ";"
- Forename is everything after the delimiter (excluding any leading space(s) that follow the delimiter) until the next space, bracket, hyphen or comma
- Leading/trailing spaces and special characters are removed from surname and forename (any of ;''.,(){}[]+=-><?!/\$@&%*)

Assigning a Match Level

Any match against the prior GCSE attainment dataset is graded according to the following levels:

Level	Items Matched
1	UCI[4], surname, forename, DoB, sex
2	Surname, forename, DoB, sex
3	UCI, surname, forename, DoB
4	UCI, surname, forename, sex
5	UCI, surname, DoB, sex
6	UCI, surname, forename
7	UCI, surname, forename, (where forename and surname are swapped)
8	UCI, surname, DoB
9	UCI, surname, sex
10	UCI, surname
11	UCI, forename, DoB, sex
12	Surname, forename, DoB

When matching Learners with prior attainment, it is important to reduce the probability of false-positives (these are instances where a match is erroneously confirmed).

When applying this specific algorithm, a valid match is defined as one which satisfies any one of the matching criteria for Levels: 1, 2, 3, 4, 6 and 7.

[4] Here and throughout these requirements 'UCI' refers to Unique Candidate Identifier.

Duplicates

Duplicates within any of the above levels are removed completely to improve confidence in the match. In practice, this will only occur at levels 2 or 11, as the UCI within the prior GCSE attainment dataset is unique.

Finding a Match with prior KS2 Attainment for GCSE Qualifications

In respect of each Learner identified in the Level 2 qualification file, an awarding organisation must use the following process to find a match and determine if it should be classified as a valid match.

Name Processing

Names are processed in the following way:

- Remove special characters and spaces from KS2 surname and forename
- Convert GCSE full name to uppercase.
- GCSE surname is everything before a delimiter of ":" or "," or ";"
- GCSE forename is everything after the delimiter (excluding any leading space(s) that follow the delimiter) until the next space, bracket, hyphen or comma
- Leading/trailing spaces and special characters are removed from GCSE surname and forename (any of ;''.,(){}[]+=-><?!/\$@&%*)
- GCSE forename is matched with the first *n* characters of KS2 forename, where *n* is the length of GCSE forename

Assigning a Match Level

KS2 data *do not* include Learners' UCIs. Matches are only conducted on one level *(i.e. the equivalent of Level 2 as described above for mean GCSE attainment)*, this being: surname, forename, DoB, and sex. **A valid match is defined as one which satisfies this criterion.**

Annex C

Data specification for summer 2020 Learner data

Each awarding organisation must collaborate with the other awarding organisations awarding the relevant subjects in summer 2020 to construct summer 2020 Learner level datasets split into the following three files –

1. Level 2 qualification file comprising GCSE subjects.

2. Level 3 qualification file comprising AS, A level and extended project qualifications.

3. Advanced extension award qualification file.

The data used to generate the datasets must be based on data held by awarding organisations, and prior attainment matching based on entries, as at 23 May 2020.

The data used must relate to subjects listed in Annex A only.

The data must be recorded in the form specified in the table below.

Variable Name	**Variable Description**	**Source**	**Notes**
Country	Country of Centre	Calculated from first two digits of National Centre Number (NCN)	Based on NCN as below: UK = 10000 to 71999 Wales = 68000 to 68999 Scotland = 69000 to 70999 N Ireland = 71000 to 71999 Isle of Man = 45000 to 45999 Channel Isles = 67000 to 67999 England = UK minus (Wales + Scotland + N Ireland + IoM + CI)
AwardingOrganisation	Name of Awarding organisation of qualification	Awarding organisation data	

UniqueCandidateIdentifier	Learner ID	Awarding organisation data	
YearEndAge	Age calculated from the year in which the Learner certificated	Calculated based on the date-of-birth in the awarding organisation data	Age calculated as of 31 August in the corresponding academic year for all Learners except those in Northern Ireland Age calculated as of 30 June in the corresponding academic year for all Learners in Northern Ireland
NGCSEsTaken **[GCE data only]**	Number of GCSEs taken by Learner at age 16	Obtained from prior GCSE attainment dataset	Learners matched against prior GCSE attainment data when they were aged 16. All Learners of ages: 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22 and 23 matched with prior GCSE attainment. NGCSEs and MeanGCSE calculated based on GCSE qualifications only (does not include level 1/level 2 certificates or international GCSEs). Normalised mean GCSE calculated by Ofqual GCSE prior attainment variables matched with awarding organisation data using procedure specified on page 14 of Annex B. Matching only undertaken for Learners that took 3 or more GCSEs
MeanGCSE **[GCE data only]**	Learners mean GCSE score	Obtained from prior GCSE attainment dataset	
TenPointScaleFlag **[GCE data only]**	Flag to indicate if mean GCSE is on 10-point scale	Calculated based on the specific prior GCSE attainment dataset.	
NormalisedMeanGCSE_England **[GCE data only]**	Mean GCSE score normalised by age within year for Learners who took GCSEs at Centres in England.	Obtained from prior GCSE attainment dataset	
NormalisedMeanGCSE_UK **[GCE data only]**	Mean GCSE score normalised by age within year for Learners who took GCSEs at Centres in the UK.	Obtained from prior GCSE attainment dataset	
Year GCSESatWhenAged16 **[GCE data only]**	Indicates the year the prior GCSE attainment measures come from	Obtained from prior GCSE attainment dataset	
NormalisedKS2Score **[GCSE data only]**	Learners Normalised KS2 score	Obtained from prior KS2 attainment dataset	Learners matched against prior attainment KS2 data when they were aged 11. All Learners of ages: 15, 16, 17 and 18 matched with prior KS2 attainment KS2 variables matched with awarding organisation data using procedure specified on page 15 of Annex B
YearKS2SatWhenAged11 **[GCSE data only]**	Indicates the year the prior KS2 attainment measure comes from	Obtained from prior KS2 attainment dataset	

Learner name		Awarding organisation data	
Learner Sex		Awarding organisation data	
Learner DoB		Awarding organisation data	
Entry Code	Awarding organisation code used for specification. This is equivalent to the SpecificationCode field in the historic datasets	Awarding organisation data	
Pearson tier-of-entry **[GCSE data only]**	Used for Pearson tiered GCSE specifications only	Awarding organisation data	
Entry Title	Title of specification	Awarding organisation data	
Learner ULN	Learner ID	Awarding organisation data	
Learner UPN	Learner ID	Awarding organisation data	
Learner number	Learner ID (4 digit number)	Awarding organisation data	
Private Learner Flag	Indicates if Learner is a Private Candidate for that specification	Awarding organisation data	
Centre number	NCN Centre number	Awarding organisation data	
Centre Type	Type of Centre	NCN Centre type data lookup file	Centre types are based on the following groups 1 – Secondary Comprehensive or Middle (Community, Voluntary Aided Controlled) 2 – Secondary Selective (Community, Voluntary Aided Controlled) 3 – Secondary Modern (Community, Voluntary Aided Controlled) 4 – Secondary Comprehensive or Middle (Foundation)

			5 – Secondary Selective (Foundation) 6 – Secondary Modern (Foundation) 7 – Independent 8 – FE Establishment 9 – Sixth Form College 10 – Tertiary College 11 – Other (including Private Candidates) 13 – City Academy 14 – Free Schools Matched from NCN Centre type data lookup file using NCN
Subject Grouping	Subject group mapping	Annex A	
Cross AO Flag	Flag to indicate whether a Centre has split Learner entries across awarding organisations for a specific 'Subject Grouping'	Y/N	
Qualification Level	Level of qualification		
Type	Qualification Type		
Reform Phase	Phase of reform	Annex A	
JCQ Code	JCQ subject classification code (broad subject area)	Annex A	
JCQ Title	JCQ subject classification title (broad subject area)	Annex A	
IB Title1	Inter-awarding organisation subject code (broad subject area)	Annex A	
IB Title 2	Inter-awarding organisation subject code (fine subject area)	Annex A	
Outcome Matrix Code	Outcome matrix number	Annex A	
Outcome Matrix Title	Outcome matrix subject title	Annex A	

Annex D

Generating statistical predictions[5]

Outcome matrices

Awarding organisations must generate outcome matrices using the historical Learner level datasets generated under Annex B and the outcome matrix code specified in Annex A. Outcome matrices must exclude partial absences. Outcome matrices must only include data for Learners in England.

Each outcome matrix must map the relationship between prior attainment and results for the relevant subject in the relevant reference year for Learners for whom there is a valid match as defined in Annex B (referred to in this Annex as 'matched Learners').

In generating outcome matrices for GCSE Qualifications, an awarding organisation must not include data with respect to Learners registered with independent or selective Centres.

Awarding organisations are not required to generate outcome matrices for pre-reform AS and A level qualifications, or AEA qualifications.

Generating predictions

Awarding organisations must generate predictions for all grades using the summer 2020 dataset generated under Annex C and the outcome matrices generated as above. Predictions must be generated for Learners for whom there is a valid match as defined in Annex B (referred to in this Annex as 'matched Learners'). Predictions must be generated for Learners in England only.

Predictions must be generated for each subject, according to the subject group specified in Annex A.

Awarding organisations must generate predictions for subjects where there are more than 500 matched Learners in summer 2020 (combined across awarding organisations), in line with the qualification specific requirements set out in the following subsections.

In addition –

[5] The requirements in this Annex do not apply to City and Guilds and data in relation to Learners taking City and Guilds GQ Qualifications should not be included in any outcome matrices or national predictions.

- Awarding organisations must collectively generate **national** predictions for matched Learners for each of these subjects.

- An awarding organisation must generate its **own individual awarding organisation** prediction for its specific cohort of matched Learners for these subjects, regardless of whether the number of matched Learners within each awarding organisation exceeds 500. For subjects where an awarding organisation has more than one specification, predictions should be generated for each specification.

GCE A level[6]

Predictions for post-reform A level in England (phase 1 – first awarded in 2017)

Predictions must be generated for 18-year-old matched Learners. The prediction must be based on the average of the relationship between:

1. A level results in England in that subject for 18-year-old Learners in 2017 and the GCSE results for those Learners in 2015

2. A level results in England in that subject for 18-year-old Learners in 2018 and the GCSE results for those Learners in 2016

Predictions for post-reform A level in England (phase 2 – first awarded in 2018)

Predictions must be generated for 18-year-old matched Learners. The prediction must be based on the average of the relationship between:

1. A level results in England in that subject for 18-year-old Learners in 2018 and the GCSE results for those Learners in 2016

2. A level results in England in that subject for 18-year-old Learners in 2019 and the GCSE results for those Learners in 2017

Predictions for post-reform A level in England (phase 3 – first awarded in 2019)

For **all subjects** (except **mathematics**), predictions must be generated for 18-year-old matched Learners. The prediction must be based on the relationship between A level results in England in that subject for 18-year old Learners in 2019 and GCSE results for those Learners in 2017.

Predictions for post-reform A level mathematics in England (phase 3 – first awarded in 2018)

For **mathematics**, predictions must be generated for 18-year-old matched Learners, excluding Learners that are also entering A level further mathematics in the same series. The prediction must be based on the relationship between A level results in England in mathematics for 18-year-old Learners in 2019 and the GCSE results for those Learners in 2017, excluding Learners that also certificated A level further mathematics in 2019.

[6] GCSE outcomes that are used in A level predictions must combine A* to G grades and 9 to 1 grades onto a common scale.

Predictions for post-reform A level in England (phase 4 – being awarded for the first time in 2020)

Predictions must be generated for 18-year-old matched Learners. The prediction must be based on the relationship between A level results in England in that subject for 18-year old Learners in 2019 and GCSE results for those Learners in 2017.

GCE AS[7]

Predictions for post-reform AS in England (phase 1 – first awarded in 2016)

Predictions must be generated for 17-year-old matched Learners. The prediction must be based on the average of the relationship between:

1. AS results in England in that subject for 17-year-old Learners in 2016 and GCSE results for those Learners in 2015

2. AS results in England in that subject for 17-year-old Learners in 2017 and GCSE results for those Learners in 2016

Predictions for post-reform AS in England (phase 2 – first awarded in 2017)

Predictions must be generated for 17-year-old matched Learners. The prediction must be based on the relationship between:

1. AS results in England in that subject for 17-year-old Learners in 2017 and GCSE results for those Learners in 2016

2. AS results in England in that subject for 17-year-old Learners in 2018 and GCSE results for those Learners in 2017

Predictions for post-reform AS in England (phase 3 – first awarded in 2018)

Predictions must be generated for 17-year-old matched Learners. The prediction must be based on the average of the relationship between:

1. AS results in England in that subject for 17-year-old Learners in 2018 and GCSE results for those Learners in 2017

2. AS results in England in that subject for 17-year-old Learners in 2019 and GCSE results for those Learners in 2018

Pre-reform AS and A level in England

Awarding organisations are not required to generate predictions for pre-reform AS and A level qualifications.

[7] GCSE outcomes that are used in AS predictions must combine A* to G grades and 9 to 1 grades onto a common scale.

GCSE[8]

In generating predictions for GCSE Qualifications, an awarding organisation must not include data with respect to Learners registered with independent or selective Centres.

Predictions for post-reform GCSE Qualifications in England (phase 1 – first awarded in 2017)

Predictions must be generated for 16-year-old matched Learners. Predictions must be based on the average of the relationship between:

1. GCSE results in England in that subject for 16-year-old Learners in 2017 and results from Key Stage 2 Assessments taken by those Learners in 2012

2. GCSE results in England in that subject for 16-year-old Learners in 2018 and results from Key Stage 2 Assessments taken by results for those Learners in 2013

In relation to such predictions, awarding organisations must adhere to any requirements specified by Ofqual to reflect the results of the National Reference Tests. Where Ofqual specifies such requirements these will be set out in Annex G.

Predictions for post-reform GCSE qualifications in England (phase 2 – first awarded in 2018)

Predictions must be generated for 16-year-old matched Learners. Predictions must be based on the average of the relationship between:

1. GCSE results in England in that subject for 16-year-old Learners in 2018 and results from Key Stage 2 Assessments taken by results those Learners in 2013

2. GCSE results in England in that subject for 16-year-old Learners in 2019 and results from Key Stage 2 Assessments taken by results those Learners in 2014

For each of **GCSE French and GCSE German**, awarding organisations must adjust the **national** prediction as follows: +2% at grades 7, 8 and 9, +1.67% at grade 6, +1.33% at grade 5, +1% at grade 4, +0.67% at grade 3 and +0.33% at grade 2.

Predictions for post-reform GCSE short course qualifications in England (phase 2 – first awarded in 2018)

Predictions must be generated for 16-year-old matched Learners. Predictions must be based on the average of the relationship between:

[8] For post-reform GCSE double award, any references in this document to single award grades (e.g. 9, 8, 7 etc.) refer to grades 9-9, 8-8, 7-7 etc.

1. GCSE short course results in England in that subject for 16-year-old Learners in 2018 and results from Key Stage 2 Assessments taken by results those Learners in 2013

2. GCSE short course results in England in that subject for 16-year-old Learners in 2019 and results from Key Stage 2 Assessments taken by Learners in 2014

Predictions for post-reform GCSE qualifications in England (phase 3 – first awarded in 2019)

Predictions must be generated for 16-year-old matched Learners. Predictions must be based on the relationship between GCSE results in England in that subject for 16-year-old Learners in 2019, and results from Key Stage 2 Assessments taken by those Learners in 2014.

Predictions for post-reform GCSE qualifications in England (phase 4 – being awarded for the first time in 2020)

Predictions at grades 7, 4 and 1 must be generated for 16-year-old matched Learners. Predictions must be based on the relationship between GCSE results in England in that subject for 16-year-old Learners in 2019, and results from Key Stage 2 Assessments taken by those Learners in 2014.

Predictions for grade 9 must be set by applying the following formula at the **national** level to matched 16-year-old Learners.

- The percentage of those predicted to achieve at least grade 7 in the relevant subject who should be awarded grade 9 = 7% + 0.5*(percentage of Learners predicted to achieve grade 7 or above in that subject).

Extended Project Qualifications

Predictions must be generated for 18-year-old matched Learners. The prediction must be based on the average of the relationship between:

1. Extended project results in England for 18-year-old Learners in June 2017 and the GCSE results for those Learners in 2015

2. Extended project results in England for 18-year-old Learners in June 2018 and the GCSE results for those Learners in 2016

Advanced Extension Awards

Awarding organisations are not required to generate predictions for Advanced Extension Awards.

Annex E

Standardisation process

An awarding organisation must use the process set out in this annex to standardise the information provided by Centres under Condition GQCov3.2 for GQ Qualifications in subjects with 100 or more Learners registered for awards in summer 2020 (based on Learners registered as of 23 May 2020 across all awarding organisations). For subjects with fewer than 100 Learners across all awarding organisations, the Centre Assessment Grades must be awarded.

For subjects with 500 or fewer matched Learners (based on the matched Learner data as of 23 May 2020 across all awarding organisations), predictions will not be generated under Annex D and therefore, steps **X8a** and **X9** in the process must not be applied.

An illustration of the functional flow of the standardisation process is specified in Appendix A. An awarding organisation may choose to sequence the calculations differently from the sequence specified below. However, the final process must have the same effect as the process set out below.

These requirements apply to the Award Scheme Development and Accreditation Network (ASDAN). Ofqual will assist ASDAN in the standardisation process in relation to extended project qualifications made available by ASDAN.

Qualifications reform phase 4 GCSEs

For reform Phase 4 GCSEs with 500 or fewer matched Learners, the grade scale is to be considered as being composed of Grades 7, 4, 1 and ungraded only for the purposes of standardisation, up to step **X9**. For reform Phase 4 GCSEs with more than 500 matched Learners, the grade scale is to be considered as being composed of Grades 9, 7, 4, 1 and ungraded only for the purposes of standardisation, up to step **X9.** Beyond step **X9**, these qualifications have the standard grade-set: Grades 9-1 plus ungraded.

Document conventions

Steps in the software process flow will be designated "**X**". Data sources, data outputs and intermediate reports will be designated "**D**". These references relate to the process flow in Appendix A.

Throughout these requirements, reference is made to cumulative proportion grade distributions. These may be distributions of final grades, grades at an intermediate stage of the process or Centre Assessment Grades. For a grade set 0 to M where 0 represents ungraded and M represents the highest grade for a qualification, the cumulative proportion grade distribution D, is defined as:

$$D = \{D_M \dots D_k \dots D_0\}$$

where:

- $D_k = \frac{n_k}{N}$,
- n_k is the number of Learners in the specified population allocated grade k or higher,
- N is the number of Learners in the specified population,

These distributions can be defined as either proportions (in the range 0 to 1, as defined above) or as percentage (in the range 0 to 100), unless explicitly stated.

Learner age groups

Where reference is made to the *target age* for a qualification, they are defined as:

i. GCSE – Learners aged 16 on 31 August in the relevant academic year or 30 June for Learners entering from Centres in Northern Ireland.

ii. AS – Learners aged 17 on 31 August in the relevant academic year or 30 June for Learners entering from Centres in Northern Ireland

iii. A level, advanced extension award and extended project qualifications – Learners aged 18 on 31 August in the relevant academic year or 30 June for Learners entering from Centres in Northern Ireland

Prior-attainment

For the purposes of the standardisation approach defined below, the measures of prior-attainment are defined as:

i. GCSE – normalised KS2 score as defined by the *NormalisedKS2Score* field in Annexes B and C.

ii. AS, A level, extended project qualification and advanced extension award – normalised mean GCSE score as defined by the *NormalisedMeanGCSE_UK* field in Annexes B and C.

Prior-attainment matched Learners

For the purposes of this specification, prior-attainment matched Learners in the historical data refers to Learners who:

i. *have a valid match to prior-attainment (as defined by the process described in Annex B),*

ii. were of the target age as of 31 August in the relevant academic year or 30 June for Learners entering from Centres in Northern Ireland,

iii. *have at least 3 GCSE subjects in their prior attainment record (AS/A level/extended project qualification and advanced extension award only),*

iv. *achieved a result for the qualification,*

v. *were not Private Candidates with the exception of those entering through Centres listed in the DLP record (D3b),*

vi. *were not partially absent from the assessments contributing to the qualification.*

Prior-attainment matched Learners in the summer 2020 data refers to Learners who:

i. have a valid Centre assessment grade (**D8**), position in the rank order (**D7**) and an entry in the summer 2020 entry data (**D5**) matched based on Learner UCI or candidate number, Centre number and entry code,

ii. have a valid prior-attainment record (**D5**),

iii. have at least 3 GCSE subjects in their prior attainment record (AS/A level/extended project qualification and advanced extension award only)

iv. will be at the target age for the qualification as of 31 August 2020 or 30 June 2020 for Learners entering from Centres in Northern Ireland,

v. are not Private Candidates (with the exception of those Learners entering through Centres listed in the DLP record **D3b**).

Matching of Centre level data

Where steps in the standardisation process require the matching of Centres with entries in summer 2020 with their historical data, this is to be performed based on their National Centre Number, unless otherwise stated.

Tiered subjects

For tiered GCSE subjects, data from across both tiers are to be combined and treated, for the purposes of standardisation, as a single subject. Centre Assessment Grades must be allocated within the typical grade range for the tier. However, awarding organisations must award grades outside of the typical grade of grades available for that tier where application of the standardisation process dictates that to be the case.

Data relating to the number of Learners awarded a grade not typically available for that tier are to be reported to Ofqual in the format specified in Appendix B as described in step **X13** below.

Distance learning providers

As specified in the process detailed below, Private Candidates are to be removed from the analysis which determines the standardisation of each Centre's results in each subject. An exception to this is Learners entering via pre-identified distance learning providers (DLPs).

Availability of data

An awarding organisation must ensure that the following data sources are available for it to use in the standardisation process:

i. Historical Learner-level data (**D3**) in the format as specified in Annex B

ii. NCN change record (**D3a**) in the format as specified in Appendix C

iii. DLP record (**D3b**) in the format as specified in Appendix D

iv. Summer 2020 Learner-level data (**D5**) in the format as specified in Annex C

v. Rank order information (**D7**) and Centre Assessment Grades submitted by Centres (**D8**)

vi. The identity of "very large Centres" (**D9**) in the format as specified in Appendix E.

vii. Specification of what constitutes a Centre with a small entry (**D10**) in the format as specified in Appendix F

Process requirements

The process requirements articulated below relate to performing the process for a single subject. By this is meant a particular GQ Qualification (e.g. GCSE English language), or a particular GQ Qualification awarded with specific endorsements (e.g. A level design and technology: fashion and textiles) as set out in Annex A

Step X1 – Generate Centre-level historical grade distributions

Description

Generate the historical grade distribution for each Centre in the historical data sets. This stage must combine the historical data across Centres as indicated in the NCN change record (**D3a**).

Inputs required

i. Historical Learner-level data (**D3**)

ii. NCN change record (**D3a**)

iii. DLP record (**D3b**)

Outputs generated

i. Centre-level historical grade distributions for each Centre (**D4**). The output can be stored as either a separate output file for each subject or a single file covering all subjects and will contain the historical cumulative percentage grade distribution for all Centres with historical data across the relevant years. The format of the **D4** files is as specified in Appendix G.

Step requirements

i. Update the allocated Centre number in the historical data for Centres included in the NCN change record as detailed in **D3a** such that the previously held Centre numbers are updated to reflect the revised Centre number.

ii. Identify Learners in the historical Learner data (Annex B) with an entry in a relevant subject, that achieved a result in the qualification and was not a Private Candidate (excluding Learners entering with a subject identified in the DLP record **D3b**) and was not absent from any of the assessments for the qualification.

iii. For each Centre through which a Learner identified in ii. entered for the qualification, determine the historical cumulative proportion grade distribution $c_j = \{c_{kM} \dots c_{kj} \dots c_{k0}\}$ across all relevant years of historical data for Learners entering at Centre, j.

iv. Store the result (**D4**) as specified in Appendix G.

X2 – Generate qualification-level prior-attainment cut-offs

Description

Generate the prior-attainment cut-offs across all subjects at that qualification level[9] that divide Learners into deciles.

Inputs required

i. Historical Learner level data (**D3**)

ii. DLP record (**D3b**)

Outputs generated

i. Qualification-level cut-offs to be stored in **D24** as per the format specified in Appendix H.

Step requirements

i. Identify prior-attainment matched Learners in the historical data across all subjects for the qualification level. At GCSE, this is to included only Learners entering for Ofqual regulated GCSE 9-1 qualifications.

ii. Remove duplicate records based on the Unique Learner Identifier, so that every Learner is represented only once.

[9] *Qualification level* refers to the qualification type such as GCSE, AS or A level. Prior-attainment cut-off calculated for A level should be applied to the standardisation of extended project qualifications.

iii. Based on the distribution of prior-attainment measures as defined in the *Prior-attainment* section above, determine the cut-off values of prior attainment that divide this distribution into deciles. The prior-attainment of the lowest attaining Learner in each decile shall define the cut-off.

iv. The prior-attainment cut-off points for each subject to be stored in **D24** as per the format in Appendix H.

X3 – Generate subject-level historical matrices

Description

Generate an outcome matrix reflecting the value-added relationship between prior-attainment and outcome in the current subject, based on the historical Learner data.

Inputs required

i. Historical Learner-level data (**D3**)

ii. Prior-attainment decile cut-offs (**D24**)

iii. DLP record (**D3b**)

Outputs generated

i. Historical outcome matrix for each subject (**D25**)

Step requirements

i. Identify historical prior-attainment matched Learners in the historical data (**D3**) for the subject. This is to be based on all Centres in the historical data set, across all awarding organisations in the subject of interest (for GCSE, this relates to Ofqual regulated 9-1 qualifications only).

ii. *Retrieve the prior-attainment cut-offs D24 which must be articulated to exactly 2 decimal places*

iii. *Divide the Learners identified in step i. into prior-attainment categories as defined by the prior-attainment cut-offs such that:*

$$A_i = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } \alpha_i \geq x_1 \\ d, & \text{if } x_d \leq \alpha_i < x_{d-1} \\ 10, & \text{if } \alpha_i < x_9 \end{cases}$$

where A_i is the prior attainment category for Learner i, with prior attainment value, α_i, compared to the prior-attainment cut-offs, x (**D24**).

iv. *For each prior-attainment category, determine the cumulative proportion grade distribution based on the historical grade achieved.*

v. *Store the result in D25*

X4 – Generate historical predictions

Description

Generate the predicted outcome for each Centre using historical data were they to have followed the national value-added relationship defined by the historical outcome matrix calculated in step **X3**.

Inputs required

i. Subject-level historical matrices (**D25**)

ii. Qualification-level prior attainment cut-offs (**D24**)

iii. Learner-level historical data (**D3**)

iv. NCN change record (**D3a**)

v. DLP record (**D3b**)

vi. Centre-level historical grade distributions (**D4**)

Outputs generated

i. (Internal only)

Step requirements

i. Update the allocated Centre number in the historical data for Centres included in the NCN change record as detailed in **D3a** such that the previously held Centre numbers are updated to reflect the revised Centre number.

ii. Identify historical prior-attainment matched Learners for the subject in the historical data (**D3**). This is to include all Centres in the historical data set, across all awarding organisations in the subject of interest (*f*or GCSE, this relates to Ofqual regulated 9-1 qualifications only).

iii. *Retrieve the prior-attainment cut-offs D24 which must be articulated to exactly 2 decimal places*

iv. For each Centre with a historical grade distribution in **D4**, calculate the number of Learners of the target age within each prior attainment category as follows:

$$A_i = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } \alpha \geq x_1 \\ d, & \text{if } x_d \leq \alpha < x_{d-1} \\ 10, & \text{if } \alpha < x_9 \end{cases}$$

v. For each prior-attainment category, multiply the number of Learners in the category by the proportion of Learners achieving each grade for that category as calculated in **X3** (**D25**).

vi. Sum the number of Learners predicted to achieve each grade across all prior-attainment categories for the Centre.

vii. Divide the results of step vi. by the number of historical prior-attainment matched Learners in the Centre (as identified in i.) to determine the historical predicted cumulative proportion grade distribution, $p_j = \{p_{Mj} \dots p_{kj} \dots p_{0j}\}$.

X5 – Calculate predicted performance in each Centre, based on national value-added

Description

Generate the predicted outcome for each Centre using summer 2020 data were they to follow the national value-added relationship defined by the historical outcome matrix calculated in **X3**. This step must include all Learners from Centres entering for the subject with the awarding organisation. Therefore, where Centres have split their entry for a subject across multiple awarding organisations, the awarding organisation must put in place appropriate data sharing arrangements to enable this step of the process.

Inputs required

i. Subject-level historical matrices (**D25**)

ii. Subject-specific prior attainment cut-offs (**D24**)

iii. Summer 2020 Learner-level data (**D5**)

iv. Centre Assessment Grades (**D8**)

v. DLP record (**D3b**)

Outputs generated

i. (Internal only)

Step requirements

i. Identify summer 2020 prior-attainment matched Learners in the summer 2020 data (**D5**) with Learners entering the subject.

ii. For each Centre with a Learner entering in the subject with the awarding organisation, calculate the number of summer 2020 prior-attainment matched Learners within each prior attainment category as follows:

$$A_i = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } \alpha \geq x_1 \\ d, & \text{if } x_d \leq \alpha < x_{d-1} \\ 10, & \text{if } \alpha < x_9 \end{cases}$$

iii. For each prior-attainment category, multiply the number of Learners in the category by the proportion of Learners achieving each grade for that category as calculated in **X3** (**D25**).

iv. Sum the number of Learners predicted to achieve each grade across all prior-attainment categories for the Centre.

v. Divide the results of step iv. by the number of summer 2020 prior-attainment matched Learners (as identified in step i.) to determine the summer 2020 cumulative proportion grade distribution, $q_j = \{q_{Mj} \dots q_{kj} \dots q_{0j}\}$, had they followed the national-value added relationship this year.

vi. For Centres with entries in the subject in 2020, but no summer 2020 prior-attainment matched Learners in the current year, q_{kj} must be set to zero for all grades.

X6 – Calculate the lowest prior attainment match rate for each Centre

Description

Determine the ratio of prior-attainment matched Learners to all Learners for each Centre in the historical data and the summer 2020 data and identify the smallest of the two values to determine the magnitude of the adjustment required. This step must include all Learners from Centres entering for the subject with the awarding organisation. Therefore, where Centres have split their entry for a subject across multiple awarding organisations, the awarding organisation must put in place appropriate data sharing arrangements to enable this step of the process.

Inputs required

i. Learner-level historical data (**D3**)

ii. Summer 2020 Learner-level data (**D5**)

iii. Centre Assessment Grades (**D8**)

iv. NCN change record (**D3a**)

v. DLP record (**D3b**)

Outputs generated

i. (Internal only)

Step requirements

i. For each Centre with a valid entry in 2020, determine:

   a. the number of prior-attainment matched Learners in the historical data (**D3**), $n'_{hist,j}$

   b. the number of Learners in the historical data (**D3**) with a result excluding Private Candidates (with the exception of the DLPs identified in **D3b**) and excluding those who were partially absent from assessments for the qualification, $n_{hist,j}$.

   c. The ratio of values calculated through a. and b. such that:

$$r_{hist,j} = n'_{hist,j}/n_{hist,j}$$

   d. The number of prior-attainment matched Learners in the summer 2020 data, $n'_{cur,j}$.

   e. The number of Learners in summer 2020 with a valid Centre assessment grade excluding Private Candidates identified in D5 (with the exception of the DLPs identified in **D3b**), $n_{cur,j}$.

   f. The ratio of values calculated through d. and e. such that:

$$r_{cur,j} = n'_{cur,j}/n_{cur,j}$$

   g. Calculate the lesser of the two match rates across the historical and current data such that:

$$r_j = \min(r_{hist,j}, r_{cur,j})$$

ii. For Centres without any historical data, r_j must be set to zero.

X7 – Adjust the Centre-level grade distributions

Description

Combine the information calculated across steps **X1** to **X6** to determine the predicted cumulative proportion grade distribution for each Centre in 2020. This step must include all Learners from Centres entering for the subject with the awarding organisation. Therefore, where Centres have split their entry for a subject across multiple awarding organisations, the awarding organisation must put in place appropriate data sharing arrangements to enable this step of the process.

Inputs required

i. Historical grade distribution for each Centre, c_j, as recorded in **D4**.

ii. Historical national value-added based prediction, p_j, as specified through **X4**.

iii. National value-added based prediction for 2020, q_j, as specified through **X5**.

iv. The match-rate scaling factor, r_j, as specified through **X6**.

v. Summer 2020 Learner-level data (**D5**)

vi. Centre Assessment Grades (**D8**)

Outputs generated

i. Centre-level predicted grade distributions (**D6**).

Step requirements

i. For every Centre with a valid entry in the subject in 2020 (based on **D5**), calculate the predicted Centre-level cumulative proportion grade distribution, $P_j = \{P_{Mj} \dots P_{kj} \dots P_{0j}\}$, as:

$$P_{kj} = c_{kj} + r_j(q_{kj} - p_{kj})$$

ii. *Round any predicted outcomes that are greater than 1.0 to 1.0*

iii. *Round any predicted outcomes that are less than 0 to 0*

iv. *Starting with the highest grade, identify any disordered Centre-level predictions where the value of $\boldsymbol{P_{kj}}$ is higher than the prediction at a lower grade for that Centre. Where these instances are identified, the value of $\boldsymbol{P_{kj}}$ must be set to the higher of the two outcomes.*

v. *The output to be stored as per D6 in the format specified in Appendix I.*

X8 – Impute marks for each Learner

Description

Calculate the imputed marks for each Learner (excluding Private Candidates from centres not identified as a DLP and excluding candidates entering through centres without historical entries in the subject) based on the Centre-level predicted cumulative proportion grade distribution and the rank order. This step must include all Learners from Centres entering for the subject with the awarding organisation. Therefore, where Centres have split their entry for a subject across multiple awarding organisations, the awarding organisation must put in place appropriate data sharing arrangements to enable this step of the process.

Inputs required

i. Rank order from Centre (**D7**)

ii. Centre Assessment Grades (**D8**)

iii. Centre-level predicted grade distribution (**D6**)

Outputs generated

i. Learner marks (**D11a**)

Step requirements

i. Convert the grade-based rank order articulated through the combination of **D7** and **D8** into a single Centre-level contiguous rank order for the subject from the highest ranking Learners at the highest grade to the lowest ranking Learners at the lowest grade/ungraded. This must be performed excluding Private Candidates (with the exception of those entering through a DLP identified in **D3b**).

ii. For each Learner in the rank order generated in step i., calculate the imputed mark, X_{ij}, for Learner i in Centre j as per:

$$X_{ij} = 100 \times \left(k_{ij} + \left(\frac{P_{k_{ij}j} - \frac{(\rho_{ij} - 0.5)}{n_{cur,j}}}{P_{k_{ij}j} - P_{(k_{ij}+1)j}} \right) \right)$$

where ρ_{ij} is the rank of the ith student in the jth Centre, and k_{ij} is the largest possible grade satisfying the inequality:

$$\frac{(\rho_{ij} - 0.5)}{n_{cur,j}} \leq P_{kj}$$

iii. *The imputed marks to be stored as D11a*

X8a – Determine the subject-level cut scores

Description

Determine subject level cut-scores based on the imputed marks and the subject-level predictions. It should be noted that the outputs of this stage in the process must only be used when the process to this point has been performed with valid data aggregated across all awarding organisations with entries in the subject in summer 2020.

Inputs required

i. DLP record (**D3b**).

ii. Learner marks (**D11a**)

iii. Subject-level predictions (**D16**)

Outputs generated

i. Subject-level cut-scores (**D12a**)

Step requirements

i. Determine the subset of Learners from the **D11a** record who are summer 2020 prior-attainment matched Learners entering with a Centre with a Centre type as of summer 2020 used to generate the subject-level predictions (as defined in Annex D). Jurisdictional filtering is to be based on the *NormalisedMeanGCSE_England* and *Country* variables as defined in Annex C.

ii. Rank order the Learners identified in step i. based on their imputed mark.

iii. For each grade for the qualification, identify the Learner in the rank order at which applying a cut-score would most closely replicate the subject-level prediction at that grade as defined in **D16**.

iv. Assign the cut-score for each grade in the subject to be the imputed marks for the Learner(s) identified in step iii and truncate to 6 decimal places.

v. Record the cut-scores identified at point iv in the **D12a** output file as specified in Appendix J.

X9 – Determine provisional grades for all Learners (all subjects with the exception of Phase 4 GCSEs)

Description

Determine provisional grades for Learners based on the cut-scores and imputed marks for all Learners excluding Private Candidates (other than those identified as entering from DLPs).

Inputs required

i. Learner marks (**D11a**).

ii. Subject specific cut-scores (**D12a**)

iii. Rank order (**D8**)

Outputs generated

i. Learner grades (**D17**). Note that this process step generates grades for all Learners at this point excluding Private Candidates from non-DLP Centres. Learners entering with very large Centres or from Centres with a small entry in the subject are to be overwritten in subsequent stages.

Step requirements

i. Apply the cut-scores (**D12a**) to the imputed Learner marks (**D11a**) to determine Learners' grades, Y_i, for all Learners (with the exception of Private Candidates not entering through a DLP identified in **D3b**) such that $Y_i = k$ where $\overline{x_k} \leq X_i < \overline{x_{k+1}}$ and $\overline{x_k}$ is the cut-score for grade k.

ii. Store the resulting grades as **D17**.

X9 – Determine provisional grades for all Learners (Phase 4 GCSEs only)

Description

Determine provisional grades for Learners based on the cut-scores and imputed marks for all Learners excluding Private Candidates other than those identified as entering from DLPs. Then perform the required adjustment of outcomes at the arithmetic grades[10].

Inputs required

i. Learner marks (**D11a**).

ii. Subject specific cut-scores (**D12a**)

iii. Centre Assessment Grades (**D7**)

iv. Rank order (**D8**)

Outputs generated

i. Learner grades (**D17**). Note that this process step generates grades for all Learners at this point excluding Private Candidates from non-DLP Centres. Learners entering with very large Centres or from Centres with a small entry in the subject are to be overwritten in subsequent stages.

Step requirements

i. Apply the cut-scores (**D12a**) to the imputed Learner marks (**D11a**) to determine Learners' grades, Y_i, for all Learners (with the exception of Private Candidates not entering through a DLP identified in **D3b**) such that $Y_i = k$ where $\overline{x_k} \leq X_i < \overline{x_{k+1}}$ and $\overline{x_k}$ is the cut-score for grade k.

ii. For each Centre with a valid entry in the current year:

   a. Calculate the cumulative proportion grade distribution, $\gamma_j = \{\gamma_{Mj} \ldots \gamma_{kj} \ldots \gamma_{0j}\}$, based on Learners' grades calculated in step i.

[10] For the purposes of applying adjustments to the Phase 4 GCSEs, the key grades are defined as grades 9, 7, 4 and 1, and the arithmetic grades are defined as grades 8, 6, 5, 3 and 2.

b. For qualifications with 500 or fewer matched Learners, set the revised predicted cumulative proportion outcomes, P_{kj}^{*}, to equal the cumulative proportion grade distribution at that grade, as calculated in step ii.a for grades, 7, 4 and 1. For qualifications with more than 500 matched Learners, set the revised predicted cumulative proportion outcomes, P_{kj}^{*}, to equal the cumulative proportion grade distribution at that grade, as calculated in step ii.a for grades, 9, 7, 4 and 1.

c. Calculate the cumulative proportion grade distribution, $f_j = \{f_{Mj} \ldots f_{kj} \ldots f_{0j}\}$, based on the Centre Assessment Grades.

d. For qualifications with 500 or fewer matched Learners, set the revised grade 9 predicted outcome P_{9j}^{*} as:

$$P_{9j}^{*} = \left(1 - \frac{f_{7j} - \gamma_{7j}}{f_{7j}}\right) f_{9j}$$

e. For each arithmetic grade, calculate the revised predicted outcome, P_{kj}^{*}, as:

$$P_{kj}^{*} = \max\left(\gamma_{aj}, \min\left(\gamma_{bj}, f_{kj} + \left(\gamma_{bj} - f_{bj}\right) + \left((\gamma_{aj} - f_{aj}) - (\gamma_{bj} - f_{bj})\right)\frac{(k-b)}{(a-b)}\right)\right)$$

where:

- k is the grade for which the revised predicted outcome is being calculated[11],
- a is the lowest key grade above the arithmetic grade,
- b is the highest key grade below the arithmetic grade,

f. Convert the grade-based rank order articulated through the combination of **D7** and **D8** into a single Centre-level contiguous rank order from the highest-ranking Learners at the highest grade to the lowest ranking Learners at the lowest grade/ungraded.

g. Based on the revised predicted cumulative proportion outcomes, P_{kj}^{*}, allocate Learners to grades based on the rank order produced in step e).

iii. Store the resulting grades as **D17**.

[11] For adjustment purposes, the grades are converted to numerical values as follows: A level – A* = 6, A = 5…E = 1 and U = 0; GCSE – Grade 9 = 9, Grade 8 = 8…Grade 1 = 1, U = 0.

X10 – Generate grades for Centres with a small entry in the subject

Description

Generates grades for Centres with an entry with fewer than n_{small} Learners (as quantified in **D10**) differentially weighting the influence of the Centre-level predicted cumulative proportion grade distribution and cumulative proportion grade distribution based on the Centre Assessment Grades depending on the number of Learners.

Inputs required

i. Centre Assessment Grades (**D8**)

ii. Small Centre information (**D10**)

iii. Centre-level predicted grade distributions (**D6**)

iv. Centre-level historical grade distributions (**D4**)

v. DLP record (**D3b**)

vi. Centre-level rank order (**D7**)

Outputs generated

i. Calculated grades (**D17**) for Learners entering through Centres with a small entry in the subject in the current year or across historical years.

Step requirements

i. For each Centre:

a. Determine the harmonic mean of Learners ($\bar{n}_{Hj}$) across summer 2020 and the relevant historical years based on[12]:

$$\bar{n}_H = \left(\frac{0.5}{n_{\text{cur},j}} + \frac{0.5}{n_{\text{hist},j}} \right)^{-1}$$

where $n_{\text{cur},j}$ and $n_{\text{hist},j}$ are as defined at step **X6**.

b. For each Centre with $\bar{n}_{Hj} < n_{\text{small}}$, where n_{small} is set to 15, determine revised Centre-level cumulative proportion grade distribution, $P'_j = \{P'_{Mj} \ldots P'_{kj} \ldots P'_{0j}\}$, based on the following expression:

$$P'_{kj} = \begin{cases} f_{kj}, & \text{if } \bar{n}_{Hj} < n_{\text{thresh}} \\ f_{kj} \dfrac{(n_{\text{small}} - \bar{n}_{Hj})}{(n_{\text{small}} - n_{\text{thresh}})} + \hat{P}_{kj} \left(1 - \dfrac{(n_{\text{small}} - \bar{n}_{Hj})}{(n_{\text{small}} - n_{\text{thresh}})} \right), & \text{if } n_{\text{thresh}} \leq \bar{n}_H \leq n_{\text{small}} \end{cases}$$

[12] Note that if $n_{\text{hist},j} = 0$ then $\bar{n}_H = 0$

where n_{thresh} is set to 5, $\hat{P}_{kj}$ is as defined as the Centre-level cumulative proportion grade distribution based on the grades awarded to Learners in step **X9**, and f_{kj} is the cumulative proportion grade distribution based on the Centre Assessment Grades (**D8**).

c. Convert P'_{kj} to cumulative Learner grade distribution as $P'_{kj} \times n_{\text{cur},j}$ and apply rounding with decimals of 0.5 being rounded upwards.

d. Allocate grades based on the Centre level rank order as defined in step **X8** so as to exclude Private Candidates with the exception of DLPs identified in **D3b**.

ii. Record the grades for Learners entering through a Centre with a small entry in the subject, as calculated here, in **D17**.

X11 – Post-hoc slotting of Private Candidates

Description

Allocate grades to Private Candidates (excluding those from DLPs listed in **D3b**) which have not been included earlier in the standardisation process.

Inputs required

i. DLP record (**D3b**)

ii. Centre-level rank order (**D7**)

iii. Learner grades (**D17**)

iv. Centre Assessment Grades (**D8**)

Outputs generated

i. Learner grades (**D17**) for Private Candidates not entering through a DLP.

Step requirements

i. For all Private Candidates entering through a Centre which is not an identified DLP (as per **D3b**), allocate their grades based on the following rules:

a. Based on the Centre-level rank order as defined in **D7**, if the next non-Private Candidate ranked above the Private Candidate has the same grade, h, (in **D17**) as the next non-Private Candidate ranked below the Private Candidate, the Private Candidate is allocated the grade, h.

b. Based on the Centre-level rank order as defined in **D7**, if the next non-Private Candidate ranked above the Private Candidate has a grade, h, (in **D17**) which is different to the next non-Private Candidate ranked below the Private Candidate with a grade l (in **D17**), the Private

Candidate is allocated their Centre assessment grade (from **D8**) grade provided it is in the range, h to l. If the Private Candidate's Centre assessment grade is above, h, the Private Candidate must be awarded, h. If the Private Candidate's Centre assessment grade is below, l, the Private Candidate must be awarded, l.

c. If the Private Candidate has no non-Private Candidates above them in the rank order as defined in **D7**, and the next non-private ranked below them has a grade l, the Private Candidate will receive the Centre assessment grade if it is higher than or equal to l or he/she will receive grade l if the Centre assessment grade is lower.

d. If the Private Candidate has no non-Private Candidates below them in the rank order as defined in **D7**, and the next non-private ranked above them has a grade h, the Private Candidate will receive the Centre assessment grade if it is lower than or equal to h or will receive grade h if the Centre assessment grade is higher.

ii. In instances where all Learners from the centre are Private Candidates, all Learners must be awarded their Centre Assessment Grades.

X12 – Determine grades for very large Centres (GCSE English language and GCSE mathematics only)

Description

Overwrite the grades for Learners from very large Centres for GCSE English language and GCSE mathematics at Grades 4 to 1.

Inputs required

i. Learner grades (**D17**)

ii. Rank order of Learners in the subject provided by Centres (**D7**)

iii. Very large Centre information (**D9**)

iv. Centre Assessment Grades (**D8**)

Outputs generated

iii. Learner grades (**D17**) for Learners entering with very large Centres

Step requirements

i. This step is to be executed for all Centres and subjects included in the reference **D9** as specified by National Centre Number. This step is to include Private Candidates.

ii. Based on the grades provided in the Centre Assessment Grades record (**D8**) at grades 4, 3, 2, and 1, the following procedure is to be performed for each grade for each Centre:

a. For the first group of ten Learners in the rank order at the current grade (**D7**), identify the grades currently allocated to these Learners based on **D17**. Defining grade h as the highest grade allocated to a Learner in that group, award all Learners in that group a grade h.

b. Repeat step a. for all groups at each grade, including the lowest ranking group where the groups may include fewer than 10 Learners.

iii. Update the **D17** records for Learners in scope for this step in the process.

X13 – Identify Learners receiving off-tier grades (GCSE only)

Description

For the following GCSE subjects:

> mathematics, biology, chemistry, physics, combined science, French, German, Spanish, statistics, Arabic, Bengali, Chinese, Italian, Japanese, modern Greek, modern Hebrew, Panjabi, Polish, Russian, Urdu, Gujarati, Persian, Portuguese and Turkish,

determine the number of Learners receiving a grade in tiered subjects that would not typically be available on that tier.

Inputs required

i. Learner grades (**D17**)

ii. Learner-level entry information for summer 2020 (**D5**)

Outputs generated

i. Off-tier Learner record (**D26**) in the format specified in Appendix B.

Step requirements

i. For each subject listed in the ***Description*** for step **X13** (with the exception of combined science), determine:

a. the number of Learners, n_{F6}, and the number of prior-attainment matched Learners entering through Centres of the Centre type[13] used to generate predictions, n'_{F6}, entered on the foundation tier being awarded a grade 6.

b. the number of Learners, n_{F7}, and the number of prior-attainment matched Learners entering through Centres of the Centre type used to

[13] Throughout this step, this is as defined in Annex D

generate predictions, n'_{F7}, entered on the foundation tier being awarded a grade 7.

c. the number of Learners, n_{H2}, and the number of prior-attainment matched Learners entering through Centres of the Centre type used to generate predictions, n'_{H2}, entered on the higher tier being awarded a grade 2.

d. the number of Learners, n_{H1}, and the number of prior-attainment matched Learners entering through Centres of the Centre type used to generate predictions, n'_{H1}, entered on the higher tier being awarded a grade 1.

ii. For combined science, determine:

a. the number of Learners, n_{F65}, and the number of prior-attainment matched Learners entering through Centres of the Centre type used to generate predictions, n'_{F65}, entered on the foundation tier being awarded a grade 6-5.

b. the number of Learners, n_{F66}, and the number of prior-attainment matched Learners entering through Centres of the Centre type used to generate predictions, n'_{F66}, entered on the foundation tier being awarded a grade 6-6.

c. the number of Learners, n_{F76}, and the number of prior-attainment matched Learners entering through Centres of the Centre type used to generate predictions, n'_{F76}, entered on the foundation tier being awarded a grade 7-6.

d. the number of Learners, n_{F77}, and the number of prior-attainment matched Learners entering through Centres of the Centre type used to generate predictions, n'_{F65}, entered on the foundation tier being awarded a grade 7-7.

e. the number of Learners, n_{H33}, and the number of prior-attainment matched Learners entering through Centres of the Centre type used to generate predictions, n'_{H33}, entered on the higher tier being awarded a grade 3-3.

f. the number of Learners, n_{H32}, and the number of prior-attainment matched Learners entering through Centres of the Centre type used to generate predictions, n'_{H32}, entered on the higher tier being awarded a grade 3-2.

g. the number of Learners, n_{H22}, and the number of prior-attainment matched Learners entering through Centres of the Centre type used to

generate predictions, n'_{H22}, entered on the higher tier being awarded a grade 2-2.

h. the number of Learners, n_{H21}, and the number of prior-attainment matched Learners entering through Centres of the Centre type used to generate predictions, n'_{H21}, entered on the higher tier being awarded a grade 2-1.

i. the number of Learners, n_{H11}, and the number of prior-attainment matched Learners entering through Centres of the Centre type used to generate predictions, n'_{H11}, entered on the higher tier being awarded a grade 1-1.

iii. Record the outputs relevant to the subject as calculated in steps i. and ii. in **D26** in the format specified in Appendix B.

X14 – Calculate subject-level aggregates

Description

Calculate the subject-level outcomes for the purposes of reporting. This step is to be performed at both national and awarding organisation level.

Inputs required

i. Learner grades (**D17**)

ii. Summer 2020 Learner-level data (**D5**)

iii. Subject-specific prediction (**D16**)

Outputs generated

i. Prior-attainment matched Learner cumulative percentage grade distribution (**D27**)

ii. All Learner cumulative percentage grade distribution (**D28**)

iii. Subject-level prediction (**D29**)

Step requirements

i. For all Learners with grades awarded for summer 2020 calculate the cumulative percentage grade distribution, calculated as the cumulative proportion grade distribution ×100.

ii. Identify the summer 2020 prior-attainment matched Learners entering through Centres of Centre type used to formulate the subject-level prediction and calculate the cumulative percentage grade distribution, calculated as the cumulative proportion grade distribution ×100.

iii. Identify the corresponding subject-level prediction against which to evaluate the cumulative percentage grade distribution calculated in step ii.

iv. Store the values calculated in steps i. to iii. (**D27, D28** and **D29**) as specified in Appendix K. Note that for national level reporting **D29** will be identical to **D16**.

Exceptions

Awarding organisations must use the following procedures for dealing with exceptions.

Exceptions prior to the standardisation process being run

i) Cut-off for inclusion in the full standardisation process

Each awarding organisation will set its cut-off for entries that are to be included in the full standardisation process as defined above, which will be no earlier than 1 July and no later than 6 July 2020.

An awarding organisation must include entries made after 23 May but prior to its cut-off date in the full standardisation process. Only match entries made by the 23 May to prior attainment, as specified in Annex B.

Exceptions after the standardisation process has been run

ii) A Learner is withdrawn after the cut-off in (i)

Do not re-run the standardisation process for the affected Centre. The grade for the withdrawn learner is not issued, but all previously calculated grades are retained. Where there are multiple withdrawals within a Centre in the same subject, the lead awarding organisation must inform other awarding organisations and Ofqual for further consideration of the approach.

iii) A new Learner is entered after the cut-off in (i)

Do not re-run the standardisation process for the affected Centre and all previously calculated grades are retained. The new entries are issued a grade based on their Centre Assessment Grade/rank order using the same rules as for Private Candidates.

iv) A Centre makes a change to the Centre Assessment Grades or rank orders after the cut-off in (i)

Re-run the standardisation process for all Learners in the affected Centre. The new grades must overwrite the original grades.

v) A Centre had not submitted Centre Assessment Grades or rank orders before the cut-off in (i)

Run the standardisation process for the affected Centre to calculate a set of grades for each Learner in that Centre. Do not re-calculate the cut scores.

vi) A Centre submits a Centre Assessment Grade or rank order for a Learner who does not have a valid entry (and the entry cannot be validated before the running of the model)

Run the standardisation process for the affected Centre to calculate a set of grades for each Learner in that Centre. Do not re-calculate the cut scores.

vii) A Centre is successful in an appeal under Condition GQCov5.1(a) or the awarding organisation agrees that there has been a procedural error under Condition GQCov5.7

Where necessary to correct for the effect of the procedural error –

- re-run the standardisation process for the affected Learners at the Centre using the correct procedure or data generated using the correct procedure, as relevant, and
- taking reasonable steps to ensure that the grade for any Learner who did not consent to the request for the appeal is not lower than that calculated through the initial standardisation process.

viii) A Centre is successful in an appeal under Condition GQCov5.1(b) or the awarding organisation agrees that there has been an error in the data used under Condition GQCov5.7

Re-run the standardisation process for the Centre, or the affected Learners at the Centre –

- using the data which the awarding organisation has established is appropriate, and
- taking reasonable steps to ensure that the grade for any Learner who did not consent to the request for the appeal is not lower than that calculated through the initial standardisation process.

In the alternative, where the issue on appeal related to an atypical minority of Learners, and the awarding organisation considers it more appropriate to do so, it must, as relevant –

- for atypical Learners at the top of the rank order, issue the Learners' Centre Assessment Grades, or
- for atypical Learners elsewhere in the rank order, either –
    - issue the Learners' Centre Assessment Grade where this can be done without affecting the rank order, or
    - otherwise issue the highest grades which can be given whilst preserving the rank order.

ix) An awarding organisation establishes that a Learner's grade is inaccurate as a result of malpractice or maladministration

Comply with Conditions A8.2(b) and A8.6 by making amendments to any affected Learner's results, as appropriate, under Condition H6.3(b).

Exceptions due to unresolved tied ranks

x) Having taken all reasonable steps, the awarding organisation is unable to resolve issues with ties in the Learner rank orders submitted by a Centre

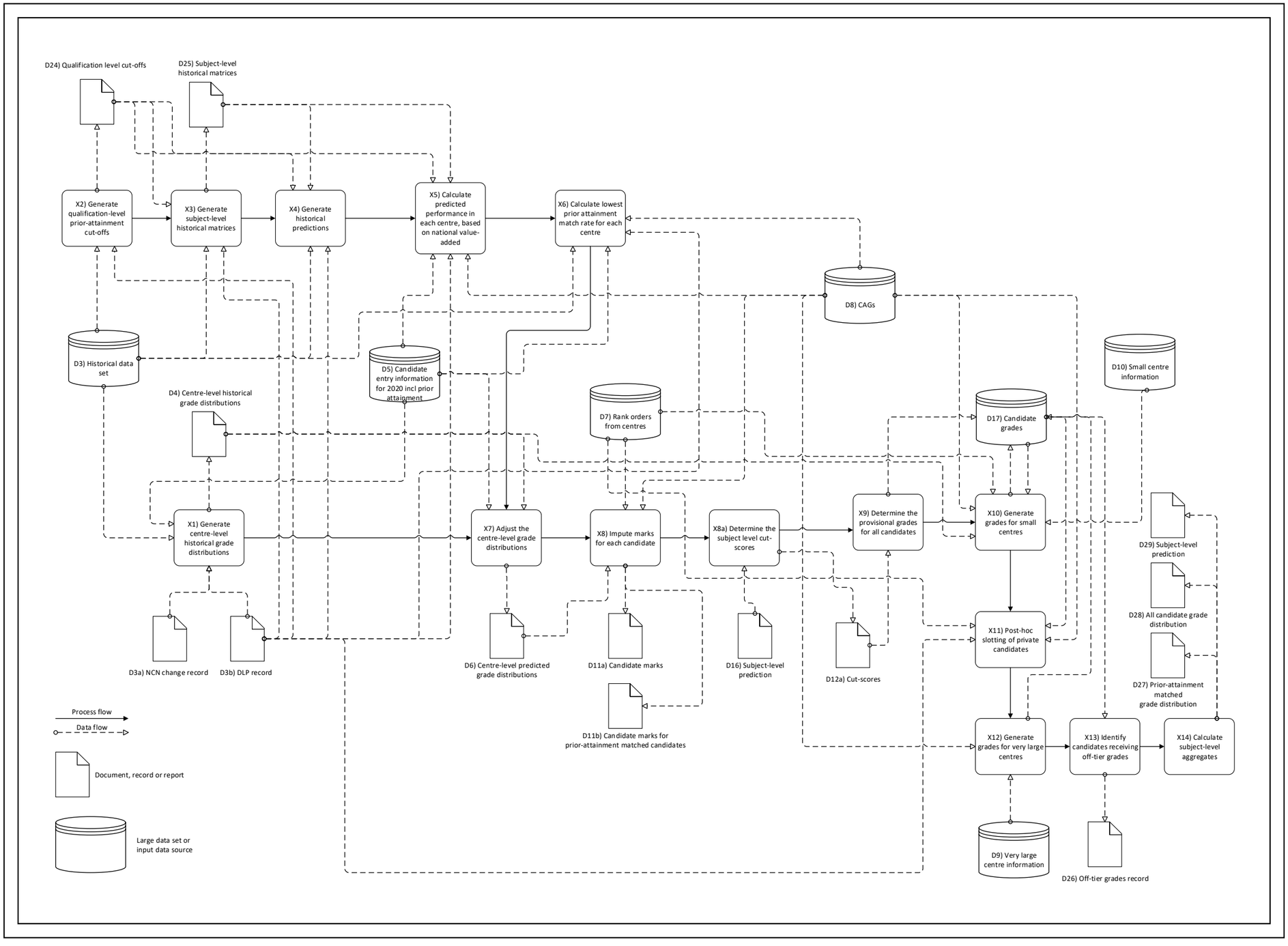
The standardisation process is performed as normal with tied Learners removed such that only one Learner is present at each rank for each grade for the Centre. The selection of the Learner for inclusion in the process is to be on the following basis:

- where only one of the Learners at the tied rank is a prior-attainment matched Learner, that Learner must be the one retained for the standardisation process

- where more than one Learner at the tied rank is a prior-attainment matched Learner, the Learner with the highest prior-attainment must be retained for the standardisation process
- where no Learners at the tied rank is a prior-attainment matched Learner, and of the Learners can be retained for the standardisation process

On completion of the standardisation process, the Learner(s) temporarily removed from the Centre's rank order must be awarded the same calculated grade as the Learner(s) with which their rank was tied.

Appendix A – standardisation process flow



Appendix B – Off-tier grade record (D26)

Variable Name	Variable Description	Notes
AwardingOrganisation	Name of the awarding organisation	One to one hundred characters accepted
SubjectMappingCode		A record must be completed for each subject offered by the awarding organisation even if the number of Learners with off-tier grades is zero
NumberOfCandidates	Total number of Learners due to receive grades for the subject	To include all Learners of all ages including all Private Candidates
NumberOfMatchedCandidates	Total number of prior-attainment matched Learners entering through Centres of the Centre type used to generate the subject-level prediction	
FGradesOffTier6 [not for GCSE combined science]	Total number of foundation tier Learners receiving a grade 6	The value of n_{F6} as defined in step **X13**
FGradesOffTier7 [not for GCSE combined science]	Total number of foundation tier Learners receiving a grade 7	The value of n_{F7} as defined in step **X13**
HGradesOffTier2 [not for GCSE combined science]	Total number of higher tier Learners receiving a grade 2	The value of n_{H2} as defined in step **X13**
HGradesOffTier1 [not for GCSE combined science]	Total number of higher tier Learners receiving a grade 1	The value of n_{H1} as defined in step **X13**
FGradesOffTier6Matched [not for GCSE combined science]	Total number of prior-attainment matched foundation tier Learners receiving a grade 6	The value of n'_{F6} as defined in step **X13**
FGradesOffTier7Matched [not for GCSE combined science]	Total number of prior-attainment matched foundation tier Learners receiving a grade 7	The value of n'_{F7} as defined in step **X13**
HGradesOffTier2Matched [not for GCSE combined science]	Total number of prior-attainment matched higher tier Learners receiving a grade 2	The value of n'_{H2} as defined in step **X13**
HGradesOffTier1Matched [not for GCSE combined science]	Total number of prior-attainment matched higher tier Learners receiving a grade 1	The value of n'_{H1} as defined in step **X13**
FGradesOffTier65 [GCSE combined science only]	Total number of foundation tier Learners receiving a grade 6-5	The value of n_{F65} as defined in step **X13**

FGradesOffTier66 [GCSE combined science only]	Total number of foundation tier Learners receiving a grade 6-6	The value of n_{F66} as defined in step **X13**
FGradesOffTier76 [GCSE combined science only]	Total number of foundation tier Learners receiving a grade 7-6	The value of n_{F76} as defined in step **X13**
FGradesOffTier77 [GCSE combined science only]	Total number of foundation tier Learners receiving a grade 7-7	The value of n_{F77} as defined in step **X13**
FGradesOffTier33 [GCSE combined science only]	Total number of foundation tier Learners receiving a grade 3-3	The value of n_{H33} as defined in step **X13**
FGradesOffTier32 [GCSE combined science only]	Total number of foundation tier Learners receiving a grade 3-2	The value of n_{H32} as defined in step **X13**
FGradesOffTier22 [GCSE combined science only]	Total number of foundation tier Learners receiving a grade 2-2	The value of n_{H22} as defined in step **X13**
FGradesOffTier21 [GCSE combined science only]	Total number of foundation tier Learners receiving a grade 2-1	The value of n_{H21} as defined in step **X13**
FGradesOffTier11 [GCSE combined science only]	Total number of foundation tier Learners receiving a grade 1-1	The value of n_{H11} as defined in step **X13**
FGradesOffTier65Matched [GCSE combined science only]	Total number of prior-attainment matched foundation tier Learners receiving a grade 6-5	The value of n'_{F65} as defined in step **X13**
FGradesOffTier66Matched [GCSE combined science only]	Total number of prior-attainment matched foundation tier Learners receiving a grade 6-6	The value of n'_{F66} as defined in step **X13**
FGradesOffTier76Matched [GCSE combined science only]	Total number of prior-attainment matched foundation tier Learners receiving a grade 7-6	The value of n'_{F76} as defined in step **X13**
FGradesOffTier77Matched [GCSE combined science only]	Total number of prior-attainment matched foundation tier Learners receiving a grade 7-7	The value of n'_{F77} as defined in step **X13**
FGradesOffTier33Matched [GCSE combined science only]	Total number of prior-attainment matched foundation tier Learners receiving a grade 3-3	The value of n'_{H33} as defined in step **X13**
FGradesOffTier32Matched [GCSE combined science only]	Total number of prior-attainment matched foundation tier Learners receiving a grade 3-2	The value of n'_{H32} as defined in step **X13**
FGradesOffTier22Matched [GCSE combined science only]	Total number of prior-attainment matched foundation tier Learners receiving a grade 2-2	The value of n'_{H22} as defined in step **X13**

FGradesOffTier21Matched [GCSE combined science only]	Total number of prior-attainment matched foundation tier Learners receiving a grade 2-1	The value of n'_{H21} as defined in step **X13**
FGradesOffTier11Matched [GCSE combined science only]	Total number of prior-attainment matched foundation tier Learners receiving a grade 1-1	The value of n'_{H11} as defined in step **X13**

Appendix C – NCN change record (D3a)

Single file for all qualifications

Variable Name	Variable Description	Notes
NCN_old	Previous Centre number	
NCN_new	Revised Centre number	
Date	Date of change recorded	Format: dd/mm/yyyy

Appendix D – DLP record (D3b)

Variable Name	Variable Description	Notes
CentreNo	Centre number	

Appendix E – Very large Centres record (D9)

Variable Name	Variable Description	Notes
SubjectGroup	Subject grouping reference	
CentreNo		
N_ctr_entries	Number of entries from the Centre	Integer
LeadAO	Name of awarding organisation leading the data collection	Character string
SplitCentre	Flag to whether the Centre has its entry split across awarding organisations for this subject	Y/N

Appendix F – Small entry parameter record (D10)

Variable Name	Variable Description	Notes
QualificationLevel	Level of qualification	GCSE, AS, A Level, extended project qualification, AEA Left blank if thresholds are common across qualification levels
SubjectGroup	Subject grouping	Left blank if thresholds are common across subjects
SmallEntryN	Number of Learners at which the tapered small Centre adjustment begins for each subject	Integer
SmallThreshN	Number of Learners at which the threshold for accepting Centre Assessment Grades begins	Integer

Appendix G – Historical Centre-level grade distributions (D4)

Variable Name	Variable Description	Notes
QualificationLevel	Level of qualification	GCSE, AS, A Level, extended project qualification, AEA
Type	Qualification Type	"Full course", "Short course", "Double Award" or blank
AwardingOrganisation	Name of Awarding organisation	Name of awarding organisation or "National"
SubjectGroup	Subject group reference	
CentreNo	NCN Centre number	
NHistoricalCandidates	Number of Learners in historical data	Number of Learners from the Centre with a result in the subject across all relevant historical years. For Centres with no historical data enter "0"
NMatchHistoricalCandidates	Number of prior-attainment matched Learners in historical data	Number of prior-attainment matched Learners from the Centre with valid grades in the subject (with at least 3 GCSE results for AS/A level and extended project qualification) across all relevant historical years. For Centres with no historical data enter "0"
ActualHistStar **[A level/extended project qualification only]**	Actual cumulative percentage outcome at grade	Articulated to 2 d.p.
ActualHistA **[AS/A level/extended project qualification only]**		
ActualHistB **[AS/A level/extended project qualification only]**		
ActualHistC **[AS/A level/extended project qualification only]**		
ActualHistD **[AS/A level/extended project qualification only]**		
ActualHistE **[AS/A level/extended project qualification only]**		
ActualHist9 **[GCSE only]**		
ActualHist8 **[GCSE only]**		
ActualHist7 **[GCSE only]**		
ActualHist6 **[GCSE only]**		
ActualHist5 **[GCSE only]**		
ActualHist4 **[GCSE only]**		
ActualHist3 **[GCSE only]**		
ActualHist2 **[GCSE only]**		
ActualHist1 **[GCSE only]**		
ActualHistMerit **[Advanced extension award only]**		

ActualHistDist **[Advanced extension award only]**		
ActualHist99 **[GCSE combined science only]**		
ActualHist98 **[GCSE combined science only]**		
ActualHist88 **[GCSE combined science only]**		
ActualHist87 **[GCSE combined science only]**		
ActualHist77 **[GCSE combined science only]**		
ActualHist76 **[GCSE combined science only]**		
ActualHist66 **[GCSE combined science only]**		
ActualHist65 **[GCSE combined science only]**		
ActualHist55 **[GCSE combined science only]**		
ActualHist54 **[GCSE combined science only]**		
ActualHist44 **[GCSE combined science only]**		
ActualHist43 **[GCSE combined science only]**		
ActualHist33 **[GCSE combined science only]**		
ActualHist32 **[GCSE combined science only]**		
ActualHist22 **[GCSE combined science only]**		
ActualHist21 **[GCSE combined science only]**		
ActualHist11 **[GCSE combined science only]**		

Appendix H – Qualification-level cut-offs (D24)

Single file and record for a qualification level

Variable Name	Variable Description	Notes
QualificationLevel	Level of qualification	GCSE, AS, A Level, extended project qualification, AEA
Type	Qualification Type	“Full course”, “Short course”, “Double Award” or blank
PriorCut1	Prior attainment cut-offs at deciles of the distribution from highest (1) to lowest (9)	Articulated to 2 d.p.
PriorCut2		
PriorCut3		
PriorCut4		
PriorCut5		
PriorCut6		
PriorCut7		
PriorCut8		
PriorCut9		

Appendix I – Centre-level predicted grade distributions (D6)

Variable Name	Variable Description	Notes
QualificationLevel	Level of qualification	GCSE, AS, A Level, extended project qualification, AEA
Type	Qualification Type	"Full course", "Short course", "Double Award" or blank
AwardingOrganisation	Name of Awarding organisation	Name of awarding organisation or "National"
NewSubjectMapping	Subject identifier relating to the instance of the standardisation instance	Typically the name of the subject with exceptions being those with endorsements
CentreNo	NCN Centre number	
NCurrentCandidates	Number of Learners in current year	Number of Learners in current year from the Centre with a valid entry and valid CAG for the subject. (As defined as, $n_{\mathrm{cur},j}$ in step X6)
NMatchedCandidates	Number of prior-attainment matched Learners in current year	Number of prior-attainment matched Learners (with at least 3 GCSE results for AS/A level and extended project qualification) in current year from the Centre with a valid entry and valid CAG for the subject. (As defined as, $n'_{\mathrm{cur},j}$ in step X6)
PredStar **[A level/extended project qualification only]**	Predicted cumulative percentage outcome at grade	Articulated to 2 d.p.
PredA **[AS/A level/extended project qualification only]**		
PredB **[AS/A level/extended project qualification only]**		
PredC **[AS/A level/extended project qualification only]**		
PredD **[AS/A level/extended project qualification only]**		
PredE **[AS/A level/extended project qualification only]**		
Pred9 **[GCSE only]**		
Pred8 **[GCSE only]**		
Pred7 **[GCSE only]**		
Pred6 **[GCSE only]**		
Pred5 **[GCSE only]**		
Pred4 **[GCSE only]**		
Pred3 **[GCSE only]**		
Pred2 **[GCSE only]**		
Pred1 **[GCSE only]**		

PredMerit **[Advanced extension award only]**		
PredDist **[Advanced extension award only]**		
Pred99 **[GCSE combined science only]**		
Pred98 **[GCSE combined science only]**		
Pred88 **[GCSE combined science only]**		
Pred87 **[GCSE combined science only]**		
Pred77 **[GCSE combined science only]**		
Pred76 **[GCSE combined science only]**		
Pred66 **[GCSE combined science only]**		
Pred65 **[GCSE combined science only]**		
Pred55 **[GCSE combined science only]**		
Pred54 **[GCSE combined science only]**		
Pred44 **[GCSE combined science only]**		
Pred43 **[GCSE combined science only]**		
Pred33 **[GCSE combined science only]**		
Pred32 **[GCSE combined science only]**		
Pred22 **[GCSE combined science only]**		
Pred21 **[GCSE combined science only]**		
Pred11 **[GCSE combined science only]**		

Appendix J – Subject-level cut-scores (D12a)

Variable Name	Variable Description	Notes
QualificationLevel	Level of qualification	GCSE, AS, A Level, extended project qualification, AEA
Type	Qualification Type	"Full course", "Short course", "Double Award" or blank
SubjectGroupMapping		
Cut9 [GCSE only]	GCSE cut-scores	Captured to 4 d.p.
Cut8 [GCSE only]		
Cut7 [GCSE only]		
Cut6 [GCSE only]		
Cut5 [GCSE only]		
Cut4 [GCSE only]		
Cut3 [GCSE only]		
Cut2 [GCSE only]		
Cut1 [GCSE only]		
CutStar [A level/extended project qualification only]	GCE cut-scores	
CutA [A level/AS/extended project qualification only]		
CutB [A level/AS/extended project qualification only]		
CutC [A level/AS/extended project qualification only]		
CutD [A level/AS/extended project qualification only]		
CutE [A level/AS/extended project qualification only]		
CutDist [Advanced extension award only]	Advanced extension award cut-scores	
CutMer [Advanced extension award only]		
Cut99 [GCSE combined science only]	GCSE combined science cut-scores	
Cut98 [GCSE combined science only]		
Cut88 [GCSE combined science only]		
Cut87 [GCSE combined science only]		
Cut77 [GCSE combined science only]		
Cut76 [GCSE combined science only]		

Cut66 [GCSE combined science only]		
Cut65 [GCSE combined science only]		
Cut55 [GCSE combined science only]		
Cut54 [GCSE combined science only]		
Cut44 [GCSE combined science only]		
Cut43 [GCSE combined science only]		
Cut33 [GCSE combined science only]		
Cut32 [GCSE combined science only]		
Cut22 [GCSE combined science only]		
Cut21 [GCSE combined science only]		
Cut11 [GCSE combined science only]		

Appendix K – Subject-level reporting data (D27, D28, D29)

Variable Name	Variable Description	Notes
QualificationLevel	Level of qualification	GCSE, AS, A Level, extended project qualification, AEA Left blank if thresholds are common across qualification levels
SubjectGroup	Subject grouping	 Left blank if thresholds are common across subjects
AwardingOrganisation	Name of the awarding organisation	One to one hundred characters accepted Name of awarding organisation or "National"
SpecCode	Awarding organisation specific specification code	Character string
NAllCandidates	Number of Learners making up the 'all Learner' outcomes	
NMatchedCandidates	Number of Learners making up the 'prior-attainment matched Learner' outcomes	
SubjPredStar [A level and extended project qualification only]	Subject-level prediction for GCEs and extended project qualification	Articulated to 6 d.p.
SubjPredA [AS/A level and extended project qualification only]		
SubjPredB [AS/A level and extended project qualification only]		
SubjPredC [AS/A level and extended project qualification only]		
SubjPredD [AS/A level and extended project qualification only]		
SubjPredE [AS/A level and extended project qualification only]		
SubjPredU [AS/A level and extended project qualification only]		
SubjAllStar [A level and extended project qualification only]	All Learner outcome for GCEs and extended project qualification	Articulated to 6 d.p.
SubjAllA [AS/A level and extended project qualification only]		
SubjAllB [AS/A level and extended project qualification only]		
SubjAllC [AS/A level and extended project qualification only]		

SubjAllD [AS/A level and extended project qualification only]		
SubjAllE [AS/A level and extended project qualification only]		
SubjAllU [AS/A level and extended project qualification only]		
SubjMatchedStar [A level and extended project qualification only]	Prior-attainment matched Learner outcome for GCEs and extended project qualifications	Articulated to 6 d.p.
SubjMatchedA [AS/A level and extended project qualification only]		
SubjMatchedB [AS/A level and extended project qualification only]		
SubjMatchedC [AS/A level and extended project qualification only]		
SubjMatchedD [AS/A level and extended project qualification only]		
SubjMatchedE [AS/A level and extended project qualification only]		
SubjMatchedU [AS/A level and extended project qualification only]		
SubjPred9 [GCSE only]	Subject-level prediction for GCSEs (excluding combined science)	Articulated to 6 d.p.
SubjPred8 [GCSE only]		
SubjPred7 [GCSE only]		
SubjPred6 [GCSE only]		
SubjPred5 [GCSE only]		
SubjPred4 [GCSE only]		
SubjPred3 [GCSE only]		
SubjPred2 [GCSE only]		
SubjPred1 [GCSE only]		
SubjPredU [GCSE only]		
SubjAll9 [GCSE only]	All Learner outcome for GCSEs (excluding combined science)	Articulated to 6 d.p.
SubjAll8 [GCSE only]		
SubjAll7 [GCSE only]		
SubjAll6 [GCSE only]		
SubjAll5 [GCSE only]		
SubjAll4 [GCSE only]		
SubjAll3 [GCSE only]		
SubjAll2 [GCSE only]		
SubjAll1 [GCSE only]		
SubjAllU [GCSE only]		
SubjMatched9 [GCSE only]	Prior-attainment matched Learner (identified Centre types only) outcome for	Articulated to 6 d.p.
SubjMatched8 [GCSE only]		

SubjMatched7 [GCSE only]	GCSEs (excluding combined science)	
SubjMatched6 [GCSE only]		
SubjMatched5 [GCSE only]		
SubjMatched4 [GCSE only]		
SubjMatched3 [GCSE only]		
SubjMatched2 [GCSE only]		Articulated to 6 d.p.
SubjMatched1 [GCSE only]		
SubjMatchedU [GCSE only]		
SubjAllDist [advanced extension award only]	All Learner outcome for advanced extension awards	Articulated to 6 d.p.
SubjAllMer [advanced extension award only]		
SubjAllU [advanced extension award only]		
SubjPred99 [GCSE combined science only]	Subject-level prediction for GCSE combined science	Articulated to 6 d.p.
SubjPred98 [GCSE combined science only]		
SubjPred88 [GCSE combined science only]		
SubjPred87 [GCSE combined science only]		
SubjPred77 [GCSE combined science only]		
SubjPred76 [GCSE combined science only]		
SubjPred66 [GCSE combined science only]		
SubjPred65 [GCSE combined science only]		
SubjPred55 [GCSE combined science only]		
SubjPred54 [GCSE combined science only]		
SubjPred44 [GCSE combined science only]		
SubjPred43 [GCSE combined science only]		
SubjPred33 [GCSE combined science only]		
SubjPred32 [GCSE combined science only]		
SubjPred22 [GCSE combined science only]		

SubjPred21 [GCSE combined science only]		
SubjPred11 [GCSE combined science only]		
SubjPredU [GCSE combined science only]		
SubjAll99 [GCSE combined science only]	All Learner outcomes for GCSE combined science	Articulated to 6 d.p.
SubjAll98 [GCSE combined science only]		
SubjAll88 [GCSE combined science only]		
SubjAll87 [GCSE combined science only]		
SubjAll77 [GCSE combined science only]		
SubjAll76 [GCSE combined science only]		
SubjAll66 [GCSE combined science only]		
SubjAll65 [GCSE combined science only]		
SubjAll55 [GCSE combined science only]		
SubjAll54 [GCSE combined science only]		
SubjAll44 [GCSE combined science only]		
SubjAll43 [GCSE combined science only]		
SubjAll33 [GCSE combined science only]		
SubjAll32 [GCSE combined science only]		
SubjAll22 [GCSE combined science only]		
SubjAll21 [GCSE combined science only]		
SubjAll11 [GCSE combined science only]		
SubjAllU [GCSE combined science only]		
SubjMatched99 [GCSE combined science only]	Prior-attainment matched Learner (identified Centre types only) outcome for GCSE combined science	Articulated to 6 d.p.
SubjMatched98 [GCSE combined science only]		

SubjMatched88 [GCSE combined science only]		
SubjMatched87 [GCSE combined science only]		
SubjMatched77 [GCSE combined science only]		
SubjMatched76 [GCSE combined science only]		
SubjMatched66 [GCSE combined science only]		
SubjMatched65 [GCSE combined science only]		
SubjMatched55 [GCSE combined science only]		
SubjMatched54 [GCSE combined science only]		
SubjMatched44 [GCSE combined science only]		
SubjMatched43 [GCSE combined science only]		
SubjMatched33 [GCSE combined science only]		
SubjMatched32 [GCSE combined science only]		
SubjMatched22 [GCSE combined science only]		
SubjMatched21 [GCSE combined science only]		
SubjMatched11 [GCSE combined science only]		
SubjMatchedU [GCSE combined science only]		

Annex F

Reporting requirements

Awarding organisations must provide to Ofqual the information specified in this Annex in the form and according to the timetable specified.

A level reporting

Pre-reform A level

Each awarding organisation must report its **own awarding organisation** results for each subject at all grades for all Learners, using template B, and according to the reporting schedule in Table 1.

Post-reform A level

For subjects where there are more than 500 matched Learners (combined across awarding organisations), awarding organisations must together report the **national**[14] prediction, results for matched Learners, results for all Learners and cut-scores for each subject at all grades, using the data specifications in Appendix J and Appendix K of Annex E, and according to the reporting schedule in Table 1.

For subjects where there are more than 500 matched Learners (combined across awarding organisations), each awarding organisation must report its **own awarding organisation** prediction,[15] results for matched Learners and results for all Learners for each subject at all grades, using the data specification in Appendix K of Annex E, and according to the reporting schedule in Table 1. For subjects where an awarding organisation has more than one specification, reporting should be at the specification level.

For subjects with 500 or fewer matched Learners (combined across awarding organisations), awarding organisations must report the **national** results for all Learners, using the data specification in Appendix K of Annex E, and according to the reporting schedule in Table 1.

For subjects with 500 or fewer matched Learners (combined across awarding organisations), each awarding organisation must report its **own awarding organisation** results for all Learners for each subject at all grades, using the data

[14] 'National' refers to data collated across all awarding organisations that are required to comply with these requirements.
[15] An awarding organisation must report its own awarding organisation predictions for subjects where there are more than 500 matched Learners (combined across awarding organisations), regardless of the number of matched Learners registered with that awarding organisation.

specification in Appendix K of Annex E, and according to the reporting schedule in Table 1. For subjects where an awarding organisation has more than one specification, reporting should be at the specification level.

AS reporting

Pre-reform AS

Each awarding organisation must report its **own awarding organisation** results for each subject at all grades for all Learners, using template C and according to the reporting schedule in Table 1.

Post-reform AS

For subjects where there are more than 500 matched Learners (combined across awarding organisations), awarding organisations must report the **national** prediction, results for matched Learners, results for all Learners and cut-scores for each subject at all grades, using the data specifications in Appendix J and Appendix K of Annex E, and according to the reporting schedule in Table 1.

For subjects where there are more than 500 matched Learners (combined across awarding organisations), each awarding organisation must report its **own awarding organisation** prediction, results for matched Learners and results for all Learners for each subject at all grades, using the data specification in Appendix K of Annex E, and according to the reporting schedule in Table 1. For subjects where an awarding organisation has more than one specification, reporting should be at the specification level.

For subjects with 500 or fewer matched Learners (combined across awarding organisations), awarding organisations must report the **national** results for all Learners, using the data specification in Appendix K of Annex E, and according to the reporting schedule in Table 1.

For subjects with 500 or fewer matched Learners (combined across awarding organisations), each awarding organisation must report its **own awarding organisation** results for all Learners for each subject at all grades, using the data specification in Appendix K of Annex E, and according to the reporting schedule in Table 1. For subjects where an awarding organisation has more than one specification, reporting should be at the specification level.

GCSE reporting

Post-reform GCSE

For subjects where there are more than 500 matched Learners (combined across awarding organisations), awarding organisations must report the **national** prediction, results for matched Learners, results for all Learners and cut-scores for each subject at all grades,[16] using the data specifications in Appendix J and Appendix K of Annex E, and according to the reporting schedule in Table 1.

For subjects where there are more than 500 matched Learners (combined across awarding organisations), each awarding organisation must report its **own awarding organisation** prediction, results for matched Learners, results for all Learners and matched Learner tiering data (for tiered subjects only) for each subject at all grades, using the data specifications in Appendix B and Appendix K of Annex E, and according to the reporting schedule in Table 1. For subjects where an awarding organisation has more than one specification, reporting should be at the specification level.

For subjects with 500 or fewer matched Learners (combined across awarding organisations), awarding organisations must report the **national** results for all Learners for each subject at all grades, using the data specification in Appendix K of Annex E, and according to the reporting schedule in Table 1.

For subjects with 500 or fewer matched Learners (combined across awarding organisations), each awarding organisation must report its **own awarding organisation** results for all Learners for each subject at all grades, using the data specification in Appendix K of Annex E, and according to the reporting schedule in Table 1. For subjects where an awarding organisation has more than one specification, reporting should be at the specification level.

Where Ofqual has specified an adjustment to predictions for a relevant qualification in Annex G, awarding organisations must report the **national** prediction as adjusted. No adjustment should be made to individual awarding organisation predictions.

For **GCSE French and German**, awarding organisations must report the **national** prediction including the following adjustments: +2% at grades 7, 8 and 9, +1.67% at grade 6, +1.33% at grade 5, +1% at grade 4, +0.67% at grade 3 and +0.33% at grade 2. No adjustment should be made to individual awarding organisation predictions.

[16] For phase 4 GCSEs predictions are only available at grades 9, 7, 4 and 1, where the grade 9 prediction is calculated by the formula on page 26 of Annex D.

Extended project qualifications

For subjects where there are more than 500 matched Learners (combined across awarding organisations), awarding organisations must report the **national** prediction, results for matched Learners, results for all Learners and cut-scores for each subject at all grades, using the data specifications in Appendix J and Appendix K of Annex E, and according to the reporting schedule in Table 1.

For subjects where there are more than 500 matched Learners (combined across awarding organisations), each awarding organisation must report its **own awarding organisation** prediction, results for matched Learners and results for all Learners for each subject at all grades, using the data specification in Appendix K of Annex E, and according to the reporting schedule in Table 1.

Advanced Extension Awards (AEA)

For subjects with 500 or fewer matched Learners, Pearson must report its **own awarding organisation** results for all Learners for each subject at all grades, using the data specification in Appendix K of Annex E, and according to the reporting schedule in Table 1.

Reporting schedule

An awarding organisation must submit data according to the reporting schedule in Table 1. In relation to national outcomes which are reported collectively, each awarding organisation retains individual responsibility for ensuring that the relevant data is submitted by the time and in the form required.

For post-reform A level, post-reform AS, post-reform GCSE, extended project and advanced extension award qualifications, awarding organisations must report provisional results by 12 noon, Wednesday 15 July. Where the standardisation process specified in Annex E is re-run for a particular subject after the 15 July, awarding organisations must also report final results for that subject by 12 noon, Thursday 30 July.

If there is to be a delay in submission, an awarding organisation must notify Ofqual via the data exchange mailbox dataexchange@ofqual.gov.uk as soon as possible and certainly by the date shown on the schedule.

Any email correspondence should be sent to dataexchange@ofqual.gov.uk. Email should only be used where no sensitive data is included or attached.

Sending data

An awarding organisation must confirm its main contacts with Ofqual by 5pm on 3 July 2020. All data are to be uploaded to the secure collaboration area.

In terms of version control –

- For post-reform A level, post-reform AS, post-reform GCSE, extended project and advanced extension award qualifications, all reported data must be uploaded using a title comprised of the date, awarding organisation, qualification and data specification, for example 15072020-AQA-GCSE-D27. If individual files are submitted for each subject, the subject group should also be included in the title, for example 15072020-AQA-GCSE-D27-biology. Qualifications can be referred to as GCSE, AS, A level, Project or AEA. Data specifications are set out in Annex E.
- For pre-reform A level and pre-reform AS qualifications, all reported data must be uploaded using a title comprised of the date, awarding organisation and template, for example 30072019-AQA-Template B.

To report any revised data, an awarding organisation must create a new document using the new date and the time as a suffix where necessary.

An awarding organisation must not delete any old versions of reported data from the collaboration area. An awarding organisation must not create extra folders within the data exchange library of the collaboration area without consulting Ofqual first.

All returns are subject to the final ratification of the awards by the awarding organisation.

On receipt of the information required under this Annex, Ofqual:

1. will review the submitted data
2. may contact the awarding organisation to ask for additional information or clarification, and will aim to do this within 24 hours of receipt
3. will hold daily teleconferences in July with awarding organisation technical colleagues, as necessary, to review data and explore any implications
4. will discuss results with awarding organisations at the Maintenance of Standards meetings on **31 July 2020 (AS, A level, extended project and advanced extension award qualifications) and 4 August 2020 (GCSE)**

Table 1. Reporting schedule

	Deliverable (as appropriate based on number of matched Learners)	**Data template/ specification**	**Date/time (All dates refer to 2020)**
Post-reform A level	National predictions, results for matched Learners, results for all Learners and cut-scores by subject	Appendix J and Appendix K of Annex E	Provisional data – 12 noon, Weds 15 July Final data – 12 noon, Thurs 30 July
	Individual awarding organisation predictions, results for matched Learners and results for all Learners by subject*	Appendix K of Annex E	Provisional data – 12 noon, Weds 15 July Final data – 12 noon, Thurs 30 July
Pre-reform A level	Individual awarding organisation results for all Learners	Template B	Final data – 12 noon, Thurs 30 July
Post-reform AS	National predictions, national results for matched Learners, national results for all Learners and cut-scores for each subject	Appendix J and Appendix K of Annex E	Provisional data – 12 noon, Weds 15 July Final data – 12 noon, Thurs 30 July
	Individual awarding organisation predictions, results for matched Learners and results for all Learners by subject*	Appendix K, Annex E	Provisional data – 12 noon, Weds 15 July Final data – 12 noon, Thurs 30 July
Pre-reform AS	Individual awarding organisation results for all Learners	Template C	Final data – 12 noon, Thurs 30 July
Post-reform GCSE	National predictions, national results for matched Learners, national results for all Learners and cut-scores for each subject	Appendix J and Appendix K of Annex E	Provisional data – 12 noon, Weds 15 July Final data – 12 noon, Thurs 30 July
	Individual awarding organisation predictions, results for matched Learners, results for all Learners and matched Learner tiering data (for tiered subjects only) by subject*	Appendix B and Appendix K of Annex E	Provisional data – 12 noon, Weds 15 July Final data – 12 noon, Thurs 30 July
Extended Project	National predictions, national results for matched Learners, national results for all Learners and cut-scores for each subject	Appendix J and Appendix B of Annex E	Provisional data – 12 noon, Weds 15 July Final data – 12 noon, Thurs 30 July
	Individual awarding organisation predictions, results for matched Learners and results for all Learners by subject	Appendix K of Annex E	Provisional data – 12 noon, Weds 15 July Final data – 12 noon, Thurs 30 July

Advanced extension award	Individual awarding organisation results for all Learners	Appendix K of Annex E	Provisional data – 12 noon, Weds 15 July Final data – 12 noon, Thurs 30 July

* For subjects where an awarding organisation has more than one specification, reporting should be at the specification level.

Annex G

The **national** prediction for a relevant subject must be adjusted in line with any requirements specified by Ofqual to reflect the results of the National Reference Tests. Where Ofqual specifies such requirements, these will be set out in this annex.

GCSE English language

Ofqual has specified no such requirements.

GCSE mathematics

Ofqual has specified that the **national** prediction must be adjusted as follows:

+0.83% at grade 8
+1.4% at grade 7
+1.27% at grade 6
+1.13% at grade 5
+1.0% at grade 4
+0.67% at grade 3
+0.33% at grade 2

Ofqual has specified that the **national** prediction for grade 9 must be set using the following formula for matched 16-year-old learners. The formula must be applied to the **adjusted national** prediction at grade 7.

> Percentage of those predicted to achieve at least grade 7 in that subject who should be awarded grade 9 = 7% + 0.5*(percentage of candidates predicted to achieve grade 7 or above in that subject).

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