

GUIDANCE ON OFQUAL'S GCSE (9-1) COMPUTER SCIENCE ASSESSMENT CONSULTATION

Key dates

Consultation dates: 27 November 2017 – 22 December 2017 (midday)

Consultation outcome announced: week beginning 8 January 2018

Publication of OCR basedata (data for schools and colleges to make entries for the GCSE): shortly after the outcome of consultation is confirmed

Options

There are five options in the consultation:

- 1a) Retain existing arrangements and take further steps to deter and detect malpractice
- 1b) Less restrictive assessment conditions
- 2) Grade based on exam performance alone with centre statements and with less restrictive assessment conditions (*Ofqual's preferred option*)
- 3a) Pass/Fail endorsement
- 3b) Graded endorsement

Until the outcome of the consultation is confirmed, please continue to complete NEA tasks according to the current regulations. We'll produce detailed guidance for you when we know Ofqual's final decision.

We've taken the example of Ofqual's preferred option (2) to show you what the changes could mean for you:

NEA – What happens now:	The Ofqual-preferred option (Option 2) – what this could mean for teachers and students in 2017/18:
1. All NEA tasks to be completed by students, according to regulations set out in OCR's GCSE specifications and by JCQ	1. All NEA tasks to be completed by students, without OCR's GCSE or JCQ regulations, with the exception of the 20 hour time requirement
2. Tasks are formally marked by teachers	2. No formal marking of tasks
3. Students can appeal marks	3. Students no longer appeal as there are no formal marks
4. Teachers submit marks by 31 March 2018 latest	4. Teachers submit form confirming work completed by new deadline
5. OCR automatically requests samples of student work for moderation	5. Teachers submit a sample of student work by new deadline
6. GCSE exams take place with 20% of marks from NEA contributing to overall grade	6. GCSE exams take place, with no change for 2018. NEA tasks do not contribute to overall grade
7. Centre visits up to March 2018 to make sure schools are fully compliant with regulations	7. Centre visits up to March 2018 focussed on time spent on the tasks