

Guidance for Centres with exam cancellation (May/June 2026)

Evidence of student performance

Version 2.2 (last updated 16 April 2026)

<u>Version</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Summary of changes</u>
1	02/04.2026	
2	08.04.2026	Expansion of criteria for submitting evidence, more detailed guidance around evidence criteria, more information around submitting evidence at both International GCSE and A-level.
2.1	09.04.2026	Revised flowchart inserted
2.2	16.04.2026	Expansion of example scenarios

Evidence of student performance for certifying students

If exams cannot take place in your region during the May/June 2026 exam series, centres must submit evidence for every student entered for OxfordAQA International GCSE, AS or A-level qualifications **who wishes to certify this exam season and falls into one of the following scenarios:**

- Student has entered for the International GCSE exams
- **Student is certifying at AS in May/June and has no previous AS unit results**
- **Student is certifying at A-level in May/June and has existing AS unit grades only**
- Student is entered for resit units in the May/June series

For all other scenarios, existing unit results will be used to calculate the overall grade (please see page 7 for more information on this).

This document explains the process that centres must follow and the evidence that is needed.

Where students are entered to resit any units this series, we expect centres to provide evidence of their performance which will be graded by an examiner. If you are unable to do this, we will calculate a grade based on their previous units. Please contact us at info@oxfordaqa.com if this applies to any of your students.

Please see page 7 for further information about our broader contingency arrangements for non-certifying students and students who have existing unit grades for both AS & A-level units.

What you need to submit

We will ask centres to submit evidence of student performance digitally from May 1 until June 12. We will also ask you complete a Head of Centre declaration, and you will have the option to submit predicted grades.

Digital submission of evidence

Instructions on how to submit your evidence digitally will be sent to you separately.

Taking a supportive approach

We fully appreciate the difficult circumstances you and your students are dealing with at the moment.

Our examiners will carefully consider and award grades based on all evidence submitted, while also considering the context in which the work was produced, and the challenges students have faced.

Every piece of evidence will be reviewed with care, fairness and understanding, and our processes are designed to support students in achieving the outcomes they deserve.

Please be assured that we are here to work with you throughout this process and will do all we can to make it as smooth and supportive as possible.

Acceptable types of evidence

In most instances we request that Centres submit a complete set of past papers for each unit that a student is entered. For example, if a student is entered for OxfordAQA International A-level Biology units 3, 4 and 5, they must provide evidence for each unit.

Example 1: Past papers for Paper 1 & Paper 2 for OxfordAQA GCSE Biology

Example 2: Past papers for units 1 & 2 for OxfordAQA AS Biology

Example 3: Past papers for units 3-5 for OxfordAQA A-level Biology

If possible, the set of past papers you submit will have been completed under exam conditions – either within the school or remotely.

If a completed set of past papers are not available or appropriate, we will also accept the following evidence. Where possible, the evidence submitted should cover a broad range of the Assessment Objectives in the specification.

- NEA work (completed or partially completed)
- Classwork completed during the course
- Any other evidence that reflects the student's ability for the unit/qualification
- Speaking tests (OxfordAQA International GCSE ESL, GCSE French, and GCSE Spanish) may be included and recordings in the normal format should be provided. These can be done in a virtual environment when needed. Please see the [OxfordAQA Speaking test instruction document](#) for further information.
- Live speaking tests can be used and can be downloaded from Centre Services

For newer qualifications we recognise that limited past paper materials may be available and that alternative evidence will need to be provided.

Please note that aside from speaking tests, live exam papers from May/ June 26 cannot be used as evidence and will not be accepted.

All evidence must be verified and authenticated by the approved centre as the candidate's own work. We therefore recommend that work submitted has been set by the centre, rather than work produced in a private tutor or training institute environment, unless this is unavoidable.

- Evidence submissions may be tailored at an individual candidate level as we understand that not all students will have completed the same assessments.
- If submitting alternative pieces of evidence (ie. not a complete set of past papers) then we recommend a minimum of 3 and maximum of 5 pieces of evidence per subject (e.g. International GCSE Chemistry) to enable the examiner to award the grade holistically.
- Evidence comprised solely of multiple-choice questions will not be accepted as it is not representative of the types of assessment we typically use. For example, multiple choice questions can be submitted as part of a past paper but should not be submitted as a standalone piece of evidence.
- Submitted evidence work should be unmarked if at all possible

Predicted grades

Centres may submit predicted grades as part of the wider portfolio of evidence, reflecting the grade a learner would be expected to achieve if they were sitting the exam under normal circumstances. The predicted grades will not be used to award but will provide valuable contextual information if required.

We will provide a form for you to submit the predicted grades. This will be provided before the submission window opens.

Teacher and Head of Centre declaration form

We will ask the teacher and Head of Centre to complete a form for each Centre confirming authenticity of the student's work. We will send this out before the evidence submission window opens.

How will the evidence be graded?

As each student will have different types and quality of evidence, OxfordAQA examiners will make a holistic judgement about the quality of the evidence.

OxfordAQA examiners will:

- Grade the work on the evidence submitted

- Compare work to exemplar materials across the grade range (if appropriate)
- Consider the difficulty of the tasks
- Use subject expertise to determine an appropriate grade.

Evidence of student performance for International AS and A-level qualifications

Because our International A-levels are modular and the units can be sat at different times across the course, we know that students may have both existing unit results from previous series and have units that they have not previously sat that they need to provide evidence for.

In this instance we will need evidence for each unit that a student has been entered for this exam series. E.g. if a student is entered for units 3, 4, and 5, please enter a piece of evidence for each of these units. This will then be used alongside the existing unit results to give an overall grade.

Please do not provide more than 5 pieces of evidence per subject.

The grade will be converted to a UMS score (we will share more information on this in due course). On results day students will get both a grade and a UMS score.

Evidence of student performance for International GCSE qualifications

As OxfordAQA International GCSEs are linear, students take all the units in one exam series.

Please submit a minimum of a piece of evidence per component across the full International GCSE. For example, a completed mock paper for Paper 1 and Paper 2. Please do not submit more than 5 pieces of evidence per subject.

For International GCSE qualifications, a grade will be awarded but no marks will be given.

If a student wishes to re-sit, then they will need to re-sit all components in a subsequent series.

Results and post-results services

Results will be issued on results days for OxfordAQA International GCSEs and International A-levels. For A-levels, results will be issued to your centre, for exams officer and head of centre access only, on 12 August and GCSEs on 19 August.

Centres may request a Review of Grade after results have been issued. We will confirm details of this to you nearer the time.

If the evidence does not meet the requirements

OxfordAQA may contact you if the evidence does not meet the requirements and give you the opportunity to provide more evidence if needed.

Private Candidates

If you are a Private Candidate, please speak to your centre in the first instance. If your Centre accepts private candidates then the same evidence criteria as above will apply but we will provide separate guidance to your centres on how to submit your work.

Broader contingency arrangements

For certifying students

If your students have already achieved results in OxfordAQA International AS and A-level components in a previous exam series, these can be used to provide an overall grade for the subject.

If students have not previously banked grades, we will need you to provide evidence of performance for each student.

For non-certifying students

For students who are not planning to complete their qualification and receive their certificate in this exam series, we will work with you to defer them to a future series and will provide more guidance in due course.

Example scenarios

We appreciate that each student in your cohort will have different scenarios. To help guide you to which contingency is appropriate for each we have provided some worked examples.

The information below applies to OxfordAQA qualifications.

Routes of evidence examples

International GCSE

If a student is entered for an International GCSE qualification this year, then their grade will be based on evidence of student performance.

International AS

AS qualifications are comprised of two units. For example, OxfordAQA AS Biology consists of Unit 1 (BL01) and Unit 2 (BL02).

- **If a student is not certifying, then they will need to defer entries to a future series.**
- If a student is certifying for AS this series - and is entered for both AS units this series - then their grade will be based on evidence of student performance.
- If a student is certifying for AS this series *and* is entered for **one** AS unit this series *and* has a result for the other AS unit from a past series, then their grade will be calculated.

Student's previous results	Entries for May/June 2026	Route
No previous results	Entered for both AS units in May/June 2026	Evidence of student performance for both AS units
Previous result for one AS unit, not re-sitting	Entry for one AS unit this series	Calculated grade
Previous result for one AS unit, re-sitting	Entered for both AS units in May/June 2026	Evidence of student performance for both AS units
Previous results for both AS units, re-sitting one AS unit	Entry for one AS unit this series	Calculated grade*

Previous results for both AS units, re-sitting both AS units	Entered for both AS units in May/June 2026	Evidence of student performance for both AS units
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*Student has a banked AS unit that is not being re-sat which can be used to estimate the AS unit being entered this series so a valid calculated grade can be awarded.

International A-level

AS units are the units that contribute to the AS award (e.g. OxfordAQA Biology BL01 and BL02)

A-level units are the additional units that together with the AS units contribute to the A-level award (e.g. OxfordAQA Biology, the A-level units are BL03, BL04 and BL05).

A-levels are comprised of four or five units in total.

- **If a student is not certifying, then they will need to defer entries to a future series.**
- If a student is certifying for A-level this series - and is entered for all the AS units - then a grade will be based on evidence of student performance.
- If a student is certifying for A-level this series - and is entered for all the A-level units - then a grade will be based on evidence of student performance.
- If a student is:
 - certifying for A-level this series *and*
 - has a result for at least one AS unit from a previous series which they are not re-sitting this series *and*
 - has a result for at least one A-level unit from a previous series which they are not re-sitting this series,
 - then their grade will be calculated.

Student's previous results	Entries for May/June 2026	Route
No previous results for AS or A-level units	Entered for all units in May/June 2026	Evidence of student performance for all AS and A-level units
Previous results for both AS units, no previous results for A-level units, no re-sits	Entered for A-level units in May/June 2026	Evidence of student performance for all A-level units
Previous results for both AS units, no previous results	Entered for all units in May/June 2026	Evidence of student performance for all AS and A-level units

for A-level units, re-sitting both AS units		
<p>Previous results for both AS units, no previous results for A-level units, re-sitting one AS unit</p> <p><i>E.g. Entered BL01 and BL02 in January 2026</i></p> <p><i>Entered for BL02, BL03, BL04 & BL05 in May/June 2026</i></p>	Entered for one AS unit and all A-level units in May/June 2026	Evidence of student performance for all units entered this series
<p>Previous results for one AS unit, no previous results for A-level units.</p> <p><i>E.g. Entered for BL01 in January 2026</i></p> <p><i>Entered for BL02, BL03, BL04 & BL05 in May/June 2026</i></p>	Entered for one AS unit and all A-level units in May/June 2026	Evidence of student performance for all units entered this series
<p>Previous results for AS and one A-level unit, no re-sits</p> <p><i>E.g. Entered for BL02, BL02 & BL03 in January 2026</i></p> <p><i>Entered for BL04 & BL05 in May/June 2026</i></p>	Entered for two A-level units in May/June 2026	<p>Calculated grade based on A-level unit</p> <p><i>Calculated grade for BL04 & BL05 based on BL03 result</i></p>
Previous results for AS and one A-level unit, re-sitting A-level unit (but not AS units)	Entered for all A-level units in May/June 2026	Evidence of student performance for all units entered this series
Previous results for AS and two A-level units, re-sitting both A-level units (but not AS units)	Entered for all A-level units in May/June 2026	Evidence of student performance for all units entered this series
Previous results for AS and two A-level units, re-sitting one A-level unit (but not AS units)	Entered for two A-level units in May/June 2026	<p>Calculated grade based on A-level unit that is not being re-sat</p> <p><i>Calculated grade for BL04 & BL05 based on BL03 result</i></p>

<i>E.g. Entered for BL01, BL02, BL03 in January 2026</i>		
<i>Entered for BL04 & BL05 in May/June 2026</i>		
Previous result for all units, resitting 1 or 2 A-level units	Entered for one or two A-level units in May/June 2026	Calculated grade based on A-level unit(s) that is not being re-sat
Previous result for all units, resitting all A-level units	Entered for all A-level units in May/June 2026	Evidence of student performance for all units entered this series

Evidence of student performance and UMS (Uniform Mark Scale)

Applies to International AS and International A-level.

An examiner will review the evidence of student performance and submit a grade.

The grade will be converted to a UMS score and applied to the units entered this series.

The conversion to UMS will correspond to the mid-point of the UMS range for that grade, e.g. grade A = 85% of max UMS for that unit.

Grade	UMS (% of max.) range	UMS (% of max.) awarded
A*	90-100	95
A	80-89	85
B	70-79	75
C	60-69	65
D	50-59	55
E	40-49	45
U	0-39	20

The maximum UMS for each unit may vary so the table below is based on the % of the maximum UMS, e.g. if maximum UMS is 80 then a candidate receiving a grade A would get 68 UMS.

The overall subject grade will be awarded by aggregating the UMS scores as normal.

Example 1:

Student's previous results	Entries for May/June 2026	Route
No previous results	Entered for both units in May/June 2026	Evidence of student performance for both units

Student is entered for International AS Biology units (BL01, BL02) and the International AS subject award (9611).

The maximum UMS for each unit is 100.

The student is awarded a grade A based on the evidence.

The student then receives a UMS mark of 85 for each unit.

The total UMS for this candidate is 170 (grade A).

Example 2:

Student's previous results	Entries for May/June 2026	Route
Previous results for both AS units, no previous results for A-level units, no re-sits	Entered for A-level units in May/June 2026	Evidence of student performance for all A-level units

Student is entered for International A-level Biology units (BL03, BL04 and BL05) and the International A-level subject award (9612).

The student has previously entered the AS units and scored 72 (BL01) and 80 (BL02) UMS marks.

The maximum UMS for each unit is 100.

The student is awarded a grade B based on the evidence.

The student then receives a UMS mark of 75 for each A-level unit.

Unit	UMS	Grade
BL01	72	B

BL02	80	A
BL03	75	B
BL04	75	B
BL05	75	B
9612	377	B

The total UMS for this candidate is 377 (grade B).

Note if the student had done particularly well on the AS units (scored a total of 175 UMS or more) they may have ended up with a grade A as their final grade.

Correspondingly if they had scored lower on their AS units then they may have ended up with a lower grade as their final grade.

This is because their final grade is based on combining their previous AS results and making a judgement of performance on the A-level units.

What contingency arrangements will be available if OxfordAQA exams do not take place in my country?

