

Chemistry department rationale for predicting A level grades 2020

Data

To be as fair as possible on students as much significant data as possible needs to be used.

This includes:

1. Year 1 average MB data
2. Year 2 average MB data
3. June 2019 UCAS prediction exam

The average MB data is not being used on its own because some concern was expressed that different teachers may set end of topic tests which have a different level of difficulty from others. Hence it was decided to include the 6L exam which would provide more reliable and consistent data. Interestingly, including this data made very little difference in the ranking of the high achievers but affected the lower achievers more significantly. The 6U January exam data has not been used as it is notoriously a poor predictor of a student's end of course performance.

Each set of data was given a 33.3% weighting and an average % was calculated. The students were then placed in rank order according to this percentage.

Teacher judgement

Teachers to check the data of their students on the spreadsheet and use their professional judgement to alter grades where there is additional supporting evidence. If this is the case the teacher will write in the comment's column any evidence or reasons for any changes they would like to make.

Awarding grades

A level exam results data was taken from the last 3 years and the predicted grades given are largely in line with this data i.e. the %/number of each grade. This will help us not to over or under predict.