

9 October 2018

For the attention of Heads and exams staff

Summer exams 2019

May I take this opportunity to thank you for your hard work in ensuring that the summer 2018 exam series ran as smoothly as it did. The 2019 summer exams are some way off, but as you will know they involve year-round thought, organisation and planning. We would like to help with this, so we are doing two things this autumn.

Firstly, we are holding a webinar next month aimed at Exams Officers and anyone else involved with exams. We would be very grateful if you could circulate [this opportunity](#) to any staff who may be interested. The webinar will present a wider perspective of the exams system and how Ofqual might intervene in the rare instances when things go wrong.

Secondly, we launched a survey to hear the views and experience of staff involved in exams to help us find ways to support them better. We would be grateful if you could encourage your Exams Officer to [take part in the survey here](#). We have received more than 500 responses so far and respondents say they would value a video for students on key rules and the consequences of breaking them, to help address candidate misunderstandings about regulations.

The survey closes on 17 October and we intend to share the results along with further plans to help support Exams Officers later in the year.

You may wish to note that the summer 2019 exam timetables for each exam board are now available on their websites. Exam boards have also introduced a contingency day should exams be postponed due to any kind of disruption. This is timetabled for **Wednesday 26 June 2019** and all students sitting exams will need to be available to sit rescheduled exams until that day, if necessary. I encourage you and your Senior Leadership Team to become familiar with the 2018/19 JCQ booklets, which include other relevant information and can be found [here](#).

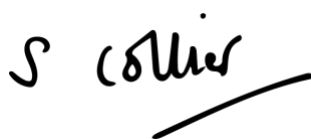
As you know, the job of an Exams Officer involves all-year-round responsibilities and you may be interested to read our [guest blog post by Marcia Woods, an Exams Officer in Chesterfield, here](#).

Compare your results with your county's

This year, for the first time, we published interactive results data for GCSEs and A levels by county. Information on centre variability and grade distributions for students taking different combinations of 9 to 1 GCSEs is also available. You can tailor the reports to your interests. This information has already been viewed around 40,000 times and you can find it [here](#).

Please pass on my thanks to all those in your school or college who supported the efficient running of this year's exams, in particular your Exams Officer.

Yours sincerely,



Sally Collier
Chief Regulator
Ofqual