

## 2020 results<sup>§</sup>

estimated percentages of students at each grade  
(with associated confidence intervals)

		Grade 4 and above	Grade 7 and above
<b>English language</b>	2017	69.9 (±1.9)	16.8 (±1.3)
	2020	67.0 (±1.8)	17.5 (±1.3)
<b>Mathematics</b>	2017	70.7 (±1.3)	19.9 (±1.4)
	2020	74.0 (±1.4)**	24.0 (±1.3)**

## background

- National Reference Test provides an additional source of evidence for awarding in GCSE English language and maths
- Students are asked the same questions each year in order to measure small changes in performance overtime
- The 4th annual test was taken in 2020

### OUR INTERPRETATION

- Changes are not statistically significant compared to the baseline of 2017

### DECISIONS

- Grade 4 – no adjustment
- Grade 7 – no adjustment

### OUR INTERPRETATION

- Changes are statistically significant compared to the baseline of 2017 and continue a trend observed in previous years

### DECISIONS

- Grade 4 – adjustment of +1pp
- Grade 7 – adjustment of +1.4pp

<sup>§</sup> for more detail, see the NRT Annual Statement 2020 and NRT Results Digest 2020

\*\* change from 2017 baseline is statistically significant at the 0.01 level

### Statistical significance

We calculate statistical significance because the NRT is only taken by a sample of year 11 students. At the 0.05 level there is a 1 in 20 chance that the change is statistical noise rather than a genuine change. At the 0.01 level that likelihood is 1 in 100.