Introduction

Predicted grades are an integral part of the Sixth Form to monitor performance levels and to support applications for further education. A standardised policy will ensure that every pupil is given a fair opportunity in their quest for securing places at universities that are both realistic and attainable. The admissions teams at universities use A Level predictors to process applications and select the most suitable candidate for the courses available.

Predicted Grades

The predicted grades should reflect the pupil's ability and potential in the subject. Teachers must adopt an evidence-based approach to reach a grade that is based on the progress and attainment of the pupil. Furthermore, universities expect the submission of aspirational grades to support the application of potential candidates.

When deciding on predicted grades for pupils the following factors should be considered when making a final decision:

- IGCSE results
- ALIS predictors
- Grades awarded in progress reports
- Results in formative and summative assessments
- Performance in formative homework assessments
- Motivation to perform well in the subject
- Professional judgement
- Experience of making UCAS predictions

Pupils will use predicted grades to make university choices and an appropriate choice of course. The predicted grades will be released by June to the Head of Sixth Form to ensure that all pupils and early-entry applicants (Oxbridge, Medicine, Dentistry and Veterinary) have sufficient time to choose their courses appropriately.

Predicted grades should be in line with the attainment level of the pupil.

For instance:

- A pupil has been averaging a grade C in assessments
- Option A: predict the pupil a grade C
- Option B: predict the pupil a grade B (based on effort and attitude to learning)

Awarding a pupil grade A in these circumstances will not be a true reflection of their progress and attainment.

Over-Inflated Predicted Grades

As educational practitioners we have a moral, ethical, and professional responsibility to remain impartial when predicting grades. The predicted grades should be realistic, reflecting pupil abilities, while still remaining motivational and aspiration.

The consequences for providing overinflated A Level predicted grades can be harmful to the school's reputation. Further issues are outlined below:

- Pupil's may lose their university place if they do not achieve their predicted grades
- JPGS will lose credibility for providing predicted grades (impacts future pupils)
- Over-inflated grade is unfair for pupils who have an accurate predicted grade

Appeals

Sixth Form pupils will be given an opportunity to appeal if they feel a predicted grade does not reflect their ability. The letter should include details about why the predicted grade is lower than expected such as, formative and summative assessments, homework assignments, and any extenuating circumstances.

The Head of Sixth Form will consult subject teachers to review the predicted grade. A grade will be increased if the grounds of appeal are valid. The Head of Sixth Form will make the final decision in light of UCAS application.

The UCAS Process

The Head of Sixth Form will request predicted grades and subject references during term three. Tutors will put the grades, subjects references, and tutor comments together before handing it over to the Head of Sixth Form. The application is then reviewed by the Head of Sixth Form, Head of Grammar, and Headmaster before sending it off to UCAS.

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