

# New GCSE grading structure

In the first year, the same proportion of students will achieve a grade 7 and above

achieve a grade 4 and above

achieve a grade 1 and above

Ofqual

Grading new GCSEs from 2017

New grading structure	Current grading structure
9	
8	A*
7	A
6	B
5	
4	C
3	D
2	E
1	F
	G
U	U

GOOD PASS (DfE)  
5 and above = top of C and above

AWARDING  
4 and above = bottom of C and above

as currently get A and above

as currently get C and above

as currently get G and above

# What does the GCSE 'good pass' mean?

- In the future, for the reformed GCSEs, the Government's definition of 'good pass' will be set at grade 5.
- Grade 5 will be awarded to around the top third of pupils gaining the equivalent of a grade C and bottom third of a grade B. This means that there will be fewer pupils achieving a 'good pass' than in previous years.
- Grade 4 will continue to be a level 2 achievement (equivalent to a low grade C now). We would not expect employers, colleges and universities to raise the bar to a grade 5 if, for example, a grade 4 would meet their requirements.
- Important to remember that the GCSE 'good pass' allows parents and students to hold schools and the Government to account – it is currently set at a GCSE grade C.



# What a GCSE certificate might look like in 2017


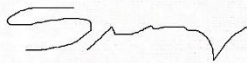

**General Certificate of Secondary Education**

This is to certify that the candidate named below was awarded the following grade(s) in the subject(s) shown:

**A. CANDIDATE**

Date of Birth: 1 January 2001

<b>Drama</b>	<b>B (b)</b>
<b>English Language</b>	<b>4 (four)</b>
<b>English Spoken Language</b>	<b>Merit</b>
<b>Geography</b>	<b>A (a)</b>
<b>Mathematics</b>	<b>6 (six)</b>
<b>Physics</b>	<b>D (d)</b>

Signature A                      Signature B