

# A PARENTS GUIDE TO

# The New GCSE Qualification System



## GCSE grading is changing - but what's happening?

As you may have heard, the way GCSE exams are being graded is changing. As a provider of post-GCSE education we'd like to reassure you and your child about what to expect, and explain exactly what the new grades mean.

The big change is that this summer, some GCSEs will be graded from 9 to 1 (with 9 being the highest grade) instead of from A\* to G as they have been in the past.

Students will receive the new grades for Maths, English literature and English language GCSEs (but still receive the current style grades in all their other subjects). By 2019, all GCSE results will use the new system.

Changes have been made by the exam regulator Ofqual after a major consultation on reforming GCSEs.

## Here are some key points about the new grading system:

- A new grade 4 and above will be roughly the same as the 'old' grade C and above
- Grade 5 will be considered a good pass (being slightly above the standard of the old grade C)
- A new grade 7 and above will be roughly the same as the old grade A and above
- A new grade 9 will be above the standard of the old A\*
- As with current GCSEs, if a student doesn't do well enough to meet the minimum GCSE standard, they will be awarded a U

New grading structure	Current grading structure
9	A*
8	
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

**If you or your child is concerned about the new GCSE grades and how it may affect them or you have any more questions please don't hesitate to get in touch.**



SALUS POPULI

Our Lady's Catholic College

[www.olcc.lancs.sch.uk](http://www.olcc.lancs.sch.uk)

01524 66689

Aspire  
not to  
have more  
but to be  
more...