

NEA Marking and Moderation

We wanted to provide guidance to support teachers and exams officers on the marking and moderation of non exam assessment (NEA), in light of the <u>measures announced on grading</u> for students taking exams this summer.

When you come to assess your students' NEA, you should mark all NEA using the published mark schemes, as you did before the pandemic disruption. If you have more than one person marking your NEA, you must carry out standardisation activities as usual in an exam year, to ensure all your markers are marking to the same standard and using the relevant mark scheme.

You must not try to account for disruption your learners have experienced by marking more leniently than you would normally. Teachers should not be making holistic and speculative judgements about overall performance or potential. Your marking should be based solely on the completed work in accordance with the published mark scheme. Exam boards will moderate all NEA in the usual way this year.

To reassure you, when our examiners mark your students' examination responses this summer, they will also be marking in accordance with the relevant mark scheme, just as you need to do for NEA. Examiners will not be trying nor be guided to mark more leniently.

Exams will be graded more generously this year compared to a normal exam year, providing a safety net for students. Grading – when exam boards set grade boundaries – is a separate process that takes place after marking. Results this year will reflect a midpoint between 2019 and 2021 to help mitigate for the exceptional circumstances during the pandemic. This is a transitional approach to moving back to the pre-pandemic standard during 2022 and 2023.

We hope this helps to explain how the marking and moderating of NEA will work. It's worth remembering that in many subjects with NEA, there are also adaptations in place to help students and mitigate the disruption caused by Covid. If you have any questions, please contact the customer support team for your exam board.

For details of arrangements in Northern Ireland, please see the CCEA website: www.ccea.org.uk. For details of arrangements in Wales, please see https://www.wjec.co.uk/home/2022-everything-you-need-to-know/as-a-level-and-gcse-assessment-arrangements-2022/nea-controls/.