

## UCAS Predicted Grades Procedure

UCAS predicted grades are derived by staff at Wales High School in support of a student's progression to higher education (university), as well as progression to a range of other destinations which can include further education (college), apprenticeships and employment.

As part of the university application process the school is required to supply predicted grades for each subject a student studies. This prediction, along with the academic reference, personal statement, results of GCSE grades already obtained, and, in some cases, an interview and admissions test, are the basis for university decisions.

Teachers will be asked to input a UCAS predicted grade in June of Year 12. Students will receive one predicted grade per subject (not one from each teacher). The school must be realistic about the predicted grades given which are based upon:

- **actual attainment in the progress examinations in the summer term of Year 12**
- **actual attainment in AS examinations for students studying mathematics, biology, chemistry and physics. In this instance, a UCAS predicted grade can change once we have these grades in August.**
- **sustained performance in assessments throughout Year 12 including the results of homework assignments and topic/module assessments**
- **sustained performance in attainment and commitment to learning (CTL) grades throughout Year 12**
- **the professional experience and judgment of the teacher**

Predictions will not be based upon:

- **student or parental/carer pressure**
- **a student promising that they will “work much harder in Year 13”**
- **what a student says they “want” or “need” to apply to a particular university or course**

In summary, the school's process is holistic, considering a range of factors; evidence-based, pointing to tangible data over a period of time; realistic, representing what this evidence tells us about the student; and draws on staff's professional judgement. Subject teachers will predict grades that they feel are a true and honest reflection of the student's performance in Year 12, their ability and potential. With that in mind, a

student cannot be given UCAS predicted grades that are not supported by evidence of their performance and a student will not be predicted a grade where there is little or no evidence of their performance at that level.

Inflating predicted grades helps no-one, least of all the student who ends up with offers that they have little prospect of achieving and disappointment on results day. Our aim is always to support our students and that includes realism in terms of potential achievement.

### **Predicted Grade Queries**

Students are encouraged to discuss their UCAS predicted grade with their respective teachers, particularly if they are unsure how a particular grade has been derived.

If a student feels a genuine mistake has been made with a UCAS predicted grade, they should raise this with the Director of Sixth Form for investigation, clearly outlining why they feel there has been a mistake (with due regard for the information above on what is considered when establishing the UCAS predicted grade). Changes to a UCAS grade will not be considered because a student or parent/carer wishes to have a higher grade in order to apply to a particular university or course, or because of a commitment to work harder going forward. Where a student has not got the UCAS predicted grades to apply for their desired course or university, they should discuss their options with the Sixth Form team. Options may include different courses and/or universities or taking a gap year. Any changes to UCAS grades can only be made by the relevant staff.

### **Former Students**

Some students chose to either defer their university entry or apply after they have left school. The Sixth Form team will work with the student to produce the relevant information needed for the application, and the student should contact the Sixth Form team well in advance of the UCAS deadline to highlight their intention to apply. UCAS predicted grades will generally not be required as the student will have their final A-Level grades.