



Urmston Grammar School

Predicted Grades Policy – January 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are writing to outline our process for generating *Predicted University Grades* (PUGs) and to explain the rationale behind this approach.

When students apply to university (via UCAS), or require any grades for employment or apprenticeships, we are often asked to issue 'predicted grades' for our students. UCAS requires that we have a process in order to fairly and accurately issue these predicted university grades. As a centre, we are deliberately data-led in how we generate predictions. We believe this is the fairest and most objective method for students, ensuring that predicted grades are based on evidence rather than subjective judgement or external pressure. This approach reflects best practice and aligns with what universities expect from schools and colleges.

This policy has been agreed by members of the Senior Leadership Team and Subject Leaders, ensuring consistency and fairness across all subjects.

How Predicted University Grades are generated

Students sit formal internal assessments at three key points across Key Stage 5:

- **January of Year 12**
- **June of Year 12** - last PUG opportunity for early deadline students (*students applying to Cambridge, Oxford, Dentistry, Medicine & Veterinary Science courses*)
- **November of Year 13***

**There is also a further assessment in Year 13, but this is after the final UCAS deadline.*

Each assessment point generates a Predicted University Grade. At each stage, a PUG may go up or down, depending on performance and supporting data.

The grade issued will be:

- The grade achieved in the most recent mock examination, or
- One grade higher, where prior attainment and performance data supports this.

This ensures that predictions reflect both current performance and patterns of attainment over time.

Student discussions and teacher judgement

Students are encouraged to discuss their progress and predicted grades with their subject teachers throughout their sixth form journey. However, it is important to note that at each tracking point, the final decision regarding any predicted grade rests with the subject teacher, who will consider mock examination outcomes alongside historical performance data.

This approach ensures that predicted grades are fair, evidence-based, and in the best interests of each student, supporting strong university applications while maintaining credibility with higher education institutions.



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The importance of mock examinations

Because PUGs are directly informed by mock examination outcomes, it is vital that students revise thoroughly and take each assessment window seriously. Strong preparation and performance in these examinations give students the best possible opportunity to secure ambitious yet realistic predictions.

We encourage parents and carers to support students in maintaining consistent revision habits and in approaching mock examinations with appropriate focus and commitment.

If you have any questions regarding this process, please do not hesitate to contact the school. We have explained this process on multiple occasions already to our students & will continue to remind them of the importance of assessments.

Thank you for your continued support in helping our students achieve their potential.

Yours sincerely,

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