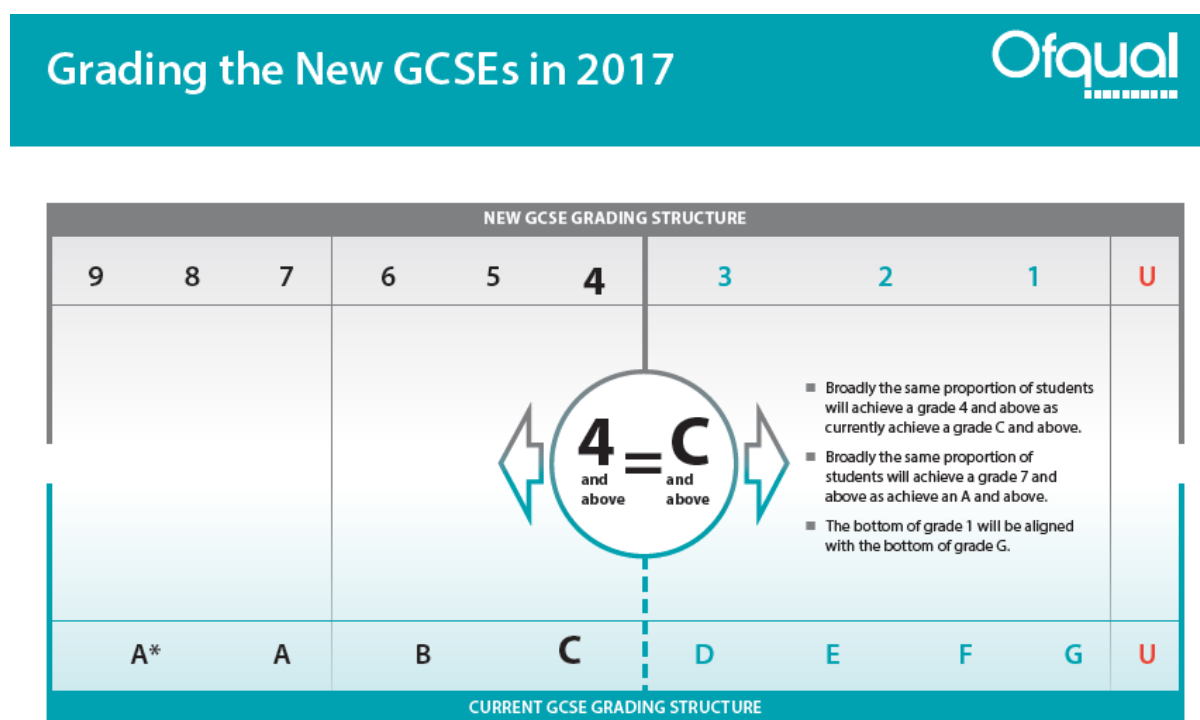


The New GCSE Grading System Explained:

Starting in 2017 with English and Maths, new GCSE's in England will be graded from 9 to 1, with 9 being the top grade.

Students taking GCSE's in England this summer (2017) will receive a mixture of number and letter grades. English language, English literature and maths are the first subjects to use the new system, with most other subjects adopting numbers by 2019. Eventually all GCSE's taken in England will receive numerical grades.

[Click here for Ofqual guidance New 9-1 Grades explained](#)



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****CURRENT ISSUES****

The Secretary of State for Education Justine Greening has published a letter which gives new descriptions to grade 4 and grade 5 under the new GCSE grading system which begins this summer. Previously the Government has described grade 5 as "a good pass".

the key points are:-

- The Government will no longer report on the "good pass". Instead, it has said that a grade 4 will be a "standard pass" and a grade 5 will be a "strong pass" and that it will report on both in performance tables.
- A grade 4 is - and will remain the level that pupils must achieve in order not to be required to continue studying English and maths post 16. Previous guidance had indicated that it would move to grade 5 after 2019.
- Where employers, F.E. providers and universities currently accepted a grade C, they will be expected to continue to recognise a grade 4.