

## **Introduction**

This policy outlines how Cobham Hall determines Predicted Grades for student University applications.

## **What are Predicted Grades?**

The School is required to provide Predicted Grades for students applying to university through UCAS and they can also be used by the School for other student application processes and reference requests. The predicted grades the School provides represent an aspirational but honest professional assessment about the most likely final grade the student will achieve in the qualification on completion of the course.

## **What is the School's Overall Approach to Predicted Grades?**

It is essential that the School adopts a consistent 'evidence-led' approach across the student body. Over-predicting grades can be counter-productive, leading to students being made offers based on grades higher than those they are likely to achieve. In addition, many universities and colleges monitor the accuracy of the grade predictions made by schools and colleges. The School must therefore be careful to not artificially inflate grade predictions. However, we are also eager to be aspirational in our approach, to allow our students the best opportunities, where there is evidence to support such a judgement.

## **How are Predicted Grades Calculated?**

The academic staff at Cobham Hall will use their professional judgment along with a range of evidence to predict the most probable grade. The following evidence will be taken into account when calculating the predicted grade:

Possibly GCSE performance

Cognitive Ability Tests (CATS) taken at the beginning of year 12. These are an indication of a student's underlying ability

Interim Report Grades in Year 12 along with key assessments and work throughout Year 12

Effort and Attitude throughout Year 12

Independent work undertaken throughout Year 12

End of Year 12 exam taken in May

Any Extenuating Circumstances that may have affected a student's performance, (these must be supported by appropriate evidence).

## **How is this Policy Communicated to Students and Parents?**

At the beginning of Year 12 students will be made aware of the procedures and timescales in place for University applications along with a copy of the process for predicted grades. Parents will also be sent a copy of our process at the beginning of Year 12 and the criteria for predicting grades. Our predicted grades policy will also be on the school's website.

### **When will Students and Parents be Informed of Predicted Grades?**

Students and Parents will be made aware of the predicted grades for all subjects at the end of Year 12. However, those students who join the school in Year 12 will not have a predicted grade until after the October Half Term. EPQ predictions will be based on the students' other subject grades. If a student is making good progress, their grade may be increased by one grade. If they show slow progress, with a poor attitude, the grade may be decreased by one grade.

### **What should Students do if they think their Predicted Grade is too low?**

Students and their parents should remember that the School aims to be aspirational in the calculating of predicted grades, whilst remaining realistic. If after careful consideration a student feels that the criteria listed above were not applied fairly when arriving at their predicted grade, they may speak to the tutor and Head of Sixth Form who will liaise with subject staff.

### **Predicted Grades Timeline**

