

Introduction

This policy outlines how Cobham Hall (the School) determines University Application Grades.

What are University Application Grades?

The School is required to provide 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 University Application Grades that 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 University Application Grades?

It is essential that the School adopts a consistent 'evidence-informed' approach across the student body. The School must be careful not to artificially inflate University Application Grades as this will negatively impact a student's application to university. 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 University Application Grades calculated?

The academic staff at Cobham Hall will use their professional judgment along with a range of evidence to determine the University Application Grade. The following evidence will be taken into account when calculating the University Application Grade:

- GCSE performance
- Cognitive Ability Tests (CATS) taken at the beginning of year 12. These are an indication of a student's innate ability
- Reports and 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 exams
- Any Extenuating Circumstances that may have affected a student's performance, (these must be supported by appropriate evidence)
- Any additional evidence that can be used as a realistic indicator.

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 along with the process for University Application Grades. Parents will also be sent a copy of our process at the beginning of Year 12 and the criteria for determining University Application Grades. Our University Application Grade Policy is also available on the School's website.

When will students and parents be informed of University Application Grades?

Students and parents will be made aware of the University Application Grades for all subjects at the end of Year 12. Before the October half term in Year 13, there is an opportunity to review University Application Grades. Any changes to a student's University Application Grade will be communicated to students and their parents. Those students who join the school in Year 12 will not have a University Application Grade until after the October half term

What should students do if they think their University Application Grade is not as expected?

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

University Application Grades Timeline

