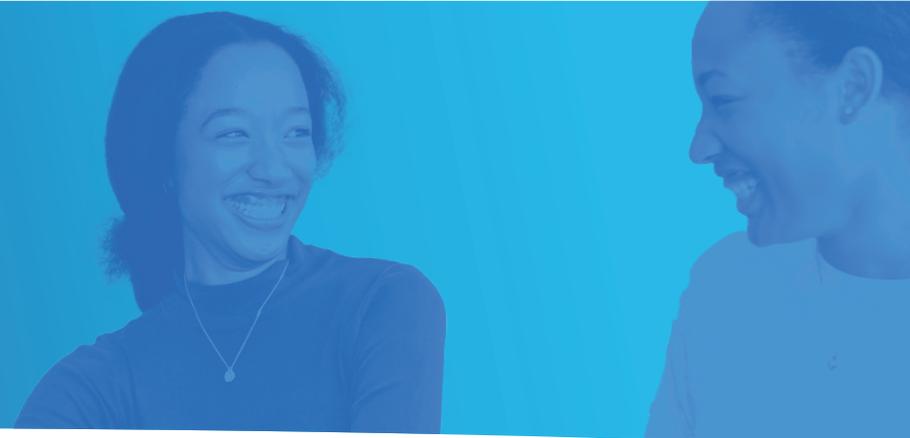


How is the IB ensuring fairness in May 2021?



The IB understands that this year students globally will have faced very difficult circumstances, with almost all facing some level of disruption to their lives and their teaching and learning.

Every year the IB works to ensure that assessments deliver valid, fair and reliable results for our students across the world but this year we will be paying special attention to consider the impact of the pandemic.

We will ensure that:

- There will be equality and equivalence between the results of those students taking exams and those who are not.
- That outcomes are fair for these students in the global context.
- Maintaining standards equates to maintaining access to higher education.
- For the non-exam route, no student will receive a result lower than the lowest of their coursework and quality assured predicted grade. This is similar to the exam route where no student will receive a grade lower than the lowest of their coursework and exam marks.
- Any generosity in the award of grades will be carefully replicated for both routes.

How will the IB mitigate for the impact of the pandemic?

When setting grade boundaries in a normal session the IB looks at predicted grades and actual performance in assessments alongside feedback from teachers and our examiners about the difficulty of exams, when setting the grade boundaries. This process ensures that IB grades are considered valid and meaningful every year.

This year the IB will pay special attention to these processes and will deeply consider the impact of the pandemic – if we see lower performance globally, we will adjust boundaries accordingly.

The IB also has access and inclusion and adverse circumstances policies in place for students who need support throughout their learner journey or who may experience unforeseen circumstances close to the assessment session.

For this session we have a special adverse circumstances policy for those students who might have been affected over and above the impact of the pandemic.

How is the IB ensuring fairness across both routes?

By using the same process for marking of Internal Assessments and preparing predicted grades across both routes, we are able to ensure comparable standards are applied to both routes.

This year our focus will be less on maintaining standards and more about ensuring our students have equal access to higher education to ensure our students are treated fairly alongside those who may have taken different qualifications.

We are ensuring that fairness and comparability are built-in throughout our processes and we are undertaking significant reviews of results before release of results.