

Our Ref: MFH/APH  
Tel: 0870 240 9800  
Fax: 020 7758 6960  
e-mail: [enquiries@edexcel.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@edexcel.org.uk)

June 2001

Dear Head/Principal

### **VCE AND GNVQ EXAMINATIONS: JANUARY 2001 UNIFORM MARK SCALES**

The results for individual GCE, VCE and Curriculum 2000 GNVQ units are reported to candidates using Uniform Mark Scales (UMS). Using this system, the raw marks achieved by the candidate for the unit are converted to a scale of marks that relates directly to grades. The scales are approved by the Regulatory Authorities and are used by all Awarding Bodies.

- ÷ VCE units taken in January 2001 were reported on a scale of 0 to 24. This gave a potential maximum uniform mark for the 3-unit AS VCE qualification of 72, for the 6-unit Advanced VCE of 144, and for the 12-unit Advanced VCE Double Award of 288.
- ÷ GNVQ units taken in January 2001 were reported on a scale of 0 to 16. This gave a potential maximum uniform mark for the 6-unit full awards of 96, and for the 3-unit Part One of 48.
- ÷ The 3-unit AS GCE qualification had a potential maximum uniform mark of 300, and the 6-unit Advanced GCE had a potential maximum of 600.

### **CHANGES TO THE UNIFORM MARK SCALES**

Following a review of the awards of the first GCE, VCE and GNVQ units assessed in January 2001, a change has been made to the Uniform Mark Scales (UMS) for the VCE and the GNVQ. They have been brought into line with those used for GCE qualifications. Outcomes of units for VCE and GNVQ will now be reported on a scale of 0 to 100.

The change has been made following discussions within the Awarding Bodies and with the Regulatory Authorities. It is being made with the full support of the Regulatory Authorities. It will be easier for centres, candidates and users to have information about their attainment in the new qualifications in a way that is consistent regardless of the qualification being followed. The use of the scale of 0 to 100 will allow greater differentiation between the raw marks scored by the candidates when these are converted to uniform marks.

This change means that the uniform marks for candidates who took VCE or GNVQ units in January 2001 have been recalculated from the raw marks using the new scale. All new marks have been calculated from each candidate's original raw mark. In some cases, candidates with the same original uniform mark will have different uniform marks following the recalculation. This is because the new UMS will allow greater differentiation than the scale used originally in January 2001.

No candidate has lost credit as a result of this change and the position of candidates in relation to grades as reported from the January tests has been protected.

Changes to the uniform marks are reported in the following documents which are enclosed with this letter.

- ÷ Individual Candidate Statements of Results (Two copies, one of which is to be issued to the candidates)
- ÷ Results list
- ÷ Analysis of your centre's results.

Candidates taking VCE or GNVQ units from summer 2001 onwards will have their marks reported on the new scales.

If you have any queries concerning the changes to Uniform Mark Scales, please contact the Customer Response Centre on 0870 240 9800.

Yours sincerely

**M F Howlett**  
**Manager, Examination Services**