

## Providing grades for CNIPE (Grade 9) and CNISE Level 1, 2 and 3 assessments Information for Schools, Parents, and Learners.

Unfortunately, due to Covid 19, it has been necessary to cancel the CNIPE (Grade 9) and CNISE Level 1, 2 and 3 examination for June 2020. This letter sets out the process that is being used to ensure that students are still able to receive a fair grade that recognises their performance over the past academic year. Cambridge Assessment International Education (Cambridge International) and Nile International Education Unit (NIES) have worked collaboratively to develop a process of assessing learners and we believe it is the most valid, fair, and effective approach in these unique circumstances. This process is based on international best practice and recognises the circumstances of NES schools.

The process uses a range of quantifiable performance data to support evidence-based decisions about grades for each learner in each subject. Cambridge International and NIES are doing everything possible to ensure that learners are not disadvantaged by the decision not to hold exams in the May/June series.

NES schools (Obour – October – Port Said – Minia – Qena) were asked to provide two judgements. They were asked to put their students into a rank order of their performance in the subjects over the past academic year. They were also asked to provide a predicted grade which in their judgement represents the most likely grade that the student would have achieved had the examination taken place. The schools took into account the fullest range of evidence available to them, including the results of any assignments or mock exams, and any other records of student performance over the course of study.

Cambridge International will carry out a statistical standardisation exercise on the data submitted by schools. This exercise will use statistical evidence from the historical performance of each school in the syllabus to ensure that, as far as possible, learners are assessed on the same basis and not unfairly advantaged or disadvantaged in the next steps of their education journeys.

If the distribution of predicted grades provided by a school is not in line with the historical performance of the school, then the learners' grades will be adjusted. The statistical standardisation exercise will mean that the grades awarded may not be the same as the predicted grade. The statistical standardisation exercise also means that there will be no advantage gained by schools whose predicted grades are unrealistic. The greater the

difference between the predicted grades and expectations based on historical performance of the school, the bigger the adjustments that will be made.

NIES has worked with schools to follow a four-step process:

- Step 1. The school determines learners' predicted grades for each subject
- Step 2. The school determines the rank order of all learners for each syllabus
- Step 3. The School Principal confirms the predicted grades and rank orders have been completed using the correct procedures and sends them to the NIES unit. The NIES unit sends the predicted grades and rank order to Cambridge International
- Step 4. Cambridge International combines school data with a standardisation process and awards final grades for each learner

Cambridge International has provided clear guidance to schools on the grading and rank ordering process to help staff in different schools take a common approach to assessing their students.

Please be assured that the CNIPE and CNISE grades and qualifications that Cambridge International and NIES award for this June series will carry the same value as grades and qualifications for any other series.



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