

What role is Internal Assessment coursework being used in the November 2021 awarding process?



What is internal coursework?

In a standard session, internal assessment coursework for subjects are marked by teachers. A sample of students' IA work is then requested by the IB and moderated by examiners. If the teacher marks are not in line with the global standard (too harsh or too generous), a moderation factor will be applied to all marks in the school, with marks either lowered or raised. Those marks are then added to the marks from examinations to calculate a final grade for the subject.

Students who cannot sit exams will rely on their coursework and predicted grades for their results, meaning internal assessments will be the only piece of work where independent evaluation is possible. Therefore the IB is marking all student work which is normally moderated.

How are we marking Internal Assessment coursework this year?

As the internal assessment coursework may be the only work we see from students, it is key that IB examiners mark every student's work to ensure the most accurate mark possible.

The same team of trained and qualified examiners are randomly allocated work from across the global cohort and will mark the coursework from both routes in the same way. This will help ensure that students with similar Internal assessment scores achieve similar grades, that neither route disadvantages students, and marking and allocation of work is consistent. examiners are advised to uphold teachers' marks whenever they reasonably can.

The IB is still asking for teachers to submit their marks and comments alongside student work as comments can highlight evidence not within the work, such as the process the student went through to complete the end product. As examiners will only ever see the end product and are advised to uphold teachers' marks whenever they reasonably can, teacher comments and marks are essential to help the examiner understand and support the teacher's mark.

Why are we marking all internal assessment coursework this year?

Marking all internal assessment coursework means that if at any point any student or group of students need to move the non-exam route, we will still be able to award grades for their subjects.

In addition by marking all internal assessment for students on both routes enables comparability and fairness between the two routes.