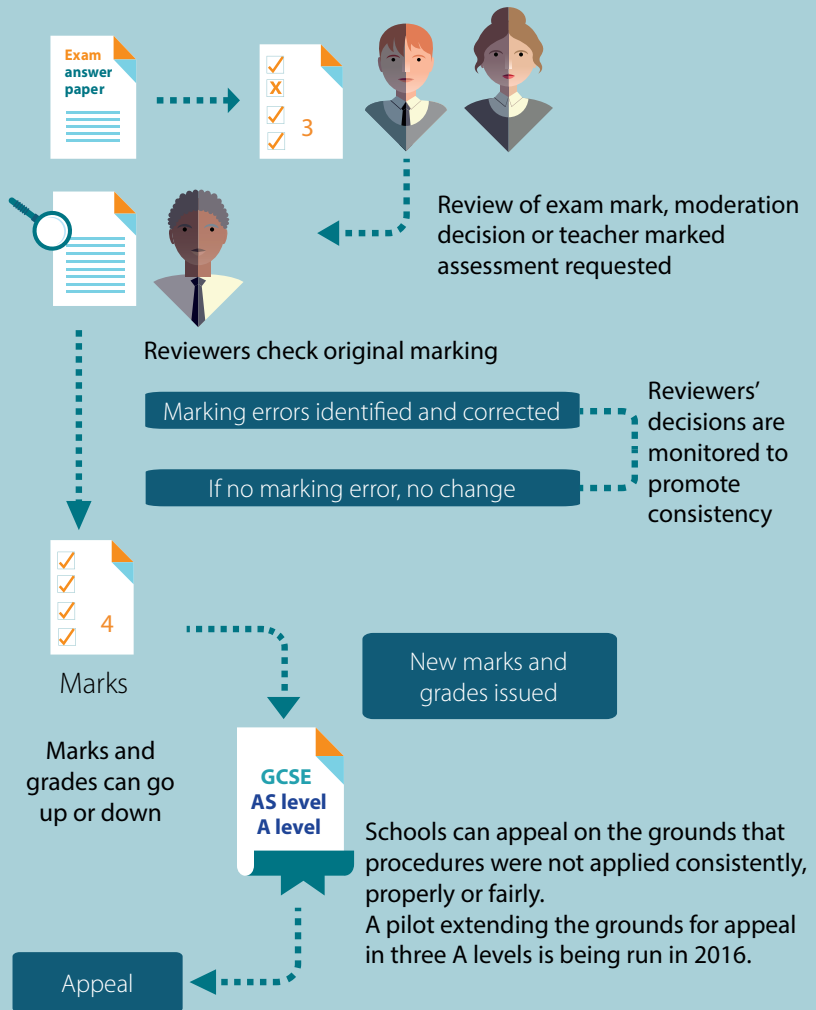


New marking review and appeal arrangements



Exam boards are responsible for marking **GCSE, AS and A level** exam papers.

Markers are specially trained and most of them are experienced teachers. They must complete **compulsory training sessions** to ensure consistency in their approach to marking. The quality of their marking is monitored. If an examiner is not marking properly they might be re-trained or stopped from marking, and their work given to another marker.

If a school has **concerns about a mark** they can ask for it to be reviewed by their exam board. Changes are being introduced to make the review system clearer, more consistent and fairer for all students. From 2016, results will only be changed if there is a marking error. Exam boards will train and monitor reviewers to make sure they are acting consistently.

Schools can appeal the outcome of a review on the grounds that exam board procedures were not applied consistently, properly or fairly.

2016 pilot

A pilot exercise is being run in 2016 to consider whether the grounds for appeal are to be extended to include cases where a marking error was not corrected during the review or that there was a marking error in the review itself.