



27 October 2022

Dear Head of Centre

We hope the start to the new academic year is going as well as possible for you, your staff, and your learners. Ahead of the half term break, we wanted to provide an update on our Have Your Say consultation and the November exam series.

Have Your Say on future GCSEs

As you are aware, we have launched a national conversation to give the people of Wales a chance to [‘Have Your Say’ on future Made-for-Wales GCSEs](#).

We have been working closely with teachers, subject experts and many others to co-construct proposals for the high-level design, content and assessment of a brand-new set of GCSEs. We want to make sure that these new qualifications will help your centre make a success of the Curriculum for Wales and prepare learners for life, learning and work.

Let’s talk about GCSEs – 16 November

We need your help to generate responses from teachers, learners, parents/carers and governors by our **closing date of 14 December 2022**. On 16 November, we’ll be visiting centres and we want you to get involved on that day to engage in the consultation. We plan to share photos of sessions from schools/colleges widely on our social media channels. Please see a [link to a toolkit](#) that will aid the discussions, along with [text for parent/carer newsletters](#) and a [clip of Year 7 learners](#) from the launch at Llanishen High School. Please let us know of your plans and tag us in the activity.

Your feedback will help shape the final design requirements that WJEC and other awarding bodies must follow when developing the detailed specifications for these new qualifications.

This consultation is one part of our work to reform the full range of qualifications for learners aged 14-16. In the spring term, we will consult on proposals for other qualifications as part of proposals for other qualifications that will come together to provide a coherent and inclusive offer for all learners.

Overseeing the November 2022 GCSE exam series

There are four GCSEs being examined in November: English Language, Mathematics – Numeracy, Mathematics and Welsh Language. As in November 2021, there are no restrictions on who can be entered for these exams.

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☎ 01633 373 222



Cymwysterau Cymru
Adeilad Q2, Lôn Pencarn
Parc Imperial,
Casnewydd
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Provisional entry data collected by WJEC gives us an early indication of entry patterns for each exam series. We use this data to help plan our approach to overseeing the awards and to interpret the results. We will be publishing official statistics on November entries at the start of December. You will be able to find this information in the [publications](#) area of our website.

WJEC released [advance information](#) for this series in June which is intended to support learners in preparation for their exams.

We will monitor how grade boundaries are set by WJEC for all exams within this series to ensure that the standards are appropriate and take account of our policy decision about grading for summer 2023.

Exam Security

Schools and colleges play a key role in maintaining the security of exam papers and it is important that your staff follow the rules set out by the Joint Council for Qualifications (JCQ) for the security of papers and conducting exams.

This information is available on the Instructions for conducting examinations area of the JCQ website. WJEC's website also has useful guidance on what to do if any security breach is suspected.

WJEC has guidance on contingency planning providing information on what to do if exams are disrupted in any way. We advise you to familiarise yourself with WJEC and JCQ's guidance and to ensure that contingency plans are up to date and fit for purpose.

Yours sincerely



Philip Blaker
Chief Executive