



By email to all schools and colleges in Wales

3 July 2020

Dear colleague

Summer 2020

Thank you for the work that you and your colleagues have undertaken to submit centre assessment grades and rank order data to WJEC. The findings and decisions in relation to our consultation on the proposed aims underpinning the statistical model and the appeal process were [published](#) on 29 June.

WJEC are proposing standardisation models for calculation of GCSE, AS and A level, and Skills Challenge Certificates grades and we are seeking to approve these shortly. We will share some high-level explanations of those later this month.

WJEC will soon be processing the data in order to award qualifications, so that results can be issued as planned. We will be overseeing that process, to ensure our agreed approaches are being followed. We know that there are still some unanswered questions and we are working to provide more information where we can; we appreciate your understanding.

Results release

Though the exam series has been very different this year, results days remain as they were. We would like to remind schools and colleges that results are confidential until the official results days (13 August for GCE and 20 August for GCSE) and must not be shared with any person or organisation outside of your school or college.

November 2020

The November 2020 series will operate as normal, subject to there being no further disruption caused by Covid-19. GCSEs in English Language, Mathematics, Mathematics-Numeracy and Welsh Language will be available, as usual. Given the timing of this scheduled series, we believe that this series will be most relevant for learners who wish to re-sit any of these qualifications. The assessments in this series

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will not be amended, so centres will need to consider carefully whether it is appropriate to enter Year 11 learners where teaching and learning has been significantly disrupted.

Summer 2021

We have provided brief updates on our work for summer 2021 via our website, and recently published a second [blog](#). We appreciate there is a demand for more detail before the summer term ends. We have been working very closely with WJEC to consider what adaptations, if any, might be appropriate for qualifications taken in summer 2021. As previously [outlined](#), this is a complex process and cannot be rushed. Crucially, we need to ensure that any changes do not undermine the validity and credibility of qualifications in Wales, which would not be in the interests of our learners. Equally, we fully appreciate the anxiety that exists around the disruption to learning experienced so far, and which might continue into the next academic year.

WJEC has already communicated with centres on adaptations to Welsh Baccaalaureate Skills Challenge Certificates and we hope that sharing this information early is helpful for centres. As part of their considerations of individual GCSE subject options, WJEC will soon be carrying out some engagement work to gather views on some of the proposed adaptations. We encourage staff in centres to respond to this engagement. Work to consider AS and A levels is ongoing and will follow the GCSE work.

We will provide a further update on the planned way forward for GCSEs in summer 2021 shortly.

Keeping you informed

We continue to add information relating to summer 2020 to the Coronavirus Covid-19 area of our website. We share updates in the form of news items, FAQs and articles to the Covid-19 area, as well as through social media channels and our 'Slate' newsletter. You can sign-up to receive this from our [website](#).

I hope you find this information helpful. If you have any suggestions for information you would find useful in future, please get in touch.

Yours sincerely



Philip Blaker

Chief Executive