



# Qualifications 2021



## Briefing for Pupils and Families

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# Purpose of the Briefing

- Provide families with the **main take-home points** around qualifications;
- **Identify the types of evidence** used to determine a grade;
- Provide details of **how evidence will be gathered**; and
- Identify the **information that will be communicated** to our pupils.





# Main messages

- Grades will be awarded by the school (i.e. the Centre), **on the basis of evidence produced by the pupil;**
- The school will gather evidence from **key subject skills/subject themes** as outlined in WJEC Qualification Assessment Frameworks;
- Holistic, identifying **best fit judgements;**
- Expectation that **internal quality assurance** at individual and school level be in place;





## Main messages

- Schools should provide **clarity on how** grades are awarded to ensure confidence in the process;
  
- Centre Determined Grades are **NOT**
  - a) Awarded to **show potential**;
  - b) Based on **teacher prediction**;
  - c) Similar to Centre Assessed Grade (CAG 2020) as there will be **no external standardisation**;
  - d) Applied using a **ranking system** per pupil as in 2020.





# Types of Evidence

- For each qualification, evidence will be gathered from the following **three areas**:
  - a) Adapted WJEC past paper questions;
  - b) WJEC Non-examination assessment (where applicable); and
  - c) Other assessed work.
  
- Each **subject will determine the evidence** it will use from the materials available;
  
- Evidence will be taken together to form a **'best fit' grade**;
  
- Any evidence used has to be **equality impact assessed** to ensure no pupil is disadvantaged;
  
- Volume of **evidence per subject will vary**.



# Adapted WJEC Past-Paper Questions



- WJEC Qualifications Assessment Frameworks indicate the **key themes/skills** required for a grade;
- WJEC Past paper activities (assessments) will be **carried out in lessons** and will fit with the **subject programme of learning**;
- Pupils will be provided with **sufficient notice** and will be told **what topics will be covered** in each assessment;
- The assessments are **not examinations**;
- Teachers must be confident that a **pupils' work is their own**;
- Teachers will mark the assessments using **WJEC mark schemes**;
- Grades will be applied using **WJEC grade boundaries**.





# Non-Examination Assessment

- Exists in **many qualifications** to support progression;
- **Existing deadlines and restrictions** around NEA have been removed;
- The NEA **does not have to be complete** e.g. practical element of qualifications;
- Expectation that the weighting of NEA will be **considered** when determining the overall grade.





# Other Contributing Evidence

- Two other types of contributing evidence:
  - a) Other **WJEC past-paper questions** which have been completed under controlled conditions; and
  - b) Other assessments, for example, **in class assessments**.
  
- Please note that assessments undertaken prior to publication of guidance around centre determined grades will only be used to **confirm a judgement**. This is because pupils will potentially not have been aware that those tests were important at the time of completion.







## What Next?

- The school will publish a **Centre Assessment Plan Policy** on the website. This includes further details on:
  - a) **Roles and responsibilities** of staff;
  - b) **Internal Quality Assurance**; and
  - c) **Arrangements for fair access** to assessments.
  
- ***Before Easter***, pupils will be provided with information about **the evidence base** for each subject they are sitting. This will include the **number of assessments** and **proportionate weighting** of each piece of evidence;
  
- ***After Easter***, pupils will be provided with more detailed information around the **dates** of their assessments and **what topics** will be covered in each assessment;
  
- There will be a further briefing to outline information on the **issue of grades** and a learners' right of **appeal**.





# Questions