

Summer assessment 2022



For all students sitting **external** assessments and exams during the 2021 – 2022 academic year

01.11.2021

This document is relevant for students in the **final year** of the following courses at Collyer's:

- A-Levels
- Level 3 BTECs
- Level 3 Diplomas
- Level 2 BTECs and NCFE qualifications
- GCSEs

Dear students, parents and carers,

During the 2021-2022 academic year the Department for Education are committed to running assessments and exams as close to normal as possible for students in the final years of their qualifications (see list above). This means that for most students, assessments, and exams during the 2021-2022 academic year will look almost the same as in pre-COVID years of 2019 and before. Students should prepare for exams in summer 2022 that will be of the same format, length and number as in 2019 and before.

The final grades awarded will be solely based upon students' performance in assessments and exams. The systems of teacher assessed grades seen during 2020 and 2021 will therefore not form part of the final grades awarded in summer 2022.

The DfE have however made some changes to what should be taught and assessed, these are summarised in the table below. The largest adaptation for the summer 2022 examinations will be the provision of advance information for GCSE and A-Level qualifications outlining the content that will and won't be included in the examination papers. The provision of advance information is to recognise the disruption that students have faced in their learning. The full DfE decision paper can be found [here](#).

Qualification	DfE adaptation for summer 2022 assessment and exams
All A-Levels All GCSEs	Exam boards will provide advance information regarding the focus of the content of exams for all A-Levels and GCSEs for summer 2022 exams. This will enable teachers to plan and adapt their teaching in the second half of the spring term if necessary. Advance information will be provided by the 7 th of February 2022. Full JCQ guidance can be found here .
BTEC Level 3 BTEC Level 2	Streamlined unit assessment - the number of internally assessed units that are required to be assessed in full is reduced for most BTEC qualifications. Full guidance can be found here .
GCSE Biology A-level Environmental Science	Centres will be allowed to deliver practical work by demonstration. Centres are encouraged to make hands on practical activities available to students where possible.
A-Level Biology A-Level Chemistry A-Level Physics A-Level Geology	Students are usually required to demonstrate practical competency across a minimum of 12 assessed practicals. For the students completing these courses in summer 2022 practical competencies can be demonstrated over a smaller number of assessed practicals.
A-Level Art and Design	Students will be assessed on their portfolios only.
GCSE Maths	Students will be given a formula sheet for summer 2022 exams. The formula sheet will be made available for use in teaching and to ensure students are familiar with it prior to the exams.

The DfE have also outlined adaptations to non-examined assessment (NEA) and fieldwork. Full details will be communicated directly to students by their subject teachers. The DfE decision paper can be found [here](#).

The DfE and Ofqual have recognised that grades achieved nationally across most qualifications in the summers of 2020 and 2021 were higher than in previous years. The DfE and Ofqual will work to ensure that the grades awarded in the summer of 2022 are between the grades achieved in 2021 and 2019 when grades were at a more normal level. The DfE are confident that this approach will not disadvantage students gaining their qualifications in the summer of 2022.

There is a very small possibility that if COVID infection rates increase sufficiently, examinations in the summer of 2022 will not be able to proceed. All schools and colleges are therefore required to have contingency plans in place to allow teacher assessed grades to be determined. The DfE are currently finalising their criteria for how teacher assessed grades should be determined and what constitutes sufficiently robust evidence. The DfE's proposals are:

- evidence for teacher assessed grades should be gathered in the second half of the autumn term, during the spring term and first half of the summer term
- the total time for assessment should not exceed the total time of normal summertime examinations
- students should be made aware in advance if an assessment will be used as evidence in determining a teacher assessed grade

Once the DfE have published their decision paper on contingency planning, Collyer's will be able to identify and notify students of assessments that would form a teacher assessed grade should teacher assessed grades be required.

It should be emphasised that the likelihood of teacher assessed grades being awarded in summer 2022 is very slim, and that students should prepare for assessment and exams that are close to normal times.

We will of course keep students thoroughly informed of adaptations and plans within their subject areas.

Kind regards,

Rob Hussey



Vice Principal Curriculum