

Year 11 PPE/Exams Information Evening

Wednesday 17th November 2021



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Summer 2022 exams

- **Provisional** GCSE exam timetables have been released by the exam boards.
- These timetables say exams will begin on the **16 May** and finish on **28 June**.
- Where there is more than one exam paper per subject, **those papers be spread further apart than usual.**
 - The two English Language papers will be sat 18 May and 10 June.
 - English Literature will be sat on the 25 May and 8 June.
 - Mathematics has three papers and they will be sat 20 May, 7 June and 13 June.
- GCSE results day will be on **Thursday 25 August 2022. This is a confirmed date.**

Summer 2022 exams

Grading

In 2022 grading will be pegged to a midpoint between 2021 and 2019 but below 2020.

GCSE appeals

- As usual, students will be able to appeal their grades.
- These will take place in their usual form of a '**review of marking**'. This means that an examiner will check the original marking of the paper to see if it is within their range of 'tolerance'.
- Grades can go **up or down** as a result of an appeal.


GCSE resits 2022

- Students who are unhappy with their grade, and either have been unsuccessful in their appeal or chose not to appeal, will have the opportunity to sit an examination **in the next summer series in 2023**.
- English Language and Mathematics will be available to resit in the November 2022 exam series.



Exam modifications for 2022

	GCSE	A level
Optional units in English literature, geography, ancient history and history	✓	✗
Advance notice of topics for all other subjects	✓	✓
Formulae sheets for maths	✓	✗
Equation sheet for physics and combined science	✓	✗
...	✓	✓



Exam mitigations for 2022

- GCSE English Literature, History, Ancient History and Geography students will have a **choice of topics in their exam**.
 - E.g. at KSCS History are dropping the American West paper from the final examination series.
- For other subjects where optionality is not available, students will have advance notice of exam topics to focus their revision by no later than **7 February 2022**. In the event of further disruption to schooling caused by the pandemic, this information could be released earlier.
- In **GCSE Maths**, students will be provided with **formulae sheets**, and they will be able to use equation sheets in **GCSE Physics and GCSE Combined Science**.
- The same adaptations will be available for GCSE Maths and English Language in the autumn series next year.

How teacher-assessed grades will work if exams are cancelled

- The government has insisted today that it is **“firmly committed to exams going ahead in summer 2022”**.
- However if exams are cancelled again, teachers will use teacher-assessed grades (TAGs) as schools are already familiar with the process. The assessment process for TAGs should not take longer than an exam series in the subject.
- Ofqual has said it would advise teachers to use **assessments that already take place during the school year as a basis for these wherever possible – for example, mock exams or coursework.**
- Students should be assessed on all the content they have been taught but not on topics they have not covered, as in 2021.
- Ofqual says it doesn't want students to worry that every piece of work they do will go towards their final grade, and says they should be told in advance about which assessments will be used for TAGs.

Plan B?

- Schools have been told to assess students in **"exam-like conditions"** to ensure evidence for teacher-assessed grades (TAGs) is produced fairly in case next summer's GCSEs and A levels are scrapped for the third year in a row.
- New guidance, published on Friday 11/11/21, says that **schools should plan assessment opportunities to secure evidence that can be used to inform TAGs – and that such assessments should take place as early as this term.** The new guidance says that when students are being assessed, they:
 - **should not know the questions in the assessment beforehand.**
 - **should work independently and without assistance (other than as required for a reasonable adjustment).**
 - **should not have access to books or revision notes and the assessment should be timed and supervised.**
- The DfE said this will “both help to ensure that the work is authentic and prepare students for exams in the summer”.