

External Exams - summer 2022

Dear Parent/Carer,

You will be aware that due to the coronavirus pandemic, external exams were cancelled in 2020 and 2021. It is the government's firm intention that exams should go ahead in summer 2022. There have, however, been changes to some of these 2022 external exams, details of which we wish to share with you.

From the Office of Qualifications and Examinations Regulation (Ofqual) Adjustments to exams

It is recognised that students due to sit exams at the end of this academic year have had their education disrupted. Therefore, there will be adjustments to the exams, and other forms of assessment, due to be taken next summer. Details of these adjustments can be found on the government's website:

https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/proposed-changes-to-the-assessment-of-gcses-as-and-a-levels-in-2022/outcome/decisions-proposed-changes-to-the-assessment-of-gcses-as-and-a-levels-in-2022

In brief, for most GCSE exams students will be given 'advanced information' about the content that will be examined in the summer. This information will be available in February. For three GCSE subjects (English Literature, Geography and History), advanced information will not be provided; these subjects will have reduced content. Attached you will find a list of the qualifications delivered at Hazelwick with information about the changes to exams and NEAs (coursework) for this summer. Teachers will give students more detailed information about these changes during their lessons.

Contingency plans if exams are cancelled

As already stated, it is the government's firm intention that exams will go ahead in summer 2022. However, in the very unlikely circumstances that they have to be cancelled, we have been informed by Ofqual that Teacher Assessment Grades (TAGS) will be used to determine grades, as they were last year. Full details can be found here:

<u>Decisions on contingency arrangements 2022: GCSE, AS, A level, Project and AEA - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)</u>

We are required to gather sufficient robust evidence to enable teachers to award TAGs fairly and consistently to all Year 11 students, if required. The information from Ofqual states that we should gather assessment data on three separate occasions. In the very unlikely event that the summer exams are cancelled, we will be using the results from the already scheduled Year 11 assessment points to help inform the TAGs. These are:

- Mock exams (from Tuesday 30th November 2021)
- Further Assessments (from Monday 28th February 2022)

If necessary, we will introduce a third assessment point which is likely to be immediately after the Easter holidays.

We are mindful of the additional anxiety that this news may cause students, and sincerely hope that it will not be necessary to award TAGs and that exams will go ahead as planned, but feel that it is important that we inform you of Ofqual's contingency plans if exams were not able to go ahead next summer.

As always, I thank you for your continued support.

Yours faithfully,

Ms A Fearon Headteacher

Year 11 Exam Information – Summer 2022

Subject	Type of Course	Exam board	Exam	NEA	Changes to exams for summer 2022	Changes to NEA for summer 2022
Art: Art & Design	GCSE	Eduqas	40%	60% 100%	No final exam	Portfolio 100% of qualification
Art: Photography	GCSE	Eduqas	40%	60% 100%	No final exam	Portfolio 100% of qualification
Business	GCSE	AQA	100%	0%	Advance information	n/a
Child Development	Camb. National	OCR	50%	50%	No advance information	Reduction in NEA requirements
Computer Science	GCSE	OCR	100%	0%	Advance information	n/a
Drama	GCSE	Edexcel	40%	60%	Advance information	Reduction in NEA requirements
DT: Design Technology	GCSE	AQA	50%	50%	Advance information	Reduction in NEA requirements
DT: Engineering Design	Camb. National	OCR	25%	75%	No advance information	Reduction in NEA requirements
English Language	GCSE	Edexcel	100%	0%	Advance information	n/a
English Literature	GCSE	Edexcel	100%	0%	Optionality – reduction in content No advance information	n/a
Food Preparation & Nutrition	GCSE	AQA	50%	50%	Advance information	Reduction in NEA requirements
French	GCSE	AQA	100%	0%	Advance information Optionality for Paper 4 Extended time for Paper 4	n/a
Geography	GCSE	AQA	100%	0%	Optionality – reduction in content No advance information	n/a
German	GCSE	AQA	100%	0%	Advance information Optionality for Paper 4 Extended time for Paper 4	n/a
History	GCSE	Edexcel	100%	0%	Optionality – reduction in content No advance information	n/a

IT	Camb. National	OCR	50%	50%	Advance information (March)	No changes
Mathematics	GCSE	Edexcel	100%	0%	Advance information Additional formula sheet	n/a
Media Studies	GCSE	AQA	70%	30%	Advance information	Slight amendments
Music	GCSE	Eduqas	40%	60%	Advance information	Reduction in NEA requirements
PE: Physical Education	GCSE	AQA	60%	40%	Advance information	Reduction in NEA requirements
Science – Combined (Double)	GCSE	AQA	100%	0%	Advance information Revised equation sheet for Physics	n/a
Science – Separate (Triple)	GCSE	AQA	100%	0%	Advance information Revised equation sheet for Physics	n/a
Sociology	GCSE	AQA	100%	0%	Advance information	n/a
Spanish	GCSE	AQA	100%	0%	Advance information Optionality for Paper 4 Extended time for Paper 4	n/a
Travel & Tourism	BTEC	Pearson	25%	75%	No advance information	Slight amendments