

Summer 2021 – WJEC Changes to Assessments

In September 2020 the WJEC published details on changes that were being made to content and/or assessment structures for GCSE and A level qualifications. These detailed documents are available from the WJEC website

<https://www.wjec.co.uk/home/summer-2021-get-the-support-you-need/summer-2021-changes-to-assessments/>

For the subjects delivered at Greenhill our subject specialists have outline in straightforward language what this will mean for our learners.

GCSE Courses

Art & Design

In previous years the Art and Design grade has been awarded 60% Coursework and 40% Externally set exam. In 2021 the whole 100% will be made up from Coursework. The Assessment Objectives and the quality of work required for each grade remain the same. Students will be given "Studio time" in which to complete final outcomes for their Coursework projects.

Drama

Group sizes have been reduced to a group of 1 actor, this enables students to work on a monologue. Their monologue needs to be between 2-4 minutes long.

Pupils no longer have a time constraint placed on them when they write their evaluation, however pupils will still need to complete an evaluation

Unit 2 (performing theatre) has been removed

English Language

Students will no longer have to complete a group speaking task. They will be assessed only on an individual speech which should already have been completed. For the Unit 2 written paper we have received information from the WJEC and learning will be focused on descriptive and expository writing. This exam will take place in May. The Unit 3 written exam will now only have one extended writing task with a choice of argumentation or persuasion. Teaching will therefore be focused on these skills. This exam will also take place in May.

English Literature

Unit 1 selected, out of the two available units. This paper focuses on 'Of Mice and Men' and an unseen poetry comparison. Students will sit this exam in January and depending on results, will have the opportunity to re-sit in May.

French

Students will not have to prepare 4 of the sub topics for the Speaking and Writing exams. For the speaking exam there will be no photo card and students will be able to choose the first of their conversation topics. For the writing exam students will not have to translate into French. All other parts of the examination remain the same.

Geography

The content of the specification will be streamlined so that some of the content will not be subject to assessment in 2021. This will be addressed via lessons to ensure maximum concentration given to examined content.

Health & Social Care

Pupils just to complete Task 1 which they are working on at the moment and have almost completed. They will also sit the examination unit in the summer term.

History

We are currently undertaking the NEA task. Students will be entered for the exam topics we have already covered in their year 10 studies, granting the greatest amount of preparation time. Exams will be USA a Nation of Contrasts 1910-1929 and Radicalism and Protest 1810-1848 . Mocks will take place in December (USA) and February (R&P).

Hospitality & Catering

Details are still to be confirmed

ICT

Pupils in ICT will complete and submit for moderation the Unit 2 coursework that they started in year 10 and their Unit 4 coursework that they have started in year 11. Both Unit 2 and Unit 4 combined will account for 60% of the final qualification. Pupils will sit the Unit 3 examination (worth 20%) at the end of year 11 and the WJEC will give them a result for Unit 1 (worth 20%) based on their performance in the other units.

Mathematics & Numeracy

The content being examined has been reduced and updated topic lists have been shared with students. Both Maths and Numeracy GCSE'S will continue to be examined by 2 papers . Paper 1 Non Calculator and Paper 2 Calculator. These papers will now be out of less marks to reflect less content being assessed. **Higher** each paper out of 70 time 1h 35. **Intermediate** each paper out of 70 1h 35. **Foundation** each paper out of 60 1h 25.

Music

Details are still to be confirmed

PE

All practical activities for assessment will require video evidence. Pupils may be assessed in any two activities from the specification, no requirement to have an individual or team, for example a pupil could be assessed in Netball and Hockey, or Badminton and Golf, or Rugby and Tennis. Unfortunately the PFP has been withdrawn and our pupils had completed some very good work on this prior to lockdown and were in a strong position. We will keep these as evidence of their work, and it will also provide a good revision tool for pupils.

Product Design

Slightly reduced exam content will enable more focused revision to take place for the exam in the Summer term. Pupils are able to produce a model instead of a final outcome, pupils will still be encouraged to produce a final product and lesson time will be allocated for this. However, where appropriate we will work with pupils and parents if producing a model becomes a better option for individual pupils.

Religious Studies

Full Course

Pupils will be required to respond to the Christianity, Issues of Life and Death and Issues of Good and Evil units on the paper. We will not be covering Buddhism as a depth. Pupils are currently in consultation regarding which aspect of the Unit 2 paper they will not be required to cover.

Short Course

Pupils will be required to respond to the Christianity, Issues of Life and Death and Issues of Good and Evil units on the paper. We will not be covering Buddhism as a depth.

All Science subjects

The practical exam will no longer take place. All other exams are unchanged. There may be less practical work taking place in lessons as this is no longer required by the exam board.

WB Skills Challenge Certificate

Enterprise & Employability Challenge - Some of the group work needs to be completed individually for task 2.
Community Challenge - will not be needed for year 11. Global Challenge - no change really other than students can access the work in their own time. Individual Project - no change

Welsh

The students will no longer need to sit the Unit 1 oracy exam that would have been completed in Year 10. They will complete the Unit 2 Oracy exam in April and the Unit 3 and Unit 4 reading and writing examinations in May.

AS & A2 Courses

English Literature

AS – No changes

A2 – No changes

Geography

AS - Field work will be undertaken in January 2021.

A2 - Unit 4 will be adapted and delivered as appropriate via lessons. Unit 5 The deadline for submission of NEA samples for moderation will be extended to May 15th, 2021.

Health & Social Care

AS – No changes

A2 - In Unit 9 which they are working on at the moment they only have to write about one job role instead of two. There are no changes to Unit 7 which is a pre-released controlled assignment to be written up over 10 hours at end of April in examination conditions.

History

AS – No changes

A2 - Unit 3 will be the only altered area, with 2 broader questions. This means that essays for this topic will be set once we have completed a 100 years of the Making of a Super Power (Theme 2). In the meantime pupils will be

tasked with source work and support tasks for their Unit 4 field of study. Unit 5 NEA remains and submission date for this piece is 26th November, 2020.

Mathematics

AS – No change

A2 - Reduced content for the A2 modules to be assessed in Summer 2021. The following will now not be examined. Proofs and Numerical Methods. Students have 2 options. **Option1** Sit only Unit 3 and Unit 4 to obtain A level grade. **Option2** Sit all 4 modules (Unit 1 and 2 being AS modules). Grade awarded will be the better of just the A2 modules or all 4.

Media Studies

AS - Reduction in the Unit 2 NEA requirements.

Reduce length/amount requirements for all production options:

- print: two pages (usually four)
- AV: one minute thirty seconds – two minutes thirty seconds (usually three – five minutes)
- Online – one homepage plus one audio or video report. There are no changes to the research, planning or reflective analysis requirements.

Medical Science

AS & A2 - There may be less practical work taking place in lessons as this is no longer required by the exam board.

PE

AS - All practical activities will require video evidence for assessment. This includes coaching and performing. The video evidence of team activities can be modified or conditioned games.

A2 – As above

Biology/Chemistry/Physics

AS - There may be less practical work taking place in lessons as the specified practical activities are no longer required by the exam board. There are no changes to assessments for AS level.

A2 - There may be less practical work taking place in lessons as the specified practical activities are no longer required by the exam board. The practical exam will no longer take place, however the analysis part of this task will still take place. Synoptic questions will not expect an understanding of AS (year 12) content unless it is explicitly taught/developed as part of the A2 (year 13) course.

WB Skills Challenge Certificate

Enterprise & Employability Challenge - No change Students can either submit the Community Challenge or the Global Challenge - we suggest the Global as it was completed last year. Individual Project - no change