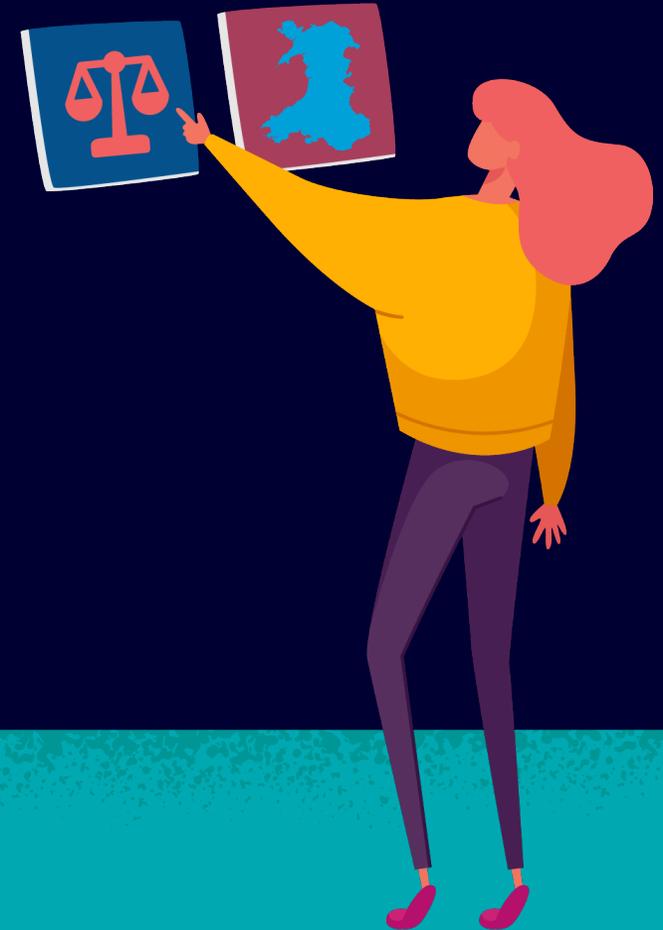




Qualifications 2022

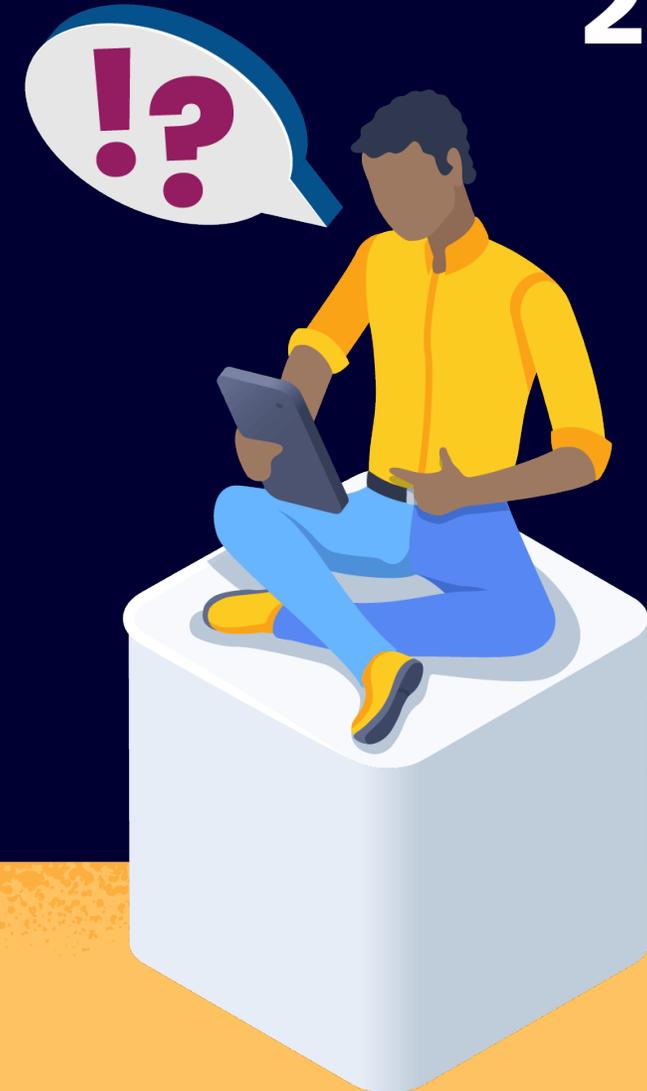
Changes to exams and assessments 2022





Qualifications 2022

- What are exams and why do we have them?
- How are things different this year?
- More about the changes
- What is the exams process?
- How will exams be assessed and graded?
- Key dates
- FAQs
- Further help and support



What are exams and why do we have them?

Whatever your hopes and plans
for your future, exams:

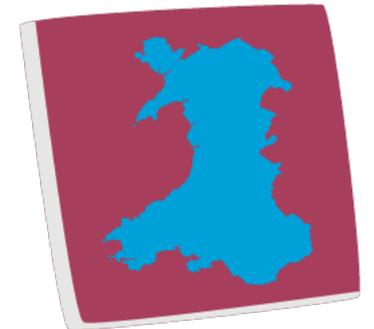
- play a key part in the overall process of learning
- provide a fair and consistent way to assess learners in Wales
- provide a good way to assess what you have learnt in your subjects
- can help us identify your strengths and areas for development
- can allow you to take the next steps in your education or employment with confidence.



How are things different this year?

This year, learners across Wales will be sitting summer exams for the first time since 2019.

- Exams will take place for GCSEs, AS and A levels, and for some vocational qualifications.
- Practical and other non-examination assessments will also be carried out.
- You will be assessed in the same way as your peers in other parts of the UK. You won't be disadvantaged.
- The grading process has been made as fair as possible, and changes have been made to account for the disruption you have faced.



More about the changes

You have experienced disruption to learning during the pandemic, which is why changes have been made this year. Exams will also be graded more generously to make things as fair as possible.

The changes will vary for each qualification. There is more information about the type of changes on the following slides.



Changes to coursework

Non-exam assessment may be adjusted to increase the chance of learners being able to complete it.

Streamlined assessment content

There may be less content or fewer topics, so that learners can focus revision time on less material.

Advance information

Information on what will be assessed may be provided before the assessment takes place.



Removal of a whole unit

For some qualifications, a whole unit of assessment may be removed.

Unit options

For some qualifications, there may be an option to select from a choice of units.

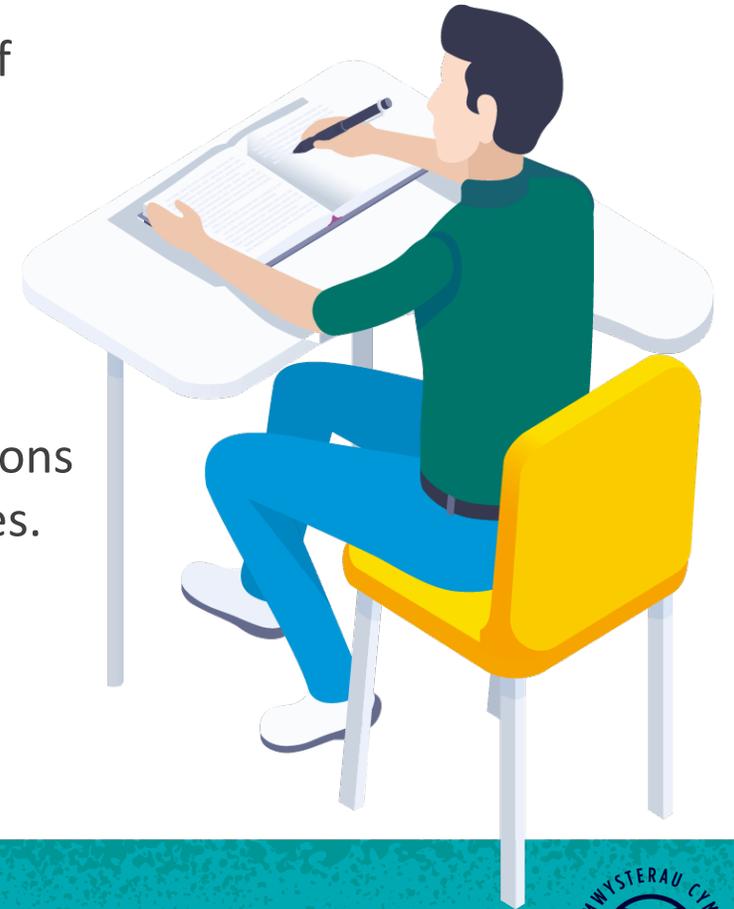
Generous grading

Exams will be graded more generously this year.



What is the exams process this year?

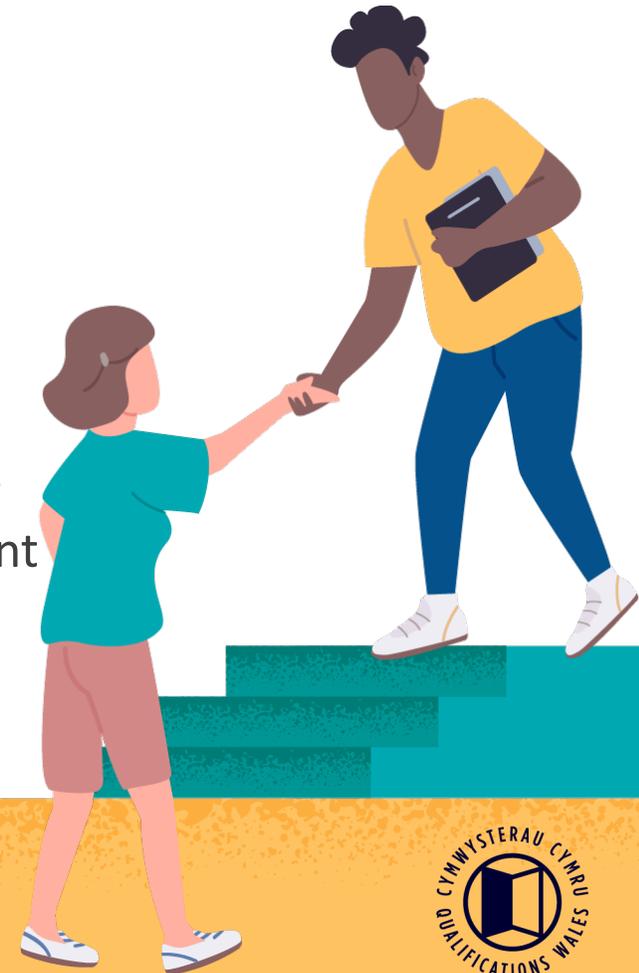
- You will finish any non-examination assessments, if your subject has any of these
- You will sit your exams in May and June.
- WJEC will award your grades after your exams and any non-examination assessments have been marked.
- Awarding bodies have also made changes to the way vocational qualifications will be assessed this year and arrangements can be found on their websites.



How will exams be assessed and graded?

- Once your exams and non-examination assessments have been marked, your awarding body will award your grades.
- WJEC and other awarding bodies will be more generous when setting grade boundaries to reflect the disruption you've experienced.

It's important that you have qualifications that are of equal value to those taken by learners from other parts of the UK so that you can move on to college, employment or university.



Key dates

GCSEs, AS and A levels and Welsh Bacallaureate Skills
Challenge Certificates:



You will sit your exams



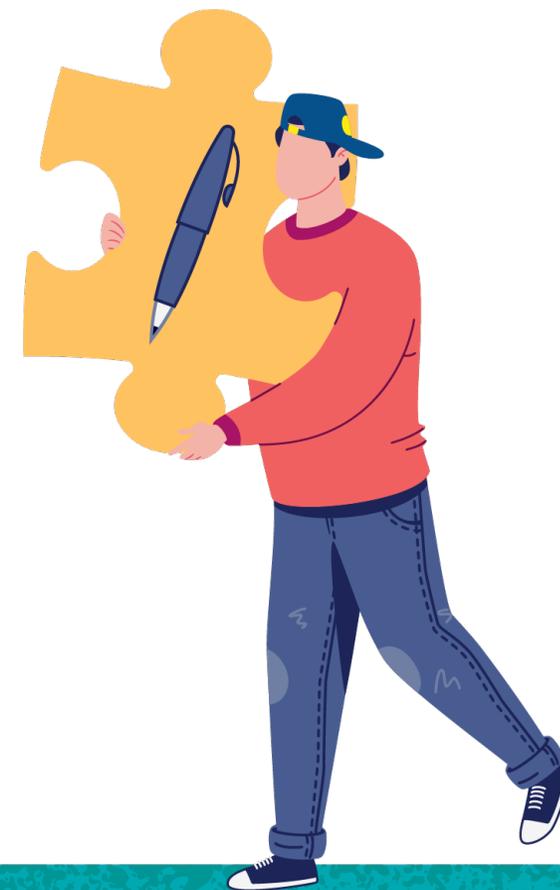
Your exam papers will be
marked and graded by the
awarding bodies



Results Day
AS, A level and
Advanced Skills
Challenge Certificate



Results Day
GCSE and National/Foundations
Skills Challenge Certificate

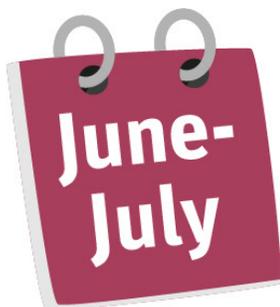


Key dates

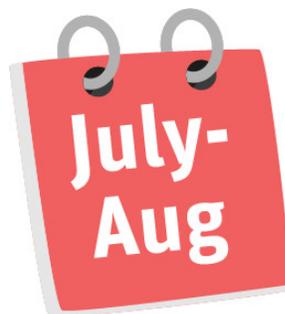
The key dates for Vocational qualifications are:



You will continue to sit your assessments and exams
(if your qualification has formal exams)



Your grades will
be awarded



You will receive your
results



FAQs



What will happen if exams cannot go ahead this year?

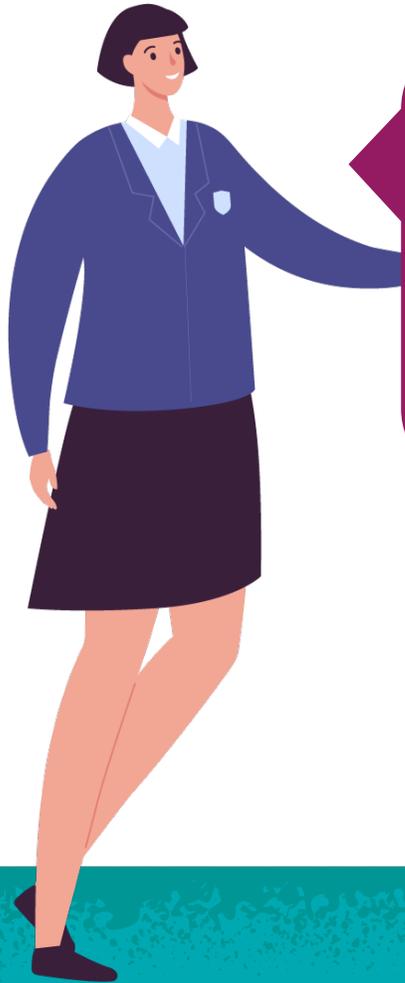
At present, all exams are expected to take place as planned and that they will only be cancelled in exceptional circumstances.

But, if the exams are cancelled this year, there is a backup plan in place and support is at hand.

FAQs



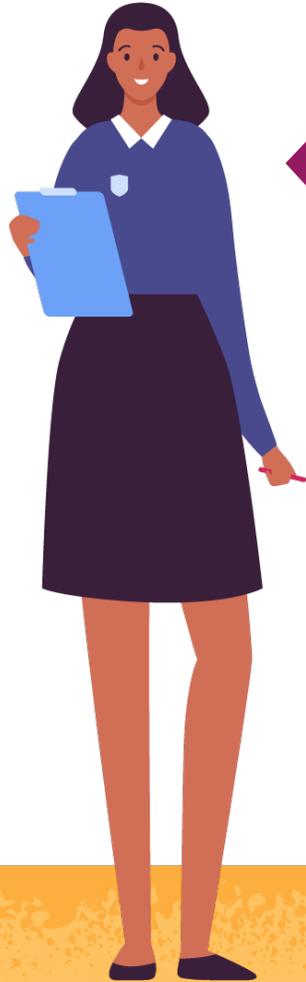
**What if I get
COVID or have to
isolate during my
exams?**



The exam timetable has been designed differently this year. There should be enough time between exams if you need to isolate because of COVID-19.

If you have taken one paper for a qualification, but not completed all papers for that qualification, you will have your grade awarded using only the result of the one paper you have completed.

If the qualification includes non-examination assessment, this will also be included.



I've never sat an exam before, how can I make sure I'm prepared?

This year may be the first time you're taking formal exams and assessments, so it's understandable that you may be a bit nervous.

But don't worry, there are loads of resources to help you...

Useful resources

- You can find the latest information on the [Qualifications Wales](#) website.
- [WJEC](#) has a range of revision guides and blended learning resources. You will also find lots of information about how exams work, how to approach exam questions and tips for looking after your well-being.
- [Welsh Government](#) has resources available on their website for learners in Years 11 and 13 who are considering their next steps in education, apprenticeships or employment.
- [Careers Wales](#) also has lots of useful information on their website about qualifications and training.
- [The Children's Commissioner for Wales](#) also has lots of helpful information on their website about support services for young people, including mental health and emotional support.

Further help and support



[Hwb](#) offers many free and confidential helplines and services, including educational tools and materials to support you.



[Mind Cymru](#) offers a range of well-being support. If you're finding things hard, you can contact Mind for confidential advice and support.



[WJEC](#) has a dedicated web page to support you with everything you need, including well-being advice, handy revision tips and past papers.



Qualifications 2022

Don't forget to visit [qualificationswales.org](https://www.qualificationswales.org)
or follow Qualifications Wales
on Twitter, Facebook or Instagram.

