

SUMMER 2021

2021 qualifications

All you need to know

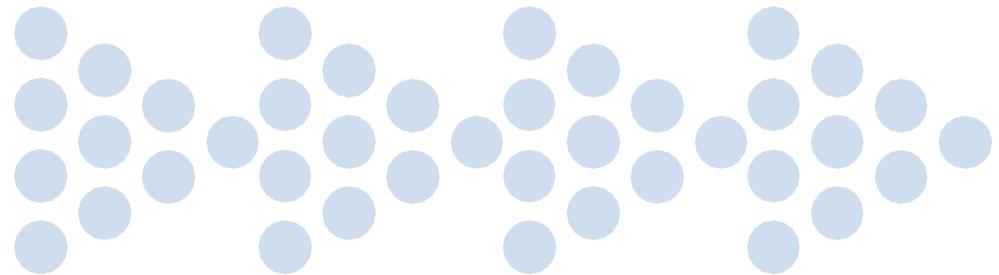




Introduction

Ysgol Clywedog will award your GCSE grades based on the evidence we have of your attainment in a subject. These are called Centre Determined Grades.

This means you should be able to move on to your next stage of learning or employment.





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1 Key dates for students

In March we told you how assessment evidence was going to be gathered to determine your grade.

This included a week by week list of assessments by subject. The half-termly Learning Plans set out the topics which would be covered each week prior to assessments taking place.

By 25th June

You will receive your **provisional** Centre Determined Grades and you will have the chance to ask for your grades to be reviewed, if you believe there has been an error.

By 2 July

School will submit **provisional** Centre Determined Grades to WJEC. These grades are still provisional at this stage as WJEC will need to undertake some additional checks with your centre.

12 Aug

GCSE Results Day. This is when you receive your actual results.

16 Aug – 20 Aug

The window for Stage 2 appeals to be requested by students.

There are 3 stages to the appeals process.

It is vital students and parents understand that on review or appeal, grades can go up, go down or remain the same.



2 What are Centre Determined Grades?

The way your grades will be awarded in 2021 is different from last year. Centre Determined Grades are not predicted grades.

Your grades will be based on a range of evidence from assessments you've completed while you have been studying for your qualification.

We know that many students will have completed less work this year because of the disruption to learning. We will only be assessing topics which have been covered during your two year course.





3 How will you be assessed?

Teachers will make sure that their decisions are fair to all students, that they promote equality and avoid discrimination.

In March 2021 we published the Assessment Approaches for Qualifications in 2021 booklet. This set out how assessments would be carried out and listed a schedule of assessments.

After Easter, students were provided with Learning Plans that set out the topics to be taught and assessed each week.





4 How will you be told your provisional Centre Determined Grades

Your provisional centre determined grades will be released to you by Friday, 25th June 2021.

The school will notify students, parents and guardians via email and social media, that provisional grades have been shared.





5 When will results be announced?

GCSE results
12 August

**Vocational
Qualification
results** for qualifications
used for progression
alongside general
qualifications will be
published **no later**
than this
date



6 Can you appeal against your grades?

The appeals process will have 3 stages.

The first stage is conducted by school and will be completed before the end of the summer term.

The second stage, following completion of stage 1, can be requested after results day and is run by WJEC

The final stage, following completion of stage 2, is run by Qualifications Wales

STAGE 1 **Centre review**

A learner can request for a centre review of the provisional Centre Determined Grade on the grounds that there has been an error in the determination of their grade.

Learners must give a reason why they believe there has been an error in the determination of their grade.

Grades can go up, down or remain the same as a result.

STAGE 2 **Appeal to WJEC**
(following completion of Stage 1)

An appeal to WJEC on the grounds that the judgement that the centre has made is unreasonable and/or a procedural error has been made. Learners must give a reason why they believe the centre has made an unreasonable judgement and/or a procedural error.

Grades can go up, down or remain the same as a result.

STAGE 3 **EPRS – Qualifications Wales**
(following completion of Stage 2)

A request to Qualifications Wales for an Exam Procedures Review Service (EPRS) to review whether WJEC has followed the required procedures.





7 What is a Centre Review?

A Centre Review allows students to request a review of a provisional Centre Determined Grade.

Students and parents need to be aware that grades can go up or down, or stay the same.

If a student believes there has been an error in determining the provisional Centre Determined Grade, they must formally request a centre review.

To request a Centre Review students must:

1. Request the Decision Making Record for the grade in question within 48 hours of their Centre Determined Grades being published.
2. Submit the Centre Review Request form within 5 days of their Decision Making Record being published.

A centre review must be requested by a student.



8 What is an WJEC Appeal or EPRS?

Students and parents need to be aware that grades can go up or down, or stay the same on appeal.

A student can request the school submit a stage 2 WJEC appeal on the grounds of:

- a) A procedural error
- b) Following the outcome of a Centre Review, if a student believes an error persists.

Stage 3 is an Exam Procedures Review Service (EPRS). At this stage Qualifications Wales will review if WJEC and/or the school have followed their procedures. The EPRS does not review the accuracy of the grading decision.



9 How will this impact on my further education?

Grades for GCSE will be awarded in similar ways across the UK to allow progress to further education.

Further education colleges and Sixth Forms have been kept up to date on the assessment arrangements in Wales for summer 2021.

Further education colleges and Sixth Forms will need to know your final results, published on results day.





10 Further help and support

We understand that it can be an anxious time for students, parents and guardians and all the staff at Ysgol Clywedog want to support you at this time. If you have any questions or queries about this process please do not hesitate to contact us at school.

