



November 10<sup>th</sup> 2020

## **Wales' approach for qualifications in 2021**

Dear parent/carer

You may be aware that the Education Minister Kirsty Williams has announced today the Welsh Government's approach to qualifications in 2021. The Minister outlined:

- **that in place of exams**, the Welsh Government intended to work with schools and colleges to take forward **teacher-managed assessments**
- that this should include **assessments that will be externally set and marked but delivered within a classroom environment under teacher supervision**
- her expectation this work will form the basis for **centre-based outcomes** which will be linked to an agreed national approach to provide consistency across Wales

Please see the following links for further information:

- <https://gov.wales/wales-approach-qualifications-2021-confirmed-education-minister-kirsty-williams>
- [Video message - Kirsty Williams, Minister for Education](#)
- [Statement from Qualifications Wales](#)
- [Statement from WJEC](#)

We understand that the Minister has established a **Design and Delivery Advisory Group** to oversee arrangements. The proposed approach to centre-based outcomes, an appeals process and arrangements for private candidates, will be developed by this group, involving school and college leaders, supported by Welsh Government and advised by Qualifications Wales and WJEC. The work of this group will be finalised in December so that guidance and supporting materials can be in place for the start of the spring term.

We hope to receive more detailed information regarding the content and nature of teacher managed assessments in all subjects, and will share this detail with you when it becomes available.

In the meantime, we will be following our existing learning plans for all exam groups. Whilst we are still waiting for the detail, this announcement provides some certainty about Wales' approach to Welsh-based qualifications next year. We still await information about qualifications accredited by Ofqual (in England), vocational qualifications and modular assessments.

The Minister has acknowledged that this remains a 'highly challenging year' and has set 'course which removes pressures from learners and provides clear time for teaching and learning'. At Bryntirion, we will move forward with the confidence that pupils will be well placed and well prepared for whatever decisions are made over the next few weeks.

Yours sincerely

RK Pawar - Headteacher

