



May 13th 2022

Dear Parent/Guardian

This is, of course, an important time for all students preparing for examinations and, as you will be aware, the Welsh Government has signalled that the summer series will progress as planned.

A - Practical Matters

Students in Years 10 to Year 13 are in the midst of their final preparations for GCSEs, A levels and non-examined qualifications. As always, we appreciate the support of our parents in ensuring that their son/daughter is fully aware of the exam schedule and is undertaking appropriate revision activities at home. They should also ensure they have suitable equipment for each exam. The main summer examination series begins for all pupils on **Monday 16th May**.

- **Year 11** students are expected to attend timetabled lessons until **Friday 27th May**, unless they are sitting examinations.
- **Year 12** students are expected to attend timetabled lessons until **Friday 27th May**, unless they are sitting examinations.
- **Year 13** students are expected to attend all timetable lessons until **Thursday 26th May**, unless they are sitting examinations.
- After the Whitsun break, Year 11 and Year 13 students will only need to attend for external examinations.

Please note that students attending school throughout this examination period will need to be in full school uniform.

B – Contingency Matters

The qualifications regulators (JCQ and Qualifications Wales) and the WJEC examination board have published contingency plans for all examinations. These set out special considerations, and matters relating to absence from examinations due to illness.

<https://www.jcq.org.uk/exams-office/access-arrangements-and-special-consideration/regulations-and-guidance/>

The WJEC has also published its separate contingency guidance for **GSCE Separate Sciences**. Candidates who have been entered for Unit 2 who are absent for an 'acceptable reason' (as defined in the guidance above) may be able to sit a contingency paper at a later date:

- GCSE Biology Unit 2 – 22nd June PM
- GCSE Chemistry Unit 2 – 23rd June AM
- GCSE Physics – Unit 2 – 23rd June PM

Please note that candidates who sit the Unit 2 paper in the original timetabled slot will not be able to sit a contingency paper.



C – Awarding Grades – Information from Qualifications Wales

As previously announced, in recognition of the disruption to teaching for learners sitting GCSEs, AS, A levels and the Skills Challenge Certificate (SCC) qualifications, the assessment requirements for this summer have been adapted. The adaptations have been put in place to support learners and to recognise lost teaching and learning time. With the return of exams, WJEC will award grades to learners this summer. As outcomes during the pandemic have been different to the pre-pandemic period, it has been decided that a slightly different approach will be implemented this year. As announced previously, results this year will be broadly midway between 2021 and 2019.

This means that at a national level, we expect results to be higher than in 2019 and lower than in 2021. It is a priority that the grades learners achieve support progression to the next stage of their education or employment.

We wish all our students who are embarking on this busy part of their educational journey every success this year.

Yours sincerely



RK Pawar - Headteacher