



WJEC proposals for adaptations to AS qualifications in summer 2022

Consultation document for learners, parents and carers

Consultation is open from Wednesday 9 June until 23:59 on Wednesday 23 June 2021.



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Have your say: Changes to AS in summer 2022

Proposed changes to AS assessments in 2022

We understand that learners have experienced a great deal of disruption to teaching and learning throughout 2020 and 2021.

We are therefore consulting on proposed changes to the way that our AS qualifications will be assessed in summer 2022.

This booklet outlines proposed changes to our Qualifications Wales approved AS qualifications for summer 2022. Our Eduqas AS qualifications such as electronics, geology and film studies are not included in this booklet because they are accredited by Ofqual. Details of changes to those qualifications are to follow.

If you're a learner, parent or carer, we want to hear your thoughts – it's important that you have your say on our proposals.

This booklet provides an overview of our proposals and should be read before you complete the survey.

What are the principles that WJEC must follow?

Qualifications Wales, the exams regulator, has outlined seven principles that WJEC must follow in making changes to AS assessments. WJEC must seek to:

1. ensure that learners are not advantaged or disadvantaged relative to their peers in other jurisdictions
2. ensure that all qualifications are a reliable indication of the knowledge, skills and understanding specified in the qualification following any adaptations to assessments
3. ensure that qualification content, in general, is not reduced; however, content can be restructured so it can reasonably be streamlined, such as in relation to optional units
4. ensure that the manageability of assessment is maximised, where this will allow for an increase in teaching time in order to minimise the impact on outcomes
5. maintain standards, as far as possible, within the same qualification in line with previous years
6. maintain standards, as far as possible, across similar qualifications made available by WJEC and by other awarding bodies
7. ensure that flexibility in the delivery of assessments is maximised so as to reduce the impact of disruption, illness or quarantine, including lockdown at a local level.

What assumptions have we made?

1. All learners will have missed out on some opportunities to develop vital skills and knowledge, particularly in practical work. Therefore, we cannot assume that learners, taking their assessments in summer 2022 will have the same breadth of skills and knowledge as would normally be expected.
2. Schools and colleges will be open for all or most of the 2021-2022 academic year.
3. Exams are likely to take place as normal in 2022 using adapted content and also adapted assessments where appropriate.
4. Exams are likely to take place as normal in 2023 with no adaptations.

The adaptations for AS qualifications outlined below aim to streamline the content being assessed in AS in 2022, while also ensuring those learners progressing to study A level units from September 2022 will not be disadvantaged if they take A2 assessments in 2023 which have no adaptations. The adaptations also aim to ensure that AS qualifications awarded to learners in Wales in 2022 are valid, reliable and comparable to AS qualifications awarded to learners in England and Northern Ireland.

The tables on pages 3 and 4 outline the proposed adaptations for individual AS qualifications.

Have your say

Please let us know your thoughts via the online survey [here](#). The survey is open from 09 June until 23:59 on 23 June 2021.

WJEC AS qualifications

Subject	Proposed adaptations for 2022
Applied ICT	No changes are proposed for this qualification
Art and Design	No changes are proposed for this qualification
Biology / Chemistry / Physics	Identified content (including some specified practical work) for Unit 1 and Unit 2 will not be assessed
Business	Identified content for Unit 1 and Unit 2 will not be assessed
Computer Science	Identified content for Unit 1 will not be assessed
Design and Technology	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identified content for Unit 1 will not be assessed learners may complete a model/mock-up of their final design instead of a prototype in Unit 2
Drama and Theatre	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In Unit 1 the minimum group size will be one actor and the minimum performance time will be reduced. The minimum requirements for the design option will also be reduced. advance notice of some aspects to be assessed in the Unit 2 examination
Economics	Identified content for Unit 1 and Unit 2 will not be assessed
English Language	Advance notice of some of the genres/text purposes to be assessed in the Unit 1 and Unit 2 examinations
English Language and Literature	Advance notice of some aspects to be assessed in the Unit 1 and Unit 2 examinations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> reducing the number of poems to be studied for Unit 1, and providing an indication of the section of the text from which the extract will be taken in Section A of Unit 2
English Literature	Advance notice of extracts/poems to be assessed in the Unit 1 and Unit 2 examinations
French / German / Spanish	Removal of Task 1 (argument card) in the Unit 1 Speaking (NEA)
Geography	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identified content for Unit 2 will not be assessed learners will be required to undertake a minimum of one fieldwork experience in preparation for the examination
Government and Politics	Identified content for Unit 1 and Unit 2 will not be assessed
Health and Social Care, and Childcare	Task 2, part (f) of the NEA will not be assessed
History	In each option of the period study for Unit 1, one identified concept/perspective will not be assessed
ICT	Section B will be removed from the Unit 1 examination
Law	Identified content for Unit 1 and Unit 2 will not be assessed
Mathematics and Further Mathematics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identified content for Mathematics Unit 1 and Unit 2 will not be assessed identified content for Further Mathematics Unit 1, Unit 2 and Unit 3 will not be assessed
Media Studies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identified content for Unit 1 will not be assessed planning will not be assessed and requirements for all production options will be reduced in the Unit 2 NEA partially completed productions for Unit 2 NEA will be accepted

The non-adapted versions of our specifications can be found on the subject pages of our website [here](#)

Subject	Proposed adaptations for 2022
Music	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Performing time will be reduced in Unit 1 • only one composition will be required in Unit 2
Physical Education	The requirement to coach/officiate will be removed from Unit 2 (NEA)
Psychology	Section A (Contemporary Debates) will not be assessed in the Unit 2 examination
Religious Studies	Identified content (subthemes) will not be assessed in Section A of the Unit 2 examination
Sociology	Advance notice of some aspects to be assessed in the Unit 1 examination
Welsh Language	Learners will study either the film or drama for the Oral examination in Unit 1
Welsh Second Language	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In Unit 2 NEA one written piece of work will be removed • in Unit 3 the number of poems to be studied will be reduced from five to four.

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