

WJEC guidance for teachers and learners during Coronavirus

Qualifications Wales <https://www.qualificationswales.org/english/coronavirus---covid-19/>

Welsh Government <https://gov.wales/education-coronavirus>

WJEC GCSE English Literature - We are aware that school and college closures impact on learners who are halfway through their GCSE and A level courses this summer. We understand that the disruption to teaching and learning is challenging for those aiming to complete their qualifications in 2021. Therefore, we are currently discussing possible solutions with Qualifications Wales across the full suite of general qualifications. The outcome will depend on decisions taken by the Welsh government about the timing of schools and colleges reopening. The FAQs below, represent the current position and you should check this page regularly for updated information.

Frequently asked questions:

- **Our Year 10 learners were entered for Unit 1 in summer 2020 with the intention of doing Unit 2 and Unit 3 in Year 11. What are their options?**
 - Sit Unit 2 and Unit 3 in Year 11, and their overall grade will be based on these two units (i.e. we will project for Unit 1).

Or

 - Sit all units in Year 11. In this case, we would still also project a grade for Unit 1 and would award the highest result from either their resit in Year 11 or the projected grade from their Unit 1 entry in Year 10.
- **Will the 40% terminal assessment rule be relaxed for summer 2021?**

No, the terminal assessment rule will apply in summer 2021. The grades awarded from units entered in summer 2021 which satisfy the terminal assessment rule must be used in the cash-in. No projection from summer 2020 will be available for the Units that make up the 40%.
- **Our learners were entered for Unit 3 (NEA) in summer 2020. Can they use the 2020 NEA tasks to resubmit their NEA in summer 2021?**

Yes, WJEC would accept the summer 2020 NEA work that candidates had completed (under the controls as outlined in the qualification specification) for those who wish to resubmit their NEA in 2021.
- **Our Year 10 learners were entered for Unit 1 in summer 2020 with the intention of doing Unit 2 and Unit 3 in Year 11. Can our learners instead sit Unit 1 and Unit 3 in Year 11 and have a projected grade for Unit 2?**

Unfortunately, candidates are unable to have a projection for Unit 2 in this scenario. Candidates can only have a projected grade for Units they were entered for in summer 2020.
- **A third attempt usually causes a 'fresh start' and all exam units will need to be completed again. Will this rule be relaxed by WJEC in these unprecedented circumstances?**

Yes, the 'fresh start' rule will be relaxed in these unprecedented circumstances. If your candidates were entered for Unit 1 in January 2020 and Unit 1 in summer 2020 they can sit Unit 1 again without triggering the fresh start rule.

- **Once WJEC had announced that the summer 2020 exams were cancelled we withdrew our Year 10 candidates for Unit 1 before the advice was given regarding predicting grades. Can we re-enter our learners?**

Yes, centres are advised to re-enter their learners for summer 2020. Centres should contact WJEC's entries team for further information and guidance. entries@wjec.co.uk

- **Are both Unit 3 NEA (Non-examination Assessment) tasks expected from current Year 10 learners who will be entered in summer 2021?**

Currently, both NEA tasks will be expected from all pupils who are entered for Unit 3 in summer 2021. We shall advise centres if there are any changes to this through the usual channels.

- **Our Year 10 learners usually complete the Unit 3 NEA tasks after the Easter half-term. We can teach remotely, but I am worried about how we are going to get the tasks completed under JCQ NEA conditions. Has WJEC considered allowing candidates to complete the tasks at home during these unprecedented times?**

WJEC are currently considering all options relating to NEA to ensure that no candidate is disadvantaged. There are currently no plans to lift the high control conditions of the 2-hour NEA session however preparation work can be carried out at home. We will continue to review the situation and will inform centres of any updates through our usual channels.

- **Our Year 10 were, for the most part, going to sit GCSE English Literature Unit 1 this summer. However, we did not enter our top two sets for summer 2020 as we intended to enter them in January 2021. Will the top two sets also be awarded a grade based only on Units 2 and 3 next summer?**

No, candidates who have not been entered for Unit 1 this year will need to sit the exam at a later date.

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