

# AS/A Level Geology Newsletter

January 2021

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## Key Dates

Note that the dates of the examinations apply to all candidates entering for Eduqas AS and A level Geology. Candidates in England, Northern Ireland, Scotland, Wales and the Isle of Man will sit these examinations. Your examinations officer should submit preliminary entries in the usual way for these summer examinations.

	Date
AS Component 1	Monday 14 <sup>th</sup> June 2021
AS Component 2	Monday 7 <sup>th</sup> June 2021
A level Component 1	Monday 7 <sup>th</sup> June 2021
A level Component 2	Monday 14 <sup>th</sup> June 2021
A level Component 3	Monday 21 <sup>st</sup> June 2021
GCE results day	Tuesday 24 <sup>th</sup> August 2021

For centres who will be entering candidates for both AS and A level Geology in summer 2021, please be aware that AS and A level Geology exams will take place at the same time. In order for centres to best manage the requirements for the GCE Component 1 exams (the practical exams), the A level Component 1 exam has been paired with the AS Component 2 exam, and the A level Component 2 exam has been paired with the AS Component 1 examination. In this way, providing the necessary geological equipment should be more feasible for centres. It does however mean that you need to be aware that the first AS exam will be Component 2. In addition, the geological specimens for both the AS and A level Component 1 papers will be in your centre ahead of these exams, and care must be taken to ensure that the correct specimens are given out for the correct exam.

## Advance Information for AS and A level Geology examinations in 2021

You will be provided with advance information concerning the exams in summer 2021. This is currently due to be published by the end of January.

## Fieldwork Statements

Centres are not required to complete the Fieldwork Statement for candidates entering for AS or A level Geology in summer 2021. The requirement for submission of a Fieldwork Statement that centres have given learners the opportunity to undertake 2/4 mandatory days of fieldwork at AS/ A level has been removed. You should still try and meet the fieldwork requirements if you can. The requirements can also be achieved in a local or lab setting rather than out on location. If you are unable to meet the fieldwork requirements, you still need to teach the relevant techniques to your learners as they will still be expected to answer questions about these in the examinations. The changes detailed above apply to the summer 2021 series only.

## The Practical Endorsement

### Changes to the Practical Endorsement for awarding in summer 2021

For details of the changes to the Practical Endorsement for awarding in summer 2021 please refer to the 'Adaptations' tab on the Eduqas AS/ A level Geology webpage. This includes information about the 'Lab based fieldwork exercise for the Practical Endorsement' about which your examinations officer was notified in the Autumn term. The Autumn 2020 online CPD presentation on the secure website refers to this.

## Information re Monitoring Visits

Each centre teaching A level Geology and entering candidates for the Eduqas A level Geology examinations in 2021 will need to have been visited during the period October 2019 to March 2021. The monitoring of the Practical Endorsement will be undertaken remotely during the academic year 2020-2021. Arrangements for this have been sent out to those centres who were not visited in the previous academic year. This also includes centres new to teaching Eduqas Geology in September 2020. The procedures for the monitoring visits will be the same as for the other A level Sciences. A practical endorsement monitor should have contacted you about this by now. If you have any questions regarding this please make contact with Matthew Roberts, using the e mail address [geology@eduqas.co.uk](mailto:geology@eduqas.co.uk) .

## Materials from AS/ A level CPD

The Autumn 2020 Online Professional Learning presentation and materials are on the WJEC secure website under 'CPD'. The focus of this training was the Practical Endorsement and Specified Practicals. Materials from the 2019 CPD, not on open website, are also accessible on the secure website.

## Autumn 2020 exam papers and mark schemes

Autumn 2020 series AS and A level Geology exam papers and mark schemes are available on the secure website.

## Exam Walk Through

This is a powerpoint presentation, with a commentary, offering candidates some thoughts on how to answer the questions within the Eduqas A level Component 1 2019. Candidates can pause the presentation, answer the questions and then hear comments reflecting on answers and the mark scheme. It is available on the digital resources section of the website. You can also view it at the link [A level Geology 2019 Exam Walk Through](#)

## Recorded webinar

'Eduqas GCE Geology: Key Candidate Errors 2019' is a presentation focussing on the most common errors made by candidates across the three A level components in 2019. It is aimed at helping you to prepare learners for assessment. It is available in the 'Webinars' tab of the Training section of the AS/ A level Geology webpage. You can also view it at the link [GCE Geology 2019 key candidate errors](#)

## E mail contact

If you have subject specific enquiries then please make contact with the Geology team by using the e mail address [geology@eduqas.co.uk](mailto:geology@eduqas.co.uk) . The Subject Support Officer for Geology is Matthew Roberts.