

Eduqas Geology Newsletter AS/ A level January 2022

Key Dates

	Date
AS Component 1	Monday 16 th May 2022
AS Component 2	Thursday 26 th June 2022
A level Component 1	Monday 6 th June 2022
A level Component 2	Tuesday 14 th June 2022
A level Component 3	Tuesday 21 st June 2022
GCE results day	Thursday 18 th August 2022

Geology Component 1 Geological specimens

The geological specimens relating to the AS and A level Component 1 examinations will be dispatched to centres, at the latest, in the following weeks.

Examination	Date of arrival of materials in centres	Examination date
AS Component 1 (B480U10-1)	week commencing 25 th April 2022	Monday 16 th May 2022
A Level Component 1 (A480U10-1)	week commencing 16 th May 2022	Monday 6 th June 2022

Advance Information for AS and A level Geology examinations in 2022

You will be provided with advance information concerning the exams in summer 2022. This is currently due to be published by 7th February.

Adaptations to the assessments in 2022

The adaptations that will apply to the GCE assessments in summer 2022 are outlined under the 'Summer 2022 Adaptations' section on the Eduqas AS/A level Geology webpage.

Fieldwork - The requirement 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. This applies to candidates entering for the summer 2022 examination series only. Centres are not required to complete the Fieldwork Statement for candidates entering for AS or A level Geology in summer 2022.

Practical work - Centres will be allowed to deliver practical work in AS Geology by demonstration. Centres should continue to make available hands-on practical activities for their students wherever possible. You still need to teach the relevant practical techniques to your learners as they will still be expected to answer questions about these in the examinations. This applies to candidates entering for the summer 2022 examination series only.

The Practical Endorsement

Changes to the Practical Endorsement for awarding in summer 2022

For details of the changes to the Practical Endorsement for awarding in summer 2022 please refer to the 'Summer 2022 Adaptations' on the Eduqas AS/A level Geology webpage.

As last year, centres will be allowed to assess the Common Practical Assessment Criteria (CPAC) across the minimum number of practical activities required to enable students to demonstrate their competence in A level Geology. This applies to candidates entering for the summer 2022 examination series only.

Remember that your candidates entering for the A level examination in 2022 may make use of the 'Lab based fieldwork exercise for the Practical Endorsement' in the Practical Endorsement section of the Key Documents. Teacher notes and materials to support this can be found on the secure website under the Non-Examination Assessment Tasks tab.

Training

It is a requirement that the lead teacher in each centre following the WJEC Eduqas A level Geology specification has undergone some form of training. For lead teachers who have not yet undertaken face to face training or online training, (perhaps because you have only started teaching the Eduqas A level Geology specification since October 2020) it is imperative that you undergo online training by reading each of the Practical Endorsement training documents available at [Eduqas AS/A level Geology key documents](#)

If you are then unclear about any aspects regarding the practical endorsement, please e mail geology@eduqas.co.uk for further advice.

Information re Monitoring Visits

Each centre teaching A level Geology and entering candidates for the Eduqas A level Geology examinations in 2022 will need to have been 'visited' during the period October 2020 to March 2022. The monitoring of the Practical Endorsement will be undertaken remotely during the academic year 2021-2022, as in the previous academic year. Arrangements for this will be sent out to those centres who were not visited in the previous academic year. This will also include centres new to teaching Eduqas Geology in September 2021. The procedures for the monitoring visits will be the same as for the other A level Sciences. A practical endorsement monitor will contact you in due course.

Intention to Enter (for centres new the Eduqas Geology)

In order for the awarding organisations to arrange monitoring visits it is a requirement that each centre informs the relevant awarding organisation that they are intending to teach their specification. All Eduqas A level Geology centres must have contacted

matthew.roberts@eduqas.co.uk to register their intention to teach and enter candidates for the Eduqas specification. If you have not previously done this, perhaps because you have only embarked on teaching the Eduqas specification relatively recently, you must register with Matthew Roberts without delay.

Materials from A level/GCSE CPD

The Autumn 2021 Online Professional Learning presentation is on the WJEC secure website under 'CPD'. The focus of this training is the use of video in teaching geology, and teaching mapwork.

The Autumn 2020 A level Online Professional Learning presentation and materials, on the Practical Endorsement and Specified Practicals, are also accessible on the secure website, as are materials from the 2019 CPD.

Autumn exam papers and mark schemes

Autumn 2021 series A level Geology exam papers and mark schemes are available on the secure website. These will not be published on the Eduqas website until July 2022 at the earliest.

Autumn 2020 series AS and A level Geology exam papers and mark schemes are also available on the secure website. These exam papers will be published on the Eduqas website on 18th January 2022.

New Resources available on the Eduqas Geology website

Knowledge Organisers: A bank of knowledge organisers to support the learning of AS/A level Geology are being written and will become available on the website later in the academic year. These could be used for revision or as a starting point for creating your own knowledge organisers.

Exam Walk Throughs: These are PowerPoint presentations, with a commentary, offering candidates some thoughts on how to answer the questions within the Eduqas A level Components. Exam Walk Throughs for A level Components 2 and 3 2019 are now available on the website, to add to that for A level Component 1 2019 which has been available for more than a year. Candidates can pause the presentations, answer the questions and then hear comments reflecting on answers and the mark scheme. They are available on the digital resources section of the website. You can also view it at the link [A level Geology 2019 Exam Walk Throughs](#)

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 . The Subject Support Officer for Geology is Matthew Roberts.