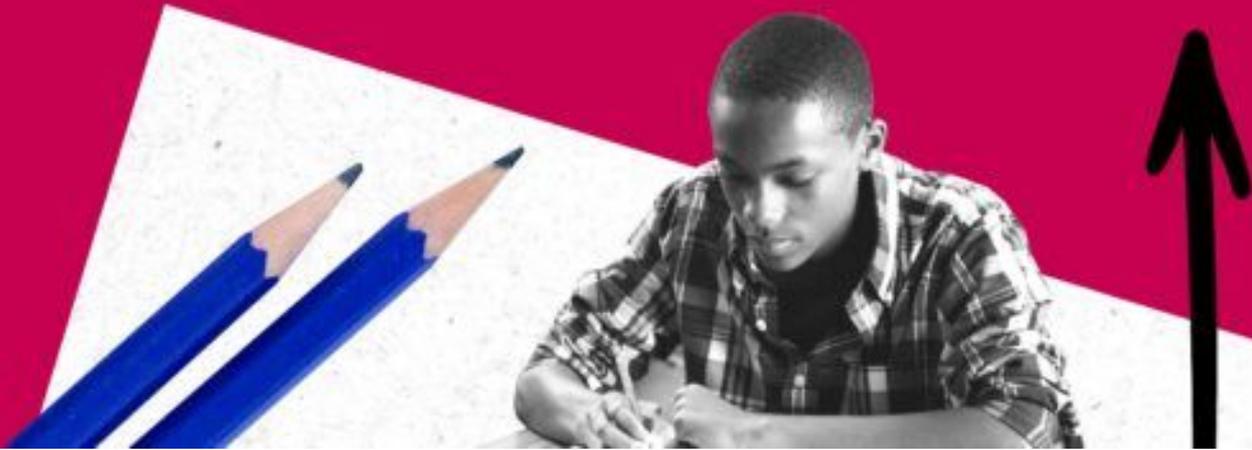




EXAMS IN 2022

EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW



What are the key changes?



The Government and Ofqual, the exams regulator, recently ran a consultation which had more than 6,000 responses, with almost a quarter from students. The results of this consultation were released on the 30th September.

As a result of the consultation the Government and Ofqual have made the decision that exams will be sat in 2022. However, they have made adaptations. These are related to:

- 1. How schools can support you to prepare for the exams.**
- 2. The content of some exams.**
- 3. The amount of support that you can receive during some exams.**
- 4. How grade boundaries are calculated.**

Adaptations to how we can support you and the content of exams.



- In **History, Geography** and **English Literature** you will have a choice of topics in the exam. This will reduce the amount of content you have to learn. Your teachers will talk you through the topics that you will be focusing on in lessons this week, you will have a choice of questions in the exam.
- Exam boards will provide advanced information about the focus of the content of exams for all GCSE, AS and A level subjects *except GCSE English literature, history and geography* by **7 February 2022** at the latest. This will enable your teachers to plan to adapt their teaching in the second half of the spring term if necessary, and for revision to be more focused.

Adaptations to how we can support you and the content of exams.



- If necessary we will be allowed to deliver practical work in GCSE Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Combined Science by demonstration.
- If you take GCSE Art you will only be assessed by your portfolio.
- Exam boards will include an extra optional question in the writing assessment for Language subjects to help students to focus on fewer themes in their writing.
- You will be given a formula sheet for GCSE Mathematics and a revised equation sheet for GCSE Physics and Combined Science. Exam boards will provide copies of the formulae sheet for use in teaching and to ensure that students are familiar with it prior to the exams. We have not yet received these. Clean copies of the equation sheet will be provided in the exams.

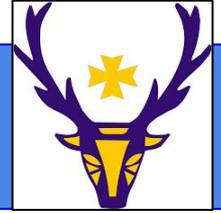
Results day



Results for exams next year will return to their normal format.

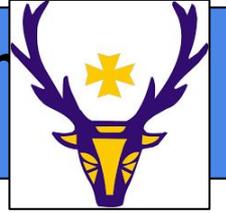
- AS and A levels being released on **18 August**
- GCSEs on **25 August**.
- VTQs used to progress in a similar way will be issued on or before the same days, and other VTQ results will continue to be issued throughout the year.

How are grade boundaries calculated?



- 2022 will be a 'transition year' to reflect the fact that we are in a pandemic recovery period and students' education has been disrupted.
- Ofqual will therefore aim for grades in 2022 to reflect a midway point between 2021 and 2019. This means that results overall next year will be higher than in 2019 but not as high as in 2020.
- Exam boards will use data as a starting point, to align their standards in a subject. But the grade boundaries for each specification will be set by the senior examiners after they have reviewed the work produced by students.
- Organisations awarding VTQs are expected to take account of the approach for GCSEs when setting standards in their own qualifications.

What if my education is disrupted by further national school closures?



Although the Government is firmly committed to GCSE exams going ahead in 2022 they have opened a two week consultation on measures that could be put in place even further disruption to education occurs. The government's proposal is essentially a tweaked TAG process, with tighter guidance on the evidence on which TAGs would be based.

Specific suggestions include:

- planned assessment points from which to gather evidence (e.g. once in each of the late autumn, spring and early summer terms)
- the use, at these assessment points, of approaches which replicate exam board papers and exam conditions - so internal assessments may count.

This consultation closes on the 13th October and I will talk to you about the results when the results are released.

What happens now?



It is vital that you focus on preparing yourself in the best way possible for the external examinations in the summer. The best way you can do this is by using the time you have left effectively:

- Attending lessons and being mentally present, engage in your learning actively.
- Be punctual to all lessons and activities - staff are using the first 5-10 minutes of every lesson to recap previous learning, don't miss this opportunity.
- Revise for your Mock exams starting Monday 6th December in all subjects and the Core Mocks starting on Thursday 10th March.
- Attend interventions.
- Go to H/W club - if you do this every day for 1 hour this will represent a full days work.
- Complete all home learning tasks.
- Ask for help.