



Our Ref: SCU|CTR|002

24<sup>th</sup> November 2021

Dear Parent / Carer,

On Thursday, 11<sup>th</sup> November, the government and Ofqual confirmed the contingency plans should the exams, planned in the summer, not be able to take place. The full document can be found [here](#)

Jo Saxton, Ofqual's Chief Regulator, has published a [letter](#) directed at students which I would encourage all parents, carers and students to read. It covers the changes to the exams, the grading system and what will happen if the exams do not go ahead as planned. There is also an informative video to watch, too.

**In summary:**

1. The intention is that exams will go ahead, with the changes to the courses and/or exams that have already been confirmed. The changes are as follows:

**GCSE English Literature:**

Students will only study 3 out of 4 texts and be assessed on the following:

- Paper 1: Poetry Anthology and A Christmas Carol
- Paper 2: Macbeth and Unseen Poetry

**GCSE History**

Three units will be examined instead of four, and these will be across three separate, shorter exams rather than the two longer exams.

- Exam 1 will be the wider world depth study - Conflict and Tension in Asia, 1950-1975 (the previous Paper 1, Section B) (Marks for spelling, punctuation and grammar (SPaG) are retained in this paper))
- Exam 2 will be the period study - Democracy and Dictatorship in Germany, 1890-1945 (the previous Paper 1, Section A)
- Exam 3 will be the British breadth study - Migration, Empires and the People, c.700 to the present day (the previous Paper 2, Section A) (Marks for SPaG are being dropped in this paper)

**GCSE Geography**

There will be no questions about the student's own fieldwork experience in the exam but unfamiliar fieldwork questions will remain.

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- Paper 2 (Human Geography) will have some optionality.
- Students must answer **all** questions in Section A: Urban issues,
- They will then choose to answer **either** Section B: The changing economic world or Section C: The challenge of resource management.
- At Rednock students have been taught Section C so will be guided towards this choice.

### **Fieldwork Study**

Students do not need to complete two occasions of fieldwork

### **GCSE Sciences**

- If necessary, the practical work in GCSE Biology, Chemistry, Physics and Combined Science can be delivered by demonstration.
- A revised equation sheet for GCSE physics and combined science will be provided for the examination, covering all the equations required in the subject content.

### **GCSE Mathematics**

A formulae sheet for GCSE mathematics will be provided in the examinations

### **GCSE, AS and A level Art and Design**

These qualifications will have reduced assessment

### **A-Level Sciences**

For the practical endorsement in A-Level science, the requirement to complete a minimum of 12 practical activities is removed, but students will still need to complete enough practical activities for them to routinely and consistently cover the Common Practical Assessment Criteria (CPAC)

2. To help students focus their exam preparation, there will be advance information on what exams will cover. This advance information will be available by **7<sup>th</sup> February 2022**, or sooner if the pandemic worsens. The following links provide more detail regarding advance information:
  - Advance Information for Summer 2022 exams - [JCQ document](#)
  - [Video](#)
3. If the 2022 exams cannot go ahead due to further Covid disruption, students' grades will instead be determined by teachers, using a Teacher Assessed Grade (TAG), an approach which schools assessed students in the summer of 2021.
4. We have already planned for the collection of assessed pieces of work for Year 11, 12 and 13 students in anticipation that we may be required to use Teacher Assessed Grades for the summer qualifications.

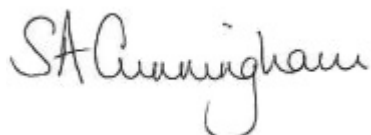
This will include the use of assessment pieces from:

- The Mock exams - Year 11 (Dec 2021), Year 12 (Jan 2022) and Year 13 (Jan 2022).  
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- An assessment window for Year 11, week beginning 28<sup>th</sup> February 2022
- An assessment window for Year 13 & Year 12, starting on 28<sup>th</sup> March 2022
- An assessment window for all year groups in May/June (if the exams do not go ahead as planned)

We will communicate any further advice and guidance as and when it is released to schools.

Regards,



Dr Sharron Cunningham  
**Deputy Headteacher**

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