

Raising mitigating circumstances

19 May 2021



Student declarations

Pastoral Leaders / Heads of Year have these sheets and you will be completing them in tutor time before the end of half term

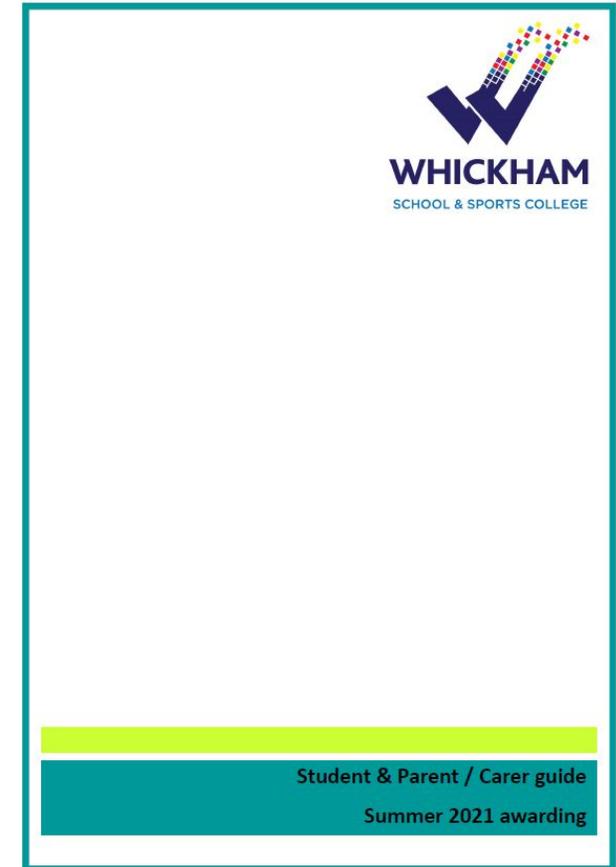
As a reminder you will be certifying:

- The authenticity of your work
- That you have had the opportunity to review the evidence base for each subject and that you have had a chance to raise any concerns / mitigating circumstances about how this applies to you



The evidence base booklet

- Published last week (website & email)
- Details the process and also the evidence we will be using in each subject - as well as why we think this is the evidence we should use



Subject pages:

- Assessment objectives
- The evidence base
- The rationale

GCSE Mathematics

Type: GCSE 9-1

Awarding Body: AQA

Contact: Miss Green

The following assessment objectives are assessed in this qualification:

AO1: Use and apply standard techniques

AO2: Reason, interpret and communicate mathematically

AO3: Solve problems within mathematics and in other contexts

The evidence base we will use for grading is as follows:

Assessment # / Name	Type	(Non Calc)			(Calc)			Level of Control
		AO1	AO2	AO3	AO1	AO2	AO3	
1: November Mock	Paper 1, 2 and 3	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	H
2: March Assessment	Paper 1 and 2	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	H
3: May Assessment 1	Paper 1	Y	Y	Y				H
4: May Assessment 2	Paper 2				Y	Y	Y	H
5: May Assessment 2	Paper 3				Y	Y	Y	H
6:	Other exam-style centre-devised tasks (completed in class or for homework)	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	L

Rationale for choice of assessment evidence used and how it supports the grading process:

- Exam questions have been selected to assess across a broad base of subject knowledge to provide opportunities for all students. The questions have the same proportion of questions of each mathematical strand as in the course specification.
- Across each series of papers (by year) questions reflect the normal examination papers where $\frac{1}{3}$ of the papers covers AO1, AO2, AO3 each. This means there is a fair representation of different questions types and styles.
- More calculator material has been used as this equates to $\frac{1}{3}$ of the GCSE.
- We will also include student work produced in centre-devised tasks that reflect the specification, that follow the same format as exam board materials and have been marked in a way that reflects exam board mark schemes. These will have been completed under low control and will therefore usually have a low weighting, except where other evidence is not available.

Categories of mitigating circumstances

- temporary illness or accident/injury at the time of the assessment;
- bereavement at the time of the assessment;
- domestic crisis arising at the time of the assessment;
- serious disturbance during an examination, particularly where recorded material is being used;
- accidental events at the time of the assessment such as being given the wrong examination paper, being given a defective examination paper or CD, failure of practical equipment, failure of materials to arrive on time;
- participation in sporting events, training camps or other events at an international level at the time of the assessment;
- failure by the school to provide approved access arrangements

How to raise your mitigating circumstance(s)

- Google form for each subject: You will need to select the specific assessments your mitigating circumstances apply to.
- You need to be clear about your circumstance and the impact you believe you have had
- Remember
 - it is important we know about those circumstances that meet the criteria. This informs our exercise of legitimate academic judgement.
 - Be realistic - even in normal circumstances it does not change a C to a A / 5 to a 7.



Mitigating Circumstances

If you think there are good reasons why you may now have performed as you should have done in one or more of your assessments then please fill out a mitigation form for the subject(s) & assessment(s) you believe have been affected. As the effect in each subject may be different due to the different times and nature of the assessments you will need to fill in a form for each subject. We have kept these as simple as possible.

Remember that teaching staff have to review the circumstances and have to decide what weight to place on them, just as an exam board would normally do. Mitigations are likely to make only a small impact on the overall judgement.

Before completing a mitigating circumstance form please ensure you have read the following two documents:

- [Whickham School evidence base](#)
- [OfQual guide for students](#)

Please remember that the deadline for completion of these forms is Friday 28 May at 2pm. After this time teaching staff will start to review mitigations in order to make final decisions.

Years 12 & 13

This includes all A-level & AS-Level subjects as well as subjects such as core maths and any resit GCSE qualifications

Faculty of Creative Arts

[GCE Art & Design \(Art, Craft & Design\)](#) [GCE Art & Design \(Fine Art\)](#) [GCE Music](#)

[GCE Art & Design \(Textiles\)](#)

Faculty of English & Media

[GCE English Language](#) [GCE English Literature](#) [GCE Media Studies](#)

[GCSE English Language \(resit\)](#)

Faculty of Humanities

[GCE Geography](#) [GCE History](#) [GCE Religious Studies](#)

Faculty of IBT

You will be emailed with instructions and a link to the mitigating circumstances page on our website.

This page is also available from our website under “Exam Information” off the Parents menu.

GCSE: Art, Craft & Design

Request for mitigating circumstances to be considered

Please use this form to ensure your teachers are aware of any mitigating circumstances that may have affected the evidence base for you in this subject.

Please ensure that you have read through the information about what constitutes a mitigating circumstance:

- <https://cdn.realsmart.co.uk/whickhamschool.org/uploads/2021/05/14113408/Summer-2021-Awarding.pdf>

You should also have read through the OfQual guidance for students:

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/986351/21-6780_Student_guide_to_awarding_in_summer_2021_-_accessible.pdf

Your email will be recorded when you submit this form.

Not pwheatley@whickhamschool.org? [Switch account](#)

*Required

Have you read through the evidence base and OfQual documents? *

Yes

No

Mitigating circumstances

The following circumstances are GOOD examples of circumstances where mitigation can be considered:

- temporary illness or accident/injury at the time of the assessment;
- bereavement at the time of the assessment;
- domestic crisis arising at the time of the assessment;
- serious disturbance during an assessment, particularly where recorded material is being used;
- accidental events at the time of the assessment such as being given the wrong examination paper, being given a defective assessment paper or CD, failure of practical equipment, failure of materials to arrive on time;
- participation in sporting events, training camps or other events at an international level at the time of the assessment;
- failure by the school to provide approved access arrangements
- significant covid-related curriculum disruption, over and above that experienced by most pupils.

The following circumstances are UNLIKELY to be eligible for mitigation:

- Long term illness
- Bereavement from more than six months ago
- Moving house or other domestic inconvenience
- A minor disturbance during an assessment
- Consequence of committing a crime where formally charged or found guilty
- Consequence of taking alcohol or recreational drugs
- Issues or perceived issues with the quality of teaching
- Failing to arrive on-time for your assessment
- Failing to follow the instructions on your assessment
- Missing an assessment due to a family holiday / commitment / routine medical appointment
- Not submitting work (except where this was due to covid related issues)
- Special educational needs.

Please select the category which most closely resembles your mitigating circumstance. Where your circumstances do not fit well into the general categories please select Other. *

- Temporary illness/accident/injury
- Bereavement
- Significant domestic crisis
- Serious disturbance during an assessment
- Issue with my assessment
- Access arrangements not provided
- Covid related (above and beyond most students)
- I no longer believe my circumstances warrant mitigation.
- Other: _____

It is important you link your mitigating circumstance to the Subject Assessment Record in each subject. Think carefully about how your circumstances may have affected each individual assessment.

In some circumstances teaching staff will be able to take your mitigation into account on an assessment by assessment basis. Where mitigations are more significant teaching staff may need to put a greater weighting on your classwork/homework (where you have completed exam-style work).

GCSE Art, Craft & Design

Type: GCSE 9-1

Awarding Body: AQA

Contact: Mrs Johnstone

The following assessment objectives are assessed in this qualification:

AO1: Develop ideas through investigations, demonstrating critical understanding of sources.

AO2: Refine work by exploring ideas, selecting and experimenting with appropriate media, materials, techniques and processes.

AO3: Record ideas, observations and insights relevant to intentions as work progresses.

AO4: Present a personal and meaningful response that realises intentions and demonstrates understanding of visual language.

The evidence base we will use for grading is as follows:

Assessment # / Name	Type	Component 1: Portfolio				Level of Control
		AO1	AO2	AO3	AO4	
1:	Portfolio	Y	Y	Y	Y	M

Rationale for choice of assessment evidence used and how it supports the grading process:

- OfQual have determined that in GCSE Art and Design qualifications, the student's grade must be based on Component 1: the portfolio only, whether or not it has been completed.
- Candidates must select and present a portfolio representative of their course of study including:
 - A sustained project showing evidence of working in two areas of study within art, craft and design. Candidates have responded to a subject, theme, task or brief evidencing the journey from initial engagement with an idea(s) to the realisation of intentions.
 - A selection of further work including any other appropriate evidence.

Please select which assessment(s) your mitigating circumstance applies to *

 Portfolio

 Other: _____

Please explain your mitigating circumstance, ensuring you are clear on the level of impact you believe this to have had and why these were temporary circumstances that applied during the assessments you have indicated. *

Your answer



First name *

Your answer



Surname *

Your answer



Deadline

Friday 28 May 2021- 2pm

