# GCSE Exams in 2022



The department for Education have released their plans for our Year 11 cohort and exams are back for 2022.

There is recognition that nationally students have had a disruptive two years and have put measures in place to make sure students have not been disadvantaged.

### Why are exams back?

Exams are the best and fairest form of assessment.

A recent consultation by the DfE and exams regulator OFQUAL found that over 90% of respondents were in favour of exams taking place. Furthermore, 90% of of students and parents were in favour of giving advance information on the focus of exams next summer to support students with revision, and around 80% or more agreed with offering choices of topics in some GCSE subjects

## When will GCSE exams happen in 2022?

GCSE exams will happen in May and June, as normal. The Joint Council for Qualifications (JCQ) will confirm the summer exam dates shortly.

#### When will advance information be made available for GCSE Students?

Advance information on the focus of summer exam content will be given in early February.

#### When will students get their results?

GCSE results day will be held on 25th August 2022

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### What measures will be in place to make sure they are fair when different students have missed different amounts of time?

Students will benefit from a range of adaptations to GCSE exams in England. These adaptations will help them reach their full potential following the disruption they've face. They include:

- 1. A choice of topics or content on which students will be assessed in GCSE English literature, history and geography.
- 2. Provide advanced information on the focus of exams to support students' revision in subjects where there is not a choice of topics.
- 3. Giving students formulae sheets in GCSE maths and revised equation sheets in GCSE combined science and physics.
- 4. Changing requirements for practical science work and practical art and design assessments to ensure fairness.
- 5. These changes will also apply to the November 2022 GCSE English language and mathematics re-sit exams. There will be advanced information deployed for both subjects in July and a formulae sheet will be available for mathematics.
- 6. If there are significant further disruptions to teaching nationally, the government and OFQUAL are putting in place further contingency measures, including using Teacher Assessed Grades.

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### What about grading?

For the past two years, summer exams have not been able to take place and, instead, students have been awarded grades by their teachers. Due to the difference in assessment approach, nationally there have been higher outcomes.

As we return to exams the DfE and OFQUAL want to ensure we a moving back towards the pre-pandemic standard, but in terms of fairness, will not do so in one jump.

Instead, 2022 will be a transition year to reflect that we are in a pandemic recovery period and students' education has been disrupted. In 2022 the aim, therefore, will be to move grading to a point close to midway between 2021 and 2019.

Results are likely to be higher than in 2019, but not as high as in 2021.

OFQUAL aims to return to results that are in line with pre-pandemic years in 2023.