

Information from JCQ regarding Examinations and Assessments 2022. Extracted from the document "Senior Leadership Team's Quick Guide to Summer 2022 exams and assessments" published on 11th May 2022.

Supporting teachers, students and parents

For summer 2022, the Department for Education (DfE) and Ofqual announced a package of support for students taking exams. This package will help ensure your students are treated as fairly as possible when compared to pre-pandemic years. JCQ and the exam boards worked with the DfE and Ofqual to develop the package which recognises the challenges that your students and teachers have faced and overcome during the pandemic. It's designed to support students to achieve their full potential and progress on to the next stage of their education or their chosen careers.

JCQ and the exam boards have worked closely together so the support is appropriate for the subject and as consistent as possible across different exam board specifications.

The package of support applies to GCSEs, AS and A Levels. Measures such as advance information also apply to some general Level 1, 2 and 3 Maths qualifications (e.g. Core Maths). For support available for students following vocational qualifications, please check the relevant exam board for details of the package of measures they've put in place to help students preparing for assessments.

The package of support includes:

ADVANCE INFORMATION – provided by exam boards on the focus of content in exams for most GCSE, AS and A Level subjects, to help students revise. Advance Information will also be provided for the November 2022 exams series for GCSE English Language and GCSE Maths. For students and parents, there are [FAQs to help answer questions about advance information](#). Advance information is available from exam board public websites, and Darrick Wood School has made this available on the school's website.

OPTIONAL CONTENT – there will be less content or fewer topics for students to learn in some GCSE subjects (GCSE English Literature, GCSE History, GCSE Ancient History and GCSE Geography).

SUPPORTING MATERIALS – students will receive formulae sheets (GCSE Maths) and equation sheets (GCSE Physics and GCSE Combined Science) for their exams.

CHANGES TO COURSEWORK – Non-exam assessment and fieldwork requirements will be adjusted, with flexibility in some subjects (such as Practical Sciences and Art and Design).

[Find the DfE/Ofqual announcement covering optional content, support materials and coursework changes here.](#)

GENEROUS GRADING – exams will be graded more generously this year compared to 2019 when summer exams last took place, to provide a safety net for students who might otherwise just miss out on a grade. [More info here.](#)

Exam timetabling

Your students should also rest assured that JCQ and the exam boards have set exam papers at least 10 days apart wherever possible, to allow for students to recover from temporary illness or isolation due to Covid for example.

Exam contingency day

Your students should also be aware that 29 June 2022 is the contingency day for exams this summer. This is a last day on which an exam can take place if moved from its original time or date, due to disruption.

Special Consideration

Students should be aware that they may be eligible for special consideration if they experience a temporary illness, injury or circumstances outside their control at the time of the assessment which may have disadvantaged them. It may also be possible for a student to apply for a grade if they miss an exam for an acceptable reason. As in a normal exam year, exam boards cannot calculate grades when no exams or assessments have been taken. Find [the JCQ guidance to find out more about the scenarios for special consideration here](#).

Managing Covid and special consideration

Following [UKHSA's Living with Covid guidance](#) which set out advice about young people with Covid, JCQ published [an appendix to its guidance on special consideration relating to Covid](#). This applies to young people taking general or vocational qualification exams in England. The supplementary guidance does not apply to Wales or Northern Ireland. [JCQ has recently published FAQs](#) about special consideration which provides more support on Covid and the minimum requirement for students to receive a grade through special consideration.

The disruption caused by Covid is far from over. In the first instance, a student with Covid should tell their school or college. The school should then inform and support the student through the relevant procedures and processes in place (special consideration above). In line with UKHSA Covid advice, this states: "If a child or young person has a positive COVID-19 test result, they should try to stay at home and avoid contact with other people for 3 days after the day they took the test, if they can." As JCQ and exam boards have timetabled exam papers at least 10 days apart, this should reduce the chance of students missing all their exams in a subject.

Access Arrangements/Reasonable adjustments

Access arrangements to support students with special education needs, disabilities or injuries to take exams and assessments for general or vocational qualifications are in place as normal this year. The deadline for applications for summer 2022 has passed. Please contact the relevant exam board with any outstanding concerns or queries. There's [more detailed information here](#).

Exam hall preparation and malpractice

Your students should speak to teachers and exams officers about the exact arrangements they should follow and conditions that they will experience when sitting their exams.

Results

Results days are due to go ahead as follows:

Key dates

- Thursday 18 August 2022 – AS, A Levels and other Level 3 qualifications
- Thursday 25 August 2022 – GCSEs and other Level 2 qualifications