



# How learning outcomes will be awarded for 2019/20 academic year?

AS/A level, GCSE and Skills  
Challenge Certificates



As of 03 April 2020

## GCSE, AS, A level and Skills Challenge Certificates offered by WJEC

### Background

As part of the government's emergency response to the impact of the Coronavirus on the UK, it was announced (18 March 2020,) that the summer 2020 GCSE, AS and A level examinations would be cancelled in order to help fight the spread of Covid-19.

A further announcement by Qualifications Wales (03 April 2020) explained that outcomes would be issued this year based on two pieces of information:

1. A Centre Assessed Grade - this is the grade the provider believes you were most likely to get if teaching, learning and exams had happened as planned.
2. Rank Order - this is a rank order of learners, by performance, within those grades.

### How will Centre Assessed Grades be awarded?

Your teachers will consider a range of evidence such as your classwork and homework; your results in assignments and any mock exams; any non-exam assessments you might have done; and your general progress during your course.

For GCSE learners, this will also include results of any GCSE units already taken.

For A Level learners who took AS in 2019, this will also include your AS results.

For Skills Challenge Certificates, work completed after 20 March may be taken into consideration for the Centre Assessed Grade.

If you're a student who is eligible for special arrangements for examinations, these will be taken into consideration in the grades that you're awarded, so you won't be disadvantaged by the new process.

## **Will I need to complete further assessments?**

It is advised that work completed after 20 March, after college premises had closed, should not be considered when making judgements on Centre Assessed Grades. Learning and formative assessment will be continuing after 20 March to provide opportunities to continue to develop the skills you'll need when you progress next year, but this will not be included when awarding Centre Assessed Grades.

## **Will my teacher tell me my grades?**

The data (grades and rank order) that will be provided to WJEC is confidential and cannot be shared with learners, your parents or carers. Please don't ask your teachers, or anyone else at college, to tell you the grades they will be sending to exam boards or where they have placed you in the order of learners. This is to protect the integrity of the teachers' judgements, and to avoid teachers, Heads of School, or Heads of Centre, feeling under pressure to submit a grade that is not supported by the evidence. You should also keep in mind that the grades recommended by your teachers are provisional grades and these may change during the standardisation process, so teacher grades are very much provisional.

## **What happens once the information is submitted to WJEC?**

This information will be used by WJEC and other exam boards to standardise judgements across all schools and colleges. They will aim to make sure that, as far as possible, results are fair and that students are not advantaged or disadvantaged because their schools or colleges are more generous or harsh than others.

Statistical models will be used to ensure consistency of outcomes in relation to the distribution of grades in comparison to previous years. All of this means the final grade you get could be different from the one the college sends to WJEC.

## **Can I take my exams another time?**

There are already exams available in GCSE English Language, Mathematics, Mathematics Numeracy and Welsh Language in November each year. You can enter for these exams in November 2020. Other exams will be available, as usual, in summer 2021.

## Will my AS grade contribute towards my A Level grade next year?

The AS is a qualification in its own right. The grade you achieve at AS this summer will not contribute towards your A Level grade next year.

## Will I be able to retake my AS Level if I am unhappy with my grade?

If you're unhappy with the grade awarded to you this summer, you'll be able to:

1. Sit both the AS units and the A2 units for the A Level in summer 2021. The full A Level will be calculated on how you do on all units in the full A Level.
2. Sit just the A2 units in summer 2021 and these will be used to calculate a result for the AS units. The combined marks will be used to produce the A Level grade.

If you choose option 1 and option 2 results in you achieving a higher grade, you'll be awarded the higher grade.

## What if I'm unhappy with my grades?

The normal arrangements for reviews of marking and appeals will not apply and we're awaiting further guidance on this from the awarding body.

## Process and Timeline

The deadline for submitting this information to WJEC will not be earlier than 29 May 2020.

AS, A level and Skills Challenge Certificate results will be issued on Thursday 13th August 2020.

GCSE results will be issued on Thursday 20th August 2020.

## Further Information

For further information, please follow updates on the Qualifications Wales website:

[https://qualificationswales.org/english/coronavirus---covid-19/frequently-asked-questions/?\\_cldee=cm9iZXJ0ZXZhbnM5MzFAFnRpbmRlcm5ldC5jb20%3d&recipientid=contact-8b8c7892ed22e8118132e0071b6e3501-dbf938120d14544a0d6319b2f0ea0d4&esid=6419cb5c-f18a-ea11-a811-000d3a228882](https://qualificationswales.org/english/coronavirus---covid-19/frequently-asked-questions/?_cldee=cm9iZXJ0ZXZhbnM5MzFAFnRpbmRlcm5ldC5jb20%3d&recipientid=contact-8b8c7892ed22e8118132e0071b6e3501-dbf938120d14544a0d6319b2f0ea0d4&esid=6419cb5c-f18a-ea11-a811-000d3a228882)