



Ebbw Fawr Learning Community

Cymuned Ddysgu Ebwy Fawr

Headteacher / Prifathro: Mr H R Lloyd BA Hons MSc

W: www.ebbwfawr.co.uk

Our Ref SR/JSM

23 March 2021

Parents/Carers

In January 2021, it was confirmed by the Education Minister that qualifications would be awarded using Centre Determined Grades.

The school will follow all guidance provided by Qualifications Wales, the examination regulator, to help determine these grades.

Each grade awarded by the school must be underpinned by robust evidence to demonstrate a student's attainment across key themes and skills. It will not be possible or permitted for teachers, or the school, to attempt to issue a Centre Determined Grade based on professional prediction or the potential of a student.

The majority of Y10 students will be affected by these decisions for qualifications in Mathematics, English and Science. Y10 learners will receive a grade in each of these areas in summer 2021 and a further grade in summer 2022. In determining their single grade this year, the following types of evidence will be used in each qualification.

1. Adapted past-paper questions

The school will make use of WJEC adapted past-papers. The adapted past-papers have already been externally quality assured; are fully supported by clear mark schemes; and are familiar to both students and staff. A timeline for these assessments are included with further detail to follow after Easter.

2. Non-Examination Assessment

This is sometimes referred to as coursework and will be considered in those qualifications where it exists.

3. Other contributing evidence

Teachers may use evidence from other WJEC past-paper questions, which have been externally quality assured and any assessments undertaken prior to the publication of the centre approach eg. Mock Examinations. However, prior evidence may not be used in isolation to determine grades since, at the time of completion, it is possible that students would not have been aware of the importance of these tasks. Assessments in this category will be communicated to students in advance and are likely to be short class tasks.

This system of collecting evidence is designed to ensure fairness and equity to all students.



Additional Learning Needs Access Arrangements

Following existing WJEC guidelines, students entitled to additional Access Arrangements will be accommodated in line with their existing additional learning need(s). Pupils with ALN or a history of need based on their 'normal way of working' have been tested in accordance with exam regulator directives. Subject staff are aware of those pupils who have been awarded specific Access Arrangements and these arrangements will be taken into consideration during any specified assessments and prior to the final award of a Centre Determined Grade.

Quality Assurance Processes

In line with usual practices, WJEC will require internal processes to be undertaken to promote consistency. The school will undertake quality assurance processes, within subjects and across subjects, to ensure the grades determined are valid, reliable, equitable and fair, while seeking to avoid discrimination.

Recording Decisions

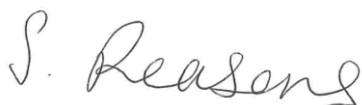
The school will keep a record to document clearly the rationale for grade decisions. This will include who assessed the evidence and when; the decision taken; identification of any reasonable adjustments or special considerations applied.

Review of Centre Determined Grades and Appeals

At the time of writing, the process of reviewing centre grades and the appeals processes has not been finalised. However, it is anticipated that students will be informed of their Centre Determined Grades in late June.

There will be an opportunity for students to request a review of the centre's judgement of their grade and/or correct any factual errors. In the first instance, this process must be in writing to the Headteacher. Should a student be dissatisfied with the review process undertaken by the school the WJEC will implement a process to permit students to appeal a Centre Determined Grade on the grounds of procedural error only. Similarly, Qualifications Wales will also implement an Examination Procedures Review Service. At each stage of the review/appeal process, students will need to be aware that a centre determined grade may be improved or be lowered.

Yours faithfully



Scott Reasons
Assistant Headteacher KS4 - Data and Curriculum