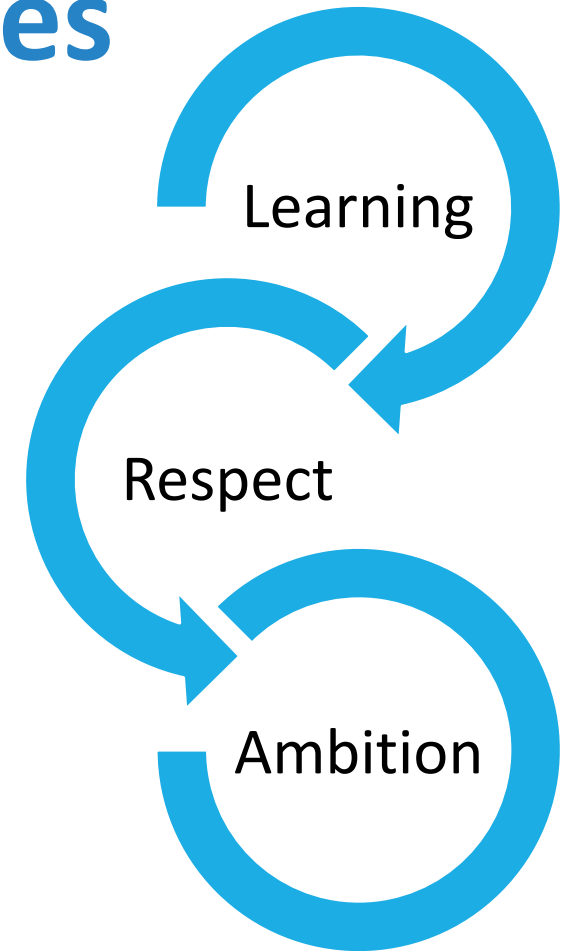




Centre Assessment Approach for Centre Determined Grades (CDGs)

Our vision for learning is....

At Croesyceiliog School, we strive to provide enriching and engaging learning opportunities, in and out of the classroom, to develop the skills, knowledge and attributes needed to lead successful lives. We learn together to become kind citizens that respect others and make positive choices. Our ambition is to ignite a passion for lifelong learning.



Purpose of this event



- ✓ Explain the current assessment process (Centre Determined Grades)
- ✓ Clarify the roles and responsibilities of staff (at various levels);
- ✓ Identify the types of evidence used to determine a grade;
- ✓ Outline the internal quality assurance measures;
- ✓ Give you an opportunity to ask questions.

Introduction

- ✓ November 2020, the Education Minister announced that there would be no summer examinations for students taking GCSEs, AS levels or A levels in 2021 in Wales.
- ✓ January 2021, it was confirmed that these qualifications would be awarded using Centre Determined Grades.
- ✓ This means that individual schools will determine the actual grades awarded for each student.

Assessment approach for qualifications 2021

- ✓ The school is developing a consistent and fair assessment approach to the 2021 qualifications. This approach will ensure assessments:
 - Are consistent;
 - Provide a rationale for grade decisions for your child;
 - Apply all access arrangements and special considerations;
 - Are compliant with our Public Sector Equality Duty;
 - Are objective and fair in their judgments;
 - Promote equality and avoid discrimination;
 - Are compliant with data protection and data processing regulations.

This Assessment Approach is designed to outline how we will apply the ‘Guidance on Alternative Arrangements for Approved GCSEs, AS and A levels’ provided by Qualifications Wales, to help determine grades in 2021.

Assessment approach for qualifications 2021



- ✓ This Assessment Approach is designed to outline how we will apply the 'Guidance on Alternative Arrangements for Approved GCSEs, AS and A levels' provided by Qualifications Wales, to help determine grades in 2021.
- ✓ This does not include vocational and BTEC courses, all of which are regulated in England, and a separate process was developed.
- ✓ When these are finalised we will share them with you. These will then provide:
 - A robust approach, to offer clarity and confidence to our students and families;
 - An overview on the decisions teachers will make;
 - An explanation of how teachers will make these decisions;
 - The types of evidence teachers will be utilising to support the decision-making process.



Centre Determined Grades

- ✓ A Centre Determined Grade is the grade awarded by the school, on the basis of **evidence produced**.
- ✓ For each qualification, teachers will make use of **WJEC Subject Assessment Frameworks**.
- ✓ In determining grades, the school will be required to make '**best-fit**' judgements from exam board Grade Descriptors.
- ✓ Expectation that **internal quality assurance** at individual subject and centre level will be in place;
- ✓ Centre-Determined Grades **are NOT**
 - a) awarded to show potential;
 - b) based on teacher predictions;
 - c) Centre Assessed Grade (CAG, as awarded in summer 2020).

Types of evidence used



- ✓ Each subject will determine the evidence it will use from the WJEC materials available and the work that has been covered;
- ✓ Evidence used will help form a 'best-fit' grade;
- ✓ Any evidence used will be assessed to ensure no student is disadvantaged;
- ✓ For each qualification, evidence will be gathered from the following three areas:
 - ❑ Adapted past-paper questions (recommended by the exam board)
 - ❑ Non-Examination Assessment (where applicable)
 - ❑ Other contributing evidence:
 - Teachers may use evidence from previous work but only to help **confirm a judgement**.
- We have decided not to create centre-devised assessments.

Adapted past-paper questions



- ✓ WJEC Qualification Assessment Frameworks indicate key themes/skills required to generate the grade,
For example,
 - a) English: Oracy; Reading; and Writing; and
 - b) Mathematics: Algebra; Geometry and Measure; and Statistics.
- ✓ The number of pieces of evidence required to determine a grade will vary per subject;
- ✓ Evidence is scheduled to be gathered this term and dates will be shared shortly;
- ✓ Adapted past-paper questions are not exams;
- ✓ Similar controls to non-examination assessment;
- ✓ Equality impact assessed and standardised.



Adapted Past-Paper Schedule

- ✓ Aim is to spread the class based assessments across the term;
- ✓ Recognition of special considerations for medical absence etc.

- ✓ Subject Leaders will develop individual assessment plans, which will be shared and approved by the Executive Headteacher, as Head of Centre.

Non-Examination Assessment



- ✓ Exists in many qualifications to support progression;
- ✓ Emphasis on ‘adapted qualifications’;
- ✓ Existing deadlines and restrictions around non-examination assessment have been removed;
- ✓ Non-examination assessment does not have to be complete e.g. Practical elements of qualifications.

Other contributing evidence

- ✓ Two other types of contributing evidence:
 - a) Other WJEC past-paper questions which have been completed under controlled conditions. and
 - b) Assessments undertaken prior to publication of our assessment approach

These may only be used to **confirm a judgement**. This is because the students would not have been aware of the 'high stakes' importance of them at the time of completion.

- ✓ To summarise, the overarching principles, evidence:
 - a) 'Supports' accurate grade distribution;
 - b) Will be used to ensure no one is disadvantaged; and
 - c) Ensure fairness, equity and reliability.

CDGs timeline

- ✓ Deadline for submission of provisional CDGs to WJEC is 14th June – 2 July;
- ✓ Students will receive their Centre Determined Grades by 25th June and will have an opportunity to ask for them to be reviewed;
- ✓ Results day:
 - ☐ GCSE 12th August
- ✓ You will have an opportunity to appeal to the WJEC about your results:
 - ☐ GCSE 24th August – 21st September

Quality Assurance Processes

- ✓ Training will be provided by the exam board to mitigate risk of conscious and unconscious bias;
- ✓ The school will keep records about the assessment process.

The school will identify:

- ✓ A clear internal moderation processes which will verify standards and ensure fairness and equity for all students at subject and centre level;
- ✓ Work is moderated by more than one staff member;
- ✓ Candidates' work is identified not by the name to ensure there is no conscious bias;
- ✓ Our internal processes are checked by the WJEC to give confidence.
- ✓ On submission of a Centre Determined Grade, the school will be required to make an overall declaration in relation to the processes carried out.



Roles and Responsibilities

- ✓ The ALNCo will ensure that all staff are aware of the necessary access arrangements in place for students and ensure they are applied;
- ✓ Assistant Headteacher RSL responsible for examinations, will collect and quality assure evidence (Internal Lead Verifier);
- ✓ Head of School will be responsible for ensuring that processes are followed by all staff;
- ✓ The Examinations Officer will be responsible for managing the administration of qualifications;
- ✓ The Executive Headteacher, as Head of Centre, has overall responsibility for the qualifications offered at the school.

Appeals Processes



- ✓ When the school submits Centre Determined Grades to WJEC, students will be informed of the grades awarded. This will be completed by 25th June.
- ✓ Where a student is satisfied with the grades determined by the school, there is no further action.
- ✓ Students can request a review of the centre's judgement of their grade by 2nd July. Please remember this could lead to **results going up, staying the same or going down**.
- ✓ The WJEC will implement a process to allow students to appeal a CDG on **procedural errors only**. Appeal to the WJEC about your results can be made:
 - ☐ GCSE 24th August – 21st September

BTECs



- ✓ BTEC Qualifications fall under the English regulatory body and therefore we will be submitting Teacher Assessment Grades (TAGs)
- ✓ This is something we already do for BTEC, as we already moderate Units of work internally.
- ✓ It appears that work will be moderated externally with schools deciding what modules will be moderated. We are likely to be able to choose units and students to be sampled.
- ✓ All external exams for BTEC courses are cancelled (that includes online, on-demand tests).
- ✓ All exam entries will be made by 25th March
- ✓ All Teacher Assessment Grades will be entered by 5th July (not confirmed)

Steps to success – return to school

Students will be returning to school in line with Welsh Government advice with priority will be given to Year 11

- Year 11 will be returning on Monday 15th March
- Year 10 will be returning on Monday 22nd March

