

Support for Learners

We recognise that many learners may be anxious about the prospect of taking exams. An information sheet is being developed to help learners access the support that we are putting in place this year; similar resources are being developed for teachers/ lecturers and parents/ carers. During the spring and summer terms there will also be communication activity by WJEC, Qualifications Wales, Welsh Government and Careers Wales to provide learners with further information about what to expect from the 2022 exam process. Below are some useful links and information about where to go for support for learning.

It is worth reiterating here that the Minister for Education confirmed in June 2021 that qualification awards data will not be used to report on attainment outcomes at a school, local authority or regional consortium level in this academic year.

1. Supporting learner well-being and reducing exam anxiety:

- Online learning and revision resources for learners in both schools and colleges:
 - o [investment in additional WJEC resources such as revision guides, exam walk-throughs and knowledge organisers](#)
 - o [E-sgol virtual GCSE revision and support sessions](#)
 - o [Mental Health Toolkit](#)

This is in addition to the range of adaptations that WJEC have confirmed:

- [Learner guide: AS/A level adaptations 2022](#)
- [Learner guide: GCSE adaptations 2022](#)
- [Advance Information update \(Summer 2022\) – WJEC GCSE and AS/A levels](#)
- [2022: Everything you need to know \(wjec.co.uk\)](#)

And alongside Qualifications Wales' decision that 2022 grading outcomes should be between 2021 and 2019.

Local authorities, schools, colleges and partner organisations have been provided with more funding to support exam years learners to engage in school and learning.

2. Supporting teaching and learning in GCSE exam years

- All schools have been provided with additional funding to provide support for students, particularly for GCSE Maths, English or Welsh. This flexible funding can be used at the school's discretion: please ask your school if you would like more support.
- *The deadline for exam entries is 21 February. We have encouraged all schools and colleges to talk to their exam learners about what support and flexibility they might need this year to enable them to progress with confidence to their next steps, and recognising the support that a receiving institution may be able to provide too.*

3. Enabling the transition of learners to their next steps

- Funding has been provided to sixth forms and FE colleges to support those in year 11, 12 and 13 to help with choices about next steps and learning support.
- There will be a range of opportunities over the year, including:
 - o Virtual open events,

- Have a go days,
- Access to [transition resources](#)
- '[University Ready](#)' programme, developed with Open University, providing mentoring from HE students to prepare A-level students for University.
- Access to resources and support for learners to start writing their UCAS application personal statement/ or CV.
- Impartial careers information and guidance materials available to all learners. This could be online, personal interviews, workshops, events, industry speakers, [Careers Wales](#)
- [Seren programme resources](#) in support of all learners e.g. webinars on personal statement writing, study skills, student life
- Support Students to complete the Destination Plan task of the Skills Challenge Certificate to support their future planning and reinforce their vision for year 13