



Centre Determined Grades Pupil Overview

Please find the “Porth Community School Centre Policy on Assessment and Quality Assurance Processes for the Summer 2021 Alternative Arrangements” on the school website.





Introduction

The policy only applies to GCSE qualifications in Wales. It is everyone's responsibility to read, understand and implement the policy.

The school is seeking to offer clarity and confidence to pupils, staff and families. Furthermore, the school provides an overview on the decisions that teachers will make, how teachers will make these decisions and identify the evidence that teachers will be utilising to support the decision-making process.





The Role of the Teacher

- Provide Centre Determined Grades for each pupil which are a fair, valid and reliable reflection of the assessed evidence available for each pupil.
- Ensure that evidence is gathered within the published schedule and relevant WJEC Qualification Assessment Frameworks.
- Ensure that pupils are aware of the nature and criteria of the task set and ensure pupils understand when an activity will contribute towards the awarding of a Centre Determined Grade.
- Ensure that each pupils' work is collected and stored securely.
- **Not** provide pupils with an opportunity to improve their work once submitted.
- Complete Learner Decision Making Records.





Your Responsibilities

- Be punctual to lessons and perform to the best of their ability at all times.
- Engage in adapted past-paper assessments according to regulations and not partake in any form of malpractice, including plagiarism.
- Not become involved in dishonest practice or break the rules in any way during assessments e.g. copying, allowing copying, sharing assessment questions or tasks with other pupils etc.
- Behave according to the school's code of conduct at all times.
- Write in black ink during adapted past-paper assessments. Coloured pencils or inks may only be used for diagrams, charts etc unless pupils are instructed otherwise.





Your Responsibilities

- Not be in possession of unauthorised technological/web enabled sources of information adapted past-paper assessments e.g. iPods, mobile phones, MP3/4 players and smartwatches must be switched off and placed in pupils' bags if pupils bring them to school.
- You will be withdrawn from assessments following malpractice or misconduct which may result in a fixed term exclusion.





Centre Determined Grades (CDGs)

A CDG is the grade awarded by the school, based on evidence of attainment in the areas of the qualification that a pupil has covered, according to adapted specification content. It will not be possible or permitted for teachers to issue a CDG based on professional prediction or a pupil's potential. All CDGs awarded will be evidence based.

In determining grades, the school must make 'best-fit' judgements against a sufficient breadth of content as determined by WJEC. Where there is insufficient evidence, or where evidence suggests attainment below that required of the lowest grade for a qualification, the pupil will be awarded a CDG of U.





Centre Determined Grades (CDGs)

While the standard expected for any particular grade will not be lowered in 2021, the use of CDGs acknowledges that the volume of work completed by a pupil will be less than in previous years, due to the circumstances of the pandemic. Therefore, the use of CDGs seeks to ensure that pupils are not unfairly disadvantaged by the process and is designed to support all pupils to progress to the next stage of learning and/or employment.

Heads of Department will develop individual Qualification Assessment Plans in keeping with the WJEC Qualification Assessment Frameworks, which set out the requirements to support the evidence to inform CDGs and grade descriptors to support the accurate distribution of awards. Qualification Assessment Plans will be approved by the Deputy Headteacher.



Centre Determined Grades (CDGs)

The evidence gathered by the school to support the determination of grades will make use of standardised materials produced by WJEC. These materials have already been through a robust process of equality impact assessment, as part of WJEC's own processes of quality assurance. Qualification Assessment Plans will also ensure that those pupils entitled to special considerations, such as access arrangements, are met.

The assessments will not be completed in the form of an examination. However, pupils will produce work within a specified timeframe to reflect the volume of work and no longer than the length of the unseen examination in the qualification. However, unlike an unseen examination, evidence would need to be produced over a series of no more than three lessons.



Centre Determined Grades (CDGs)

Work will be completed independently by pupils, under similar “control levels” to existing arrangements, for Non-Examination Assessment. This is to ensure that the evidence produced is the pupil’s own. Where external factors prevent this from happening, such as national lockdowns etc, then work will need to be completed at home. However, where this is the case, the school will introduce mechanisms to support authenticity of pupil’s work.





Quality Assurance

The school will undertake quality assurance processes within subjects and across subjects to ensure that all pupils are awarded grades that are valid, reliable, equitable and fair. Grades submitted to WJEC may be reviewed and investigated where the performance profiles are atypical.

No one member of staff will both assess and verify a pupil's work. Teachers who work in isolation will work with another centre or approved moderator to moderate evidence. Similarly, staff who have a conflict of interest (e.g. teacher who is a relative or known to a pupil), will need to be declared and suitable mitigation must be in place to ensure that the process is not compromised (e.g. teacher not involved in assessment of verification work).



Quality Assurance

The school will ensure that evidence is considered from a range of pupil profiles, from more-able pupils to those with additional learning needs and those pupils with protected characteristics. This is to enable the school to ensure that its approach contributes to the equality of opportunity. All sampled work will be marked anonymously to mitigate the risk of conscious or subconscious bias.

The school will keep a record to clearly document the rationale for grade decisions as per Learner Decision Making Record templates made available to schools by WJEC.





Appeals

There are three stages to the centre review and appeals process in summer 2021. The school will share provisional CDGs with pupils by 25th June. Pupils will be given the opportunity to ask the school to review their provisional grades and check for any errors before the grades are submitted to WJEC by 2nd July. A review may be requested on the grounds of judgement and/or an error having been made, by clearly outlining the grounds for their request for a centre review via a template form provided by WJEC. The Deputy Headteacher will investigate and provide the pupil with a response, including the reason to uphold or not to uphold the pupil's case. Any errors identified will be corrected and recorded prior to the submission of grades to WJEC. The identification of an error may not necessarily lead to a change in grade. CDGs are provisional until qualification grades are issued by WJEC on 12th August 2021.



Appeals

After results day in August, a pupil can ask the school to submit an appeal to WJEC on the grounds that the grade judgement that the school has made is unreasonable and/or an error has been made. The pupil must clearly outline the grounds for their appeal. WJEC will conduct a review of the decision and if an error is found will correct the error. The correction of an error may not necessarily lead to a change in grade.

Following completion of the Stage 2 appeal, a request for an Exam Procedures Review Service review can be made to Qualifications Wales to check whether WJEC has followed its procedures correctly.

On submission of a CDG, the school will make an overall declaration in relation to the implemented processes.



Assessments

In addition to any Non-Examined Assessment, the school will conduct adapted past-paper assessments from 19th April to 28th May.





Assessments

Fortnight	Assessment
19 th April 2021 – 30 th April 2021	English Language Reading Unit 3 English Literature Unit 1 (Year 10) History Unit 3 Mathematics Unit 1 and Unit 2 Religious Studies Unit 2 Spanish Unit 2 and Unit 3 Welsh Unit 4
4 th May 2021 – 14 th May 2021	English Language Writing Unit 3 Hospitality and Catering (Year 10) Health and Social Care Unit 1 History Unit 1 ICT Unit 3 (Year 10 and Year 11) Physical Education Unit 1 Physical Education Short Course Unit 1 (Year 10) Science Double Applied Unit 3 Science Double Award Unit 5 Spanish Unit 4
17 th May 2021 – 28 th May 2021	Biology Unit 2 Chemistry Unit 2 Constructing the Built Environment Unit 1 (Year 10) Design Technology Engineering Unit 1 Design Technology Product Design Unit 1 English Language Writing Unit 2 Mathematics-Numeracy Unit 1 and Unit 2 (Year 10 and Year 11) Physics Unit 2 Religious Studies Unit 1 Science Double Award Unit 4 and Unit 6



Key Dates

Activity	Date
Your school will tell you how you will be assessed and graded for your qualification	26 th March
Teaching and assessment period for work submitted as evidence to support the awarding of Centre Determined Grades	19 th April – 28 th May
You will receive your provisional Centre Determined Grades and you will have the opportunity to ask for your grades to be reviewed; your school or college will explain the process they will use and tell you the outcome of any review	25 th June
Your school will submit the provisional Centre Determined Grades to WJEC	2 nd July
GCSE Results Day	12 th August
You will have the opportunity to appeal your GCSE result to WJEC and you will have the opportunity to appeal to Qualifications Wales for an Exam Procedures Review Service	24 th August – 21 st September*

**Provisional date set by Qualifications Wales*

