



20 May 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

RE: Assessment and Grading Summer 2021 (Year 13)

I am writing to update you on our plans for assessment and grading of our Year 13 students. Over the next few weeks your child's subject teacher will be deciding the final grade to award them for the subject. All final grades will be based on evidence. The table below outlines the key assessments that will be used as evidence to justify your child's grade in each subject.

| Subject | Evidence that will be used to decide your child's Teacher Assessed Grades |
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| Applied Business (Extended Certificate) | Unit 4 Coursework and previous unit grades awarded. |
| Art | NEA Portfolio |
| Biology | Paper 1 Unit 2 (Mrs Shelton), Paper 2 Unit 2 (Miss Ferron), Paper 3 Unit 3 (Mrs Shelton), Paper 4 Unit 4 (Miss Ferron) |
| Business Studies | Summer Yr12 Online Assessment and Yr 13 Autumn Term Mock, Spring Term Online Assessment, Summer Term Formal Assessment 1, Formal Assessment 2 and Formal Assessment 3. |
| Chemistry | Physical and Inorganic Extra Questions – May, Paper 3 – May, Paper 2 – May, Paper 1 – April, Sept Mock Exam Paper 1 & 2 |
| Computer Science | May Assessment 21, April Assessments 21 (3 Assessments), Feb Assessment 21 (Remote), Sept Mock Exam 20, June Remote Assessment 20, January Mock 20, January Mock 19, NEA Coursework |
| English Literature | Sept Assessment - Othello, Feb Remote Assessments - Birdsong and My Boy Jack/Wilfred Owen, April/May Assessments, Unseen Poetry, Unseen Prose x 2, Birdsong, Othello, The Great Gatsby & Pre-1900 Poetry, NEA |
| English Language & Literature | Sept Assessments - Anthology & The Great Gatsby, Feb Remote Assessments - Othello & Writing As A Reader, April/May Assessments - Duffy Poetry, Anthology, The Great Gatsby & Writing As A Reader - NEA Coursework |
| Food Science (Voc) | Unit 1 NEA and Practical, Unit 1 Jan and April Assessment, Unit 3 NEA, Unit 2 Externally Set Piece |
| Geography | NEA Coursework, February Assessment, April Paper 1 and 2 Assessments, May Paper 1 and Paper 2 Assessments, Paper 2 20 Mark Questions |
| Health & Social Care (BTEC) – Extended Certificate | Unit 1 January 2020 External Exam, Partially Completed Unit 5 Coursework Centre Assessed grades from 2020, Unit 2 Jan 2021 Exam if sat/December Mock Results if not, Completed Unit 14 moderated coursework |
| Health & Social Care (BTEC) – Diploma | Unit 1 January 2020 External Exam, Unit 4 January 2020 External Exam, Partially completed Unit 5 and Unit 19 Coursework Centre Assessed grades from 2020, Unit 2 January 2021 External Exam if sat/December Mock Results if not, Completed Unit 14 Moderated Coursework, Completed Unit 8 Moderated Coursework, Partially Completed Unit 7 coursework learning Aim A. |
| History | February Assessment, April Germany Assessment, April British Assessment, May Germany Assessment, May British Assessment |



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| Japanese | Assessment 1 - April Essay on literature, Assessment 2 - April Translation into English and Reading, Assessment 3 - May Translation into Japanese and essay on literature, Assessment 4 - Listening Exam May |
| Maths | Pure Topics Assessments, Mechanics Topics Assessments, Statistics Topics Assessments, February 21 AS Assessment, September 20 AS Assessment |
| Media Studies | June 20 Assessments, Sept Assessments, Dec Assessments, NEA, May 21 Assessments, Classwork Jan 21 |
| PE | February Psychology Paper, February Anatomy and Physiology Paper, April Socio-cultural paper, May Exercise Physiology Paper, EAPI – NEA, Practical Performance Video. |
| Photography | NEA Portfolio |
| Psychology | September Mock Examination, February Mock Assessment, 3 x Remote Essays, April Research Methods Paper, April Offender Profiling Essay, May Issues and Debate Paper, May Relationship, Schizophrenia and Forensic Paper |
| Sociology | March Crime assessment, April Family mock assessment, March 20 Mark Question on Family Diversity, March 20 Mark Question on Childhood, May 30 Marker on Marxism and Education and May A Level Mock Paper for Education |
| Sport (BTEC Extended Certificate) | External Exams (Unit 1 – Year 12, Unit 2), Mandatory coursework (Unit 3 & Unit 7) |
| Sport (BTEC Diploma) | Mandatory Coursework (Unit 4), Mandatory Set Task (Unit 22), Unit 8, Unit 10 and Unit 23 |
| Textiles | NEA Portfolio |
| Theatre and Drama | Devised Performance and Portfolio (Unit 12), Scripted Performance and Portfolio (Unit 21), Examination mocks and materials (Dec 19, June 20, Dec 20, Feb 21, April 21) |

Note: students who study a subject at a consortium school will have their grades assessed using evidence decided by that school.

If any students are unclear about the meaning of something in the table, they should ask for clarification from their teacher in the relevant subject.

Teachers will use the evidence listed above and will consider:

- the content covered by the assessment being used as evidence – is it only testing a small part of the exam course?
- the authenticity of the evidence – how confident is the teacher that the evidence is the student's own work?
- the level of control that the assessment was completed in – was it taken in timed conditions? Was there an opportunity for redrafting? Was it supervised?
- the level of support that was given to students in preparing for the assessment.
- the individual

Once they have considered each of the questions, teachers will reach a judgement about how much weight to give to the evidence in deciding all student's final grades across the whole subject. This judgement will be "holistic" in nature and should reflect the students' overall performance across the full range of evidence being used.

We are aware that a few students have experienced exceptional circumstances, such as those arising from serious ill health over a long period of time, severe injury, surgery or a death in the family. In this situation you should inform the Year Office/Sixth Form staff if you have not done so already. **This does not include situations where teaching has been disrupted by COVID – this will already be taken into account because students have only been assessed on what you have been taught.** The maximum this can equate to is an extra 5% of the marks or the teacher will use an alternative piece of evidence.



If you believe that your child is in this category and that a piece of evidence should not be taken into consideration, please email: summer2021exams@westcoventryacademy.org explaining your reasoning. I must stress that mitigating circumstances must be very significant in order for us to make adjustments, because we will need to justify our decisions to the exam boards. For example, challenges based on ill-health must be accompanied by evidence from a medical professional. Please can you make me aware of any objections to the evidence we intend to use for your child by Wednesday, 26th May 2021.

I must also make you aware of Ofqual's guidance which indicates that the school has a responsibility 'to avoid teachers being put under pressure from students, parents or carers to submit grades that are higher than the evidence supports.' We are required to keep a record of any attempt to do so and it could be deemed malpractice by the awarding body, with possible sanctions from the exam boards to a candidate as a consequence. Teachers are also unable to tell candidates or parents grades they will be submitting to the exam bodies. I know you and your children will show respect to our staff by allowing them to carry out their professional responsibilities to assess fairly without interference.

Candidates have been asked to sign declarations in all subjects to show that they understand the process, to show that they have been told which evidence is being used, and as a way to authenticate that work they have produced is their own.

We will continue to share any relevant information with yourselves regarding exams, and will also publish relevant information on our Summer Exams 2021 website so please make sure you stay up to date. The website can be found here:

http://www.westcoventryacademy.org/exams_2021.aspx

Thank you once again for your continued support. Whilst this is an anxious time for our students, we have been proud of how they have continued to demonstrate an excellent attitude to their work and clearly want to do themselves proud by putting a great deal of effort into preparing for their final assessments.

Yours sincerely,

A Neofitou
Headteacher