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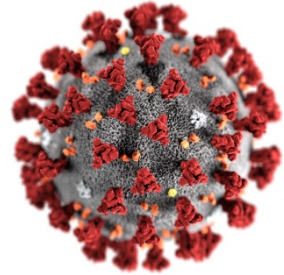
# Exam are Back in 2022



Chestnut Grove Academy

# Prologue:

In 2022 students will sit exams, the Government has recognised that the pupils have faced disruption over the last two years. They have taken measures to make sure these pupils are not further disadvantaged.



## Why are exams coming back?

Exams are the best and fairest form of assessment.

A consultation with the **Ofqual** (*the exams regulator*) took place, on what adaptations should be made to GCSE and A-level exams in 2022 in response to the pandemic. The consultation gathered more than 6,000 responses showed that more than **90%** of students and parents were in favour of giving advance information on the focus of exams next summer to support students with revision, and around **80%** or more agreed with offering choices of topics in some GCSE subjects.



# What measures will be in place to make sure they are fair when different students have missed different amounts of time?

Students will benefit from a range of adaptations to GCSE and A-level exams in England – these adaptations will help them reach their potential following the disruption they've faced.



## They include:

- A choice of topics or content on which students will be assessed in GCSE English literature, history, ancient history and geography.
- Providing advance information on the focus of exams to support students' revision in subjects where there is not a choice of topics.
- Giving students formulae sheets in GCSE maths and revised equation sheets in GCSE combined science and physics.
- Being assessed on their portfolio only for GCSE Art & Design



# What changes are being made about grading?

For the past two years, summer exams haven't been able to take place and, instead, students have been awarded grades by their teachers. Due to the difference in assessment approach, there have been higher outcomes.

As a return to exams, the Government want to get back to the pre-pandemic standard, but in the interests of fairness,

**Ofqual** won't do so in one jump. Instead, 2022 will be a transition year to reflect that we are in a pandemic recovery period and students' education has been disrupted.

In 2022 the aim, therefore, will be to move grading to a point close to midway between 2021 and 2019. Results are likely to be higher than in 2019, but not as high as in 2020.

**Ofqual** aims to return to results that are in line with pre-pandemic years in 2023.



# When will exams happen in 2022?

Public exams will happen in May and June, as normal.

## When will students get their results?

A-level results day will be held on **18<sup>th</sup> August 2022**.

GCSE results day will be held on **25<sup>th</sup> August 2022**.



## When will advance information be made available for GCSE and A-level students?

Advance information on the focus of summer exam content will be given by **7 February**, as exams go ahead.



# Contingency Plan if Exams are Cancelled Again

One of the consequences from last year Teacher Assessed Grades (TAGs) was that students were assessed multiple times in a short time frame, reducing the already limited teaching time available. Some students and teachers raised concerns that different approaches gathering evidence were being taken by different schools which they considered to be unfair. Therefore, TAGs should be tighter.

It is likely that the following protocols for TAGs will be set and this can have implications for mocks that we need to consider now.

- When carrying out assessments – create opportunities to replicate (full or part papers)
- Conditions must be similar to what students will experience when they take exams in summer (unseen, closed book, exam concessions). This will help ensure all work is authentic. They can be carried out in the classroom.
- Each assessment should only cover subject content that students have been taught and not include questions on topics they are yet to study.
- Assessment time does not exceed 'exam time'
- Students informed that assessments could be used for TAGs if exams are cancelled to ensure they have time to prepare. As a result the coming mocks will be used as one piece of evidence. We have provided a mock booklet which outlines content for the coming mocks to support revision.
- Internal standardisation
- Original work retained

