

GCSE (Year 12)

- GCSE students have the option of **omitting one unit** from final grading in the majority of CCEA's GCSE qualifications.
- **GCSE English Language** – speaking and listening component omitted and replaced with the submission of an endorsement from the school, on behalf of the student.
- **GCSE Modern Languages** – speaking component omitted and replaced with the submission of an endorsement from the school, on behalf of the student.
- **GCSE Gaelige** – both listening and speaking components omitted and replaced with the submission of an endorsement from the school, on behalf of the student.
- **GCSE Religious Studies, Statistics and Government and Politics** students, to help reduce the exams burden, will have two options:
 - Option 1: complete the two exam units **or**
 - Option 2: complete one exam and a controlled assessment task from a different unit.
- **GCSE Food and Nutrition and GCSE Health and Social Care** – reduction in the content and reduction in word limit for the controlled assessment tasks.
- **GCSE Mathematics** – examination aids will be provided for January and Summer 2021 exams.

AS (Year 13)

- Students will take only **one unit** of assessment for the majority of subjects.
- For three-unit subjects, students have the choice of taking one unit, or a combination of two units, to meet the 40% minimum assessment requirement.
- Schools and colleges will select which unit(s) will be assessed; this can include controlled assessment such as coursework.
- **Students also have the option to sit all AS units.**
- The AS unit(s) taken in 2021 **will contribute** to the overall A2 result in 2022.

A2 (Year 14)

- Students will take only **one unit** of assessment for the majority of subjects.
- For three-unit subjects, students have the choice of taking one unit, or a combination of two units, to meet the 40% minimum assessment requirement.
- Schools and colleges will select which unit(s) will be assessed; this can include controlled assessment such as coursework.
- Students can **choose to take all A2 units** if they wish to.
- For **A2 History and A2 Digital Technology**, the 40% minimum threshold will not apply, and students will have a choice of which of the two units to be assessed in.
- There will be an **A2 reserve exam series**, in early July, for students who miss timetabled examination through illness or self-isolation.
- **Overall A level grades** will be based on a student's performance in **A2 exams only**.

Key facts for 2020–2021



Standards

There will be a generous approach to grading. 2021 grading will align with 2020 standards.



Qualification value

All qualifications, no matter the route, will retain their portability and value, ensuring students are able to progress on to the next stage of their journey.



Exam Timetable

Summer 2021 exams will commence no earlier than **12 May 2021**, ending on or before **28 June 2021**. Exam timetables are available to view at www.ccea.org.uk



Changes have been introduced for practical assessments and fieldwork in line with the public health guidance to make sure qualifications are delivered safely.

GCE Results Day is 24 August 2021, and GCSE Results Day is 27 August 2021.