



Welcome Principals' Update Briefing 03 March 2021

The briefing will begin in a few minutes

Session Guidance

- The toolbar will allow you to participate 
- Please mute your microphone  & turn off your video 
- To speak, please raise your hand  and wait for the presenter to invite your contribution
- To text the group, select  and type  then press send 
- At the end of the presentation, you will have an opportunity to ask questions

Principals' Update

March 3, 2021

www.ccea.org.uk



Agenda



Head of Centre Guidance: Summer 2021	
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Process Overview



- In 2021, centres are asked to use a range of evidence to arrive at a professional and academic judgement of the standard at which each student is performing in the context of the specification for which they are entered **and from this provide a grade to CCEA.**
- It is imperative that each Centre Determined Grade is a realistic, evidence-based judgement of the standard at which a student is performing, i.e. their demonstrated knowledge, understanding and skills in the content of the specification they have covered. In this way, disruption to teaching and learning can be taken into account.
- It will require centres and CCEA to develop and use different processes from those used last year
- It is important for centres, when awarding grades, to be cognisant of the need to be fair and consistent
- The five-step process set out in the guidance will aim to support the fairness of awards as the usual mechanisms of comparability cannot be applied
- Subject-specific guidance will be issued by CCEA from mid-March.
- Guidance on other CCEA qualifications including Occupational Studies, Entry Level and Vocationally Related Qualifications will be issued separately.

The Centre Determined Grade Policy



- CCEA will provide a template to assist centres in developing a policy
- Heads of Centre must develop a policy on their approach to assigning Centre Determined Grades, taking into account the support and guidance provided by CCEA. CCEA will request a copy of this policy from all centres for submission **by 23 April**. The policy should be approved by the centre's Board of Governors.
- It should be a succinct document focused on the process of arriving at Centre Determined Grades for Summer 2021.
- School Improvement Professionals from the Education Authority and CCMS Education Advisers will engage in conversation with Heads of Centre about their Centre Moderation approach and the effective implementation of their Centre Determined Grades policy.
- Additional professional dialogue will be arranged by CCEA in the coming weeks to support specific centres.

Evidence to inform CDGs



- A selection of **key tasks or assessments carried out under appropriate conditions** and with a **suitable level of demand**, which allows the teacher to authenticate the work as the student's own, will give a good indication of the standard at which the student is performing in the qualification.
- If evidence is generated under less controlled conditions than a normal qualification assessment, its value may be less than a piece generated under conditions that are similar.
- CCEA understands the difficult public health context in which schools have been working since March 2020, which has included two extended periods of remote learning. Schools may, therefore, need to utilise evidence generated within more limited levels of control.
- A student's knowledge, understanding and skills may develop over the period of a course of study; you should consider when any piece of evidence was generated and ensure, if possible, that evidence generated recently is taken into account.
- Heads of Centre must be clear with parents and students about the evidence that the centre will use in determining grades.

Unit Omissions and Content Coverage



- Unit Omissions and adaptations announced for GCSE and GCE are still applicable. Centres may base their CDGs on evidence for a reduced number of units as announced in October (GCSE) and December (GCE) 2020.
- Students do not have to have completed a specified amount of content or demonstrate skills knowledge and understanding across every area of the specification as they would normally. In this way, disruption to teaching and learning can be taken into account.

For Example:

A2 Economics

A centre decided to omit assessment of Unit 2 in line with Minister's announcement in Dec 2020. Therefore CDGs may be based on evidence for Unit 1 only

Student A has missed a significant amount of learning due to COVID self-isolation and disruption and has not covered all content for Unit 1.

Student A's CDG should be based on assessment of only the content he has covered.

Assessments adapted /evidence gathered and reviewed based on

All Students	Student A
A2 Unit 1 Economics Content <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ·Short run versus long run ·Business Objectives ·Business growth ·Measuring Markets ·Analysing market Structures ·Perfect Competition ·Monopoly ·Monopolistic Competition ·Oligopoly ·Contestable Markets ·Competition policy 	A2 Economics Unit 1 Content <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ·Short run versus long run ·Business Objectives ·Business growth ·Measuring Markets ·Analysing market Structures ·Perfect Competition ·Monopoly

Evidence sources - examples



- CCEA assessment resources
- Performance in any mock examinations taken
- Performance in CCEA past paper questions and mark schemes
- Performance in class tests
- Records of each student's performance throughout their study
- For GCSE students who sat units prior to Summer 2021, their notional unit grades in that subject
- Performance in any controlled assessments/coursework or other assessments required for the qualification
- Performance in any class assessments taken throughout their study
- Consideration of tier of entry

Support	Audience	Detail
CIEA Training	Senior Leaders	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Running for 4 weeks w/b 22 February 2021 Content covered includes: The Validity Chain; Standardising and Moderating; Using Data; Summer 2021 arrangements.
Head of Centre Documentation	Senior Leaders	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Centre process to award grades in Summer 2021 Content includes detail of process along with sample policies and checklists
Technical FAQs	Senior Leaders	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Responses to queries more technical in nature, to support implementation of the Head of Centre documentation
<i>Data Packs</i>	<i>Senior Leaders</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Data on historical centre performance across all subjects <u>can be requested</u> from CCEA.</i>
Subject Guidance for all CCEA GCE and GCSE qualifications	Heads of Department and class teachers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Specific guidance will be made available across 72 separate GCE and GCSE qualifications. Publication from 19 March 2021 Content includes: Subject omissions; using assessment objectives; selecting and using evidence; marking guidance; guidance on application of Grade Descriptions
Subject Webinars	Heads of Department and class teachers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Webinars to support subject guidance (approx. 45mins in length) Available from 26 March 2021 Content includes: Subject omissions; selecting and using evidence; applying the mark scheme; application of exemplification materials
CCEA Assessment Resource	Heads of Department and class teachers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Repurposed examination papers for 325 GCSE, AS and A level assessment units
Assessment Resource Mark Scheme	Heads of Department and class teachers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Includes enhanced written guidance to support schools apply the mark schemes fairly, consistently and accurately

- **CCEA Assessment Resources**

- Quality assured question papers and mark schemes for **all** units/components that normally have examinations
- Omissions policy announcements in October and December still apply
- Resources can be adapted to account for disruption to teaching and learning
- Centres advised to use at least one per qualification

- **Access to existing support**

- Specimen assessment materials
- Past papers and mark schemes
- Exemplification materials for GCSE, AS and A level
- Agreement trial materials
- CCEA Analytics

CCEA review of evidence and centre moderation



- School Improvement Professionals from the Education Authority and CCMS Education Advisers will engage in conversation with Heads of Centre about their Centre Moderation approach and the effective implementation of their Centre Determined Grades policy.
- CCEA will review all centre grades and undertake an evidence sampling exercise.
- All centres will be asked to provide evidence for **a minimum of one student at each grade within one subject at one qualification level**, selected by CCEA.
- Checklists and policies will be reviewed
- Centres must be prepared to provide this evidence within **48 hours**.
- If evidence submitted does not support the grades, CCEA may request additional evidence for different subjects and qualification levels. The evidence must be uploaded via the CCEA application used to submit the Centre Determined Grades

Access Arrangements and Special Consideration



- Where students have agreed **access arrangements** or reasonable adjustments (for example a reader or scribe), the centre must make every effort to ensure that these arrangements are in place when assessments are being taken.
- Where, for some reason, that has not been possible, the judgements should reflect the likely performance had these arrangements been in place.
- **Special consideration** in the usual manner will not apply this summer as public examinations have been cancelled.
- However, where illness or other personal circumstances covered by the JCQ guidelines might have affected the candidate's standard of performance, the centre will take account of this when making judgements.

Details on Access Arrangements and Special Consideration can be found on the JCQ website www.jcq.org.uk



**Joint Council for
Qualifications**

Record keeping



CCEA will provide centres with:

- Template for Centre Determined Grade policy
- Head of Department Checklist
- Departmental Assessment Evidence grid
- Candidate Assessment Record
- Subject Teacher Checklist

Evidence must be submitted by the deadlines which will be set by CCEA. Centres should therefore ensure that all evidence is stored securely and easily accessible to transfer electronically to CCEA promptly after the submission of grades on 21 May 2021 (for AS and A level) and 4 June 2021 (for GCSE).

The image displays several overlapping forms used for record-keeping. The top form is the 'Head of Department Checklist', which includes fields for Centre Name, Centre Number, Specification Title/Code, and Level. It also contains a checklist with three items: 1. Candidates' grades have been reviewed, 2. The evidence has been reviewed, and 3. Internal standards and Centre Determined Grade have been agreed. Below this is a 'Candidate Assessment Record' which is a grid with columns for Unit, Type of Assessment, Level of Control (H, M, L), and four Assessments. The bottom form is the 'Subject Teacher Checklist', which includes a table for recording student attainment for each assessment, with columns for Mark %, Grade, and Date of Assessment. It also includes a section for recording COVID-19 related disruption and a section for recording access arrangements and special considerations.

Process Timeline



	Dates	Activity
Support	17 February–19 March 2021	Chartered Institute of Educational Assessors Training
	From 19 March 2021	CCEA subject-specific guidance for A and AS level available
	From 26 March 2021	CCEA subject-specific guidance for GCSE available
	w/b 29 March 2021	CCEA assessment resources available, including modified and Irish-medium versions
	w/b 29 March 2021 onwards	Marks schemes released to centres
Centre Determined Grades	23 April 2021	Submission of centre's CDG policy to CCEA
	26 April–14 May 2021	Support to centres
	Mid/late May	Centres finalise moderation and internal QA exercises to prepare grades
	21 May 2021	A/AS grades submitted to CCEA
	25 May 2021–30 June 2021*	Assessment evidence requested– to be submitted to CCEA within 48 hours of request, feedback from CCEA if necessary, meetings if required
	4 June 2021	GCSE grades submitted to CCEA
Results	10 August 2021	A level and AS results issued by CCEA
	12 August 2021	GCSE results issued by CCEA

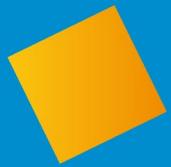


Discussion



Focus
Support
Evidence Gathering
Timelines





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