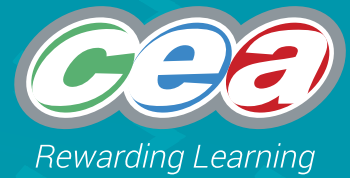


Supporting you through the Summer 2022 exams



Student guide



Assessment arrangements,
optional omissions
and contingencies for
Summer 2022 exams.

Supporting you through the Summer 2022 exams

With exams taking place this summer, you may have questions about assessment arrangements. How will they affect you? Will they be fair? What happens if you miss an exam due to circumstances beyond your control?

This guide aims to answer questions like these.

1

Part 1: Assessment arrangements and optional omissions is a reminder of the arrangements for Summer 2022, including the option to reduce the number of exams/assessments you take.

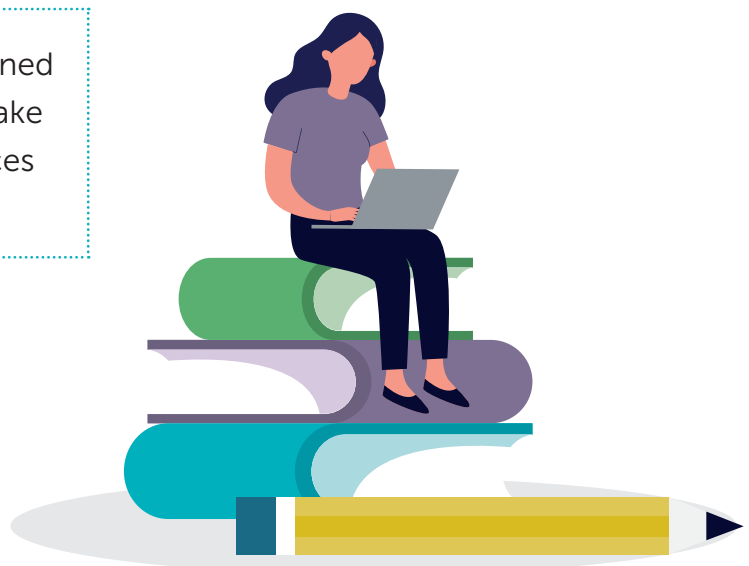
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Part 2: CCEA's approach to awarding and standards sets out how we will approach awarding this year in a way that takes account of the disruption students have faced.

3

Part 3: Contingency arrangements for Summer 2022 describes the options you have if you miss an exam, for acceptable reasons, in the summer series through no fault of your own.

Together, the arrangements are designed to support all students this year and take into account the difficult circumstances arising from COVID-19.



1 Assessment arrangements and optional omissions

In Summer 2022, students can choose to do fewer examinations and assessments in most CCEA qualifications. CCEA has specified which unit of assessment can be omitted in each qualification. All units will still be available for those who choose to take all the assessments.

So, the two options for students completing their qualification in Summer 2022 are:

You can choose to take only the mandatory units as set out by CCEA, reducing the number of exams/assessments you sit.

OR

You can choose to sit all the exams/assessments for your CCEA GCSE, AS or A level subjects. If you do this, you will be awarded the higher of the two grades when CCEA compares:

- » the grade you achieve after sitting all units; and
- » the grade you would have achieved if you had taken the mandatory units only.

This is to ensure your decision to complete all units doesn't put you at a disadvantage.

The decision is agreed between you, your teachers and your parents/carers.

For more information and examples, see [A student guide to 2021/22 assessment arrangements](#).



2 CCEA's approach to awarding and standards

Across the UK it has been agreed to take into account the impact of COVID-19 disruption on grade outcomes. That's why grade outcomes in 2022 will be higher than in the years before the pandemic. This approach is being adopted by qualification regulators in other parts of the UK, ensuring fairness and comparability across qualifications.

As part of the awarding process, senior examiners will take account of the significant disruption that students taking exams in 2021/22 have faced. CCEA's assessment arrangements are designed to ensure you are awarded grades fairly and can progress to the next stage of your journey, whether that's further study or employment.

3 Contingency arrangements for Summer 2022

What if I miss an examination or assessment this summer?

First, don't panic – there are options.

We know students can miss an exam due to circumstances beyond their control. These might include a sudden illness on the day of the exam, bereavement of an immediate family member or having to isolate due to COVID-19.

Plans are in place to support students who miss an assessment in Summer 2022 through no fault of their own. We want to help you achieve a grade even if you are unwell or unable to take a unit.

This section explains two options that **may** be open to you if you miss an assessment:

Option 1: Missed Component Calculation

Option 2: Reserve (Additional) Examination Series.

Please note that **you cannot choose both options for the same assessment**. You must choose only one. So, you cannot sit an assessment in the reserve series and also request a missed component calculation for that assessment. Your Examination Officer will be able to advise you.



Option 1: Missed Component Calculation

Who is this for?

This option is available every year in cases of acceptable absence but normally you have to complete at least 40% of the entire qualification.

In cases of acceptable absence, for example, a sudden illness on the day of an exam, or bereavement of an immediate family member at the time of your exam, you would be eligible for a missed component calculation in CCEA examinations if you have completed the following:

At AS level:	25% of the total assessment for the AS qualification
At A level:	25% of the total assessment for all the A2 units
At GCSE:	25% of the total assessment for the reduced GCSE qualification

Applications for a missed component calculation are made by your Examinations Officer on your behalf. **You will also have to provide evidence to your school or college to support your application.** Your Examinations Officer can explain this to you.

Before requesting a missed component calculation, we advise that you speak to your teacher and parents/carers to make sure this is the right decision for you.

How does it work?

If you miss an exam (or unit), we use your results from the other units you have taken to estimate a mark for the missed exam (or unit).

A missed component calculation works out approximately how you would likely have performed in the assessment you missed:

- » based on your marks in the unit(s) you have completed; and
- » relative to other students.

So, your performance in the unit(s) you have completed is compared to the performance of all other students who have taken those units in the current and previous exam series.

More about missed component calculations

CCEA uses missed component calculations every year to ensure students can be awarded a subject grade if they miss an assessment through no fault of their own.

Other JCQ (Joint Council for Qualifications) awarding organisations use similar methods. Also known as enhanced grading, these are part of [the special consideration process set out by JCQ](#).

The threshold to be eligible for a missed component calculation is lower this year to acknowledge the extra disruption caused by COVID-19.

Examples of Missed Component Calculations



Example 1

Megan was entered for a GCSE which has two equally weighted units, both with a maximum of 50 marks. The average (mean) mark for each unit is very similar.

She scores 43/50 marks in Unit 1 but was ill and missed the Unit 2 exam.

Her mark for Unit 1 was well above the average, or mean, mark of all the students taking the Unit 1 exam. The missed component calculation estimates how Megan would likely have performed in Unit 2 based on her performance in Unit 1, relative to her peers who completed both Units 1 and 2. This is illustrated in the table below:

Unit	Maximum mark	Unit weighting	Unit average mark	Mark achieved	Estimated mark	Notional unit grade*
1	50	50%	34	43	N/A	a
2	50	50%	33	Missed	42	a
Total	100	100%	N/A	Total uniform marks: (43 + 42) = 85 (85%)		Final grade: A

* Notional unit grades are lower case, qualification grades are upper case.

Overall, as Megan performed well above the average in Unit 1 her estimated mark for Unit 2 was also well above average. This resulted in Megan being awarded a Grade A in this subject.

Examples of Missed Component Calculations



Example 2

This example looks at a qualification with more than 2 units.

James was entered for a GCSE which has 3 units. Unfortunately, he was ill and unable to complete Unit 2, which is worth 40% of the qualification. However, because he did complete Unit 1 and Unit 3, more than 25% of the qualification, he was eligible for a missed component calculation.

The average mark for Unit 1 was 75/100 and James scored 74/100, just below average. The average mark for Unit 3 was 45/50 and James scored 46/50, just above average. Unit 2, the missed unit, is marked out of 100 and the average score was 76/100.

Considering James's performance compared to the average scores in Units 1 and 3, alongside the weighting of the units, a score of 77/100 was calculated for Unit 2, slightly above average.

Unit	Maximum mark	Unit weighting	Unit average mark	Mark achieved	Estimated mark	Notional unit grade*
1	100	40%	75	74	N/A	b
2	100	40%	76	Missed	77	b
3	50	20%	45	46	N/A	a
Total	250	100%	N/A	Total uniform marks: (74 + 77 + 46) = 197 (78.8%)		Final grade: B

* Notional unit grades are lower case, qualification grades are upper case.

This resulted in James being awarded a Grade B in this subject.

Further examples of missed component calculations can be found in the Appendix.

Option 2: Reserve (Additional) Examination Series

Who is this for?

We have introduced this additional exam series for Summer 2022 to give students another chance to sit an exam they may have missed and ensure they can achieve a qualification grade this year. In a normal year, students who miss examinations are expected to complete them the following year. This year, the additional series will help students who may have been absent for legitimate reasons on the day of the examination to take the additional examination paper.

Additional exams will be available for:

- » all A2 subjects (mandatory units only); and
- » GCSE History, Religious Studies, Government and Politics, Economics, and Statistics. This is because these subjects only have one mandatory unit and if a student misses this assessment in the main series they would not otherwise be able to achieve a qualification grade.

There will be no AS units offered in the reserve examination series.

Please note that **you cannot choose both options for the same assessment**. You must choose only one. So, you cannot sit an assessment in the reserve series and also request a missed component calculation for that assessment.

How does it work?

More information on the examinations timetable for the reserve series will be published in **February 2022**.

There may be a short delay in the issue of results for exams sat in the reserve series. However, we will try to issue your results as close as possible to the results days for GCE (18 August 2022) and GCSE (25 August 2022).

Can I choose to sit one of the additional exams instead of requesting a missed component calculation?

Yes. If you would prefer not to use the missed component calculation, you can sit the exam in the additional series. Your Examination Officer can discuss this with you.



What happens if I've missed all my exams?

If you have not completed any exams in a subject in the main series, you can enter in the additional series, if the option is available. If you do so, you only have to take enough exams that allows you to complete 25% of the total A2 assessments or 25% of the reduced GCSE qualification. The choice is yours!



AS arrangements

I am an AS student and I haven't completed 25% of the assessment for my qualification, so I cannot request a missed component calculation. What does this mean for me?

The answer depends on whether you plan to continue your studies to A2 for a full A level qualification:

- » If you **do** wish to continue to A2, you are expected to complete any outstanding mandatory AS assessments by Summer 2023.
- » If you do **not** wish to continue with the subject to A2 level, you will receive an overall subject grade based on the approach used in Summer 2021. So, your school/college will need to supply assessment evidence to CCEA that demonstrates the standard you were working at throughout your AS course of study. We expect that results based on this approach will be issued in early autumn 2022.

Where can I find out more?

For more information about the assessment arrangements for Summer 2022, go to www.ccea.org.uk/summer-2022

Keep checking this web area for updates, as we regularly add information and [Frequently Asked Questions](#). There's also a [Student Area](#) with useful videos and guides and a [Mental Health and Wellbeing section](#).

If you need to contact us directly with a concern or a query, you can email helpline@ccea.org.uk



Appendix



More Examples of Missed Component Calculations



More examples of missed component calculations, using real uniform mark scales, are below.

Example 1: Mike's GCSE Qualification

Mike is taking a GCSE qualification made up of three units. Units 1 and 2 are mandatory, and the Unit 3 exam is optional this year. **Mike has chosen not to sit the Unit 3 exam.**

Mike completes Unit 1 but, due to illness, he misses the Unit 2 exam. Because Unit 1 makes up **more than 25%** of Mike's reduced GCSE qualification – it actually makes up 66.7% – he is eligible to apply for a missed component calculation.

This will estimate how Mike would likely have performed in Unit 2:

- » based on his Unit 1 performance; and
- » relative to the other students who completed both Units 1 and 2.

Mike's Unit 1 score was 86 out of 100. This was **well above the average** mark achieved by students in Unit 1. As a result, Mike's estimated mark for Unit 2 is also well above average.

As the table shows, this leads to Mike being awarded a grade A in his qualification.

Unit	Maximum mark	Unit weighting if all units taken	Unit weighting if Unit 3 omitted	Unit average mark	Mark achieved	Estimated mark	Notional unit grade*
1 (Mandatory)	100	50%	66.7%	68	86	N/A	a
2 (Mandatory)	50	25%	33.3%	33	[Missed exam]	43	a
3 (Optional)	50	25%		15			
Total	Full qualification = 200 Reduced qualification = 150	100%	100%	N/A	Mike's total marks: 86 + 43 = 129 (86% of reduced qualification)		Overall grade: A

* Notional unit grades are lower case, qualification grades are upper case.

More Examples of Missed Component Calculations



Example 2: Sarah's AS Level Qualification

Sarah is taking an AS qualification, which has two units. Unit 1 is worth 60% and Unit 2 is worth 40%, so the units are **not equally weighted**. Overall, students who take this AS achieve better marks in Unit 2.

Sarah worked hard and scored 75 out of 120 in Unit 1; however, she sadly missed the Unit 2 exam due to the bereavement of an immediate family member at the time of the exam.

The average mark that students achieved in Unit 1 was 85 out of 120. So, Sarah performed **lower than average** in this unit when compared to other students. Therefore, her estimated mark for Unit 2 was also below the average.

As the table shows, this results in Sarah being awarded a grade C in her AS qualification.

Unit	Maximum mark	Unit weighting	Unit average mark	Mark achieved	Estimated mark	Notional unit grade*
1	120	60%	85	75	N/A	c
2	80	40%	70	[Missed exam]	60	c
Total	200	100%	N/A	Sarah's total marks: 75 + 60 = 135 (67.5%)		Overall grade: C

* Notional unit grades are lower case, qualification grades are upper case.

We hope you found these examples useful. If you have any further queries or would like more examples please email datascience@ccea.org.uk



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