



Wales Summer 2021

Data exchange requirements

Contents

Section 1	2
a. Summer 2021 requirements	2
b. Summer 2021 process	3
Section 2	4
Generating Statistical predictions	4
GCE A level	4
Section 3	6
Reporting	6
Section 4	9
Sending data	9
Annex A	10
Principles for using the secure data-sharing site	10
Annex B	11
Additional analyses	11

Section 1

a. Summer 2021 Requirements

The following procedures outline the process that must be followed, and the data that must be provided, by WJEC during summer 2021 for each qualification forming part of these requirements.

This is a **Regulatory Document** under **Condition B7** of the Standard Conditions of Recognition¹ and the relevant conditions of the extraordinary regulatory framework: General Qualifications Alternative Awarding Framework for Wales (GQAAFV).

For clarity, and without prejudice to the generality of Condition GQAAFV1.6, in respect of results issued under Condition GQCov3.1, an awarding body is not required to comply with existing requirements published under the following Conditions, save where those requirements set out the relevant specified levels of attainment (grades) to be used –

- a) in relation to post-reform GCSE and GCE Qualifications, Condition ASC.Q1; and
- b) in relation to Welsh Bacallaureate Skills Challenge Certificate, Condition WB.M1.

This Regulatory Document applies to Wales' reformed GCE, GCSE and Welsh Bacallaureate Skills Challenge Certificate qualifications, and Wales-specific legacy qualifications. Procedures for pre-reform GCE and GCSE qualifications will be covered by arrangements in other jurisdictions.

Grades should be issued at qualification level only. The rules set out in the regulatory document 'Requirements for setting specified levels of attainment for GCE and GCSE qualifications'² would be suspended for summer 2021.

¹ <https://qualificationswales.org/english/publications/standard-conditions-of-recognition/>

² <https://www.qualificationswales.org/english/publications/requirements-for-setting-specified-levels-of-attainment-for-gce-and-gcse-qualificationspdf/>

b. Summer 2021 process

In respect of a GQ Qualification that it makes available, WJEC must follow the process set out below in order to issue each result issued under Condition GQAAF3.1 –

1. WJEC must generate statistical predictions for the relevant subject, as specified in Section 2.
2. WJEC must provide Qualifications Wales with the information specified in Section 3 and according to the schedule specified in Table 1.

Section 2

a. Generating statistical predictions

The alternative assessment arrangements for summer 2021 are different to those in normal years as a result of the impact of the COVID pandemic. Predictions based on attainment in normal years cannot be expected to accurately predict results in the current circumstances and under the alternative assessment arrangements. We therefore will not be requiring reporting against predictions and tolerances in the summer 2021 series.

As 18-year-old A level candidates in summer 2021 sat GCSEs in 2019 prior to the impact of the pandemic, it is possible for these predictions to be generated in the standard way. WJEC must generate predictions for all A level grades using outcome matrices generated as in Section 2f. Predictions must be generated for learners for whom there is a valid match. Predictions must be generated for learners in Wales only. We will require these predictions to be reported to us as contextual information for the series.

WJEC must generate predictions for its specific cohort of matched learners for these subjects.

Predictions will not be required for regulatory reporting for the other qualifications in scope of this document for the Summer 21 series.

b. GCE A Level

b.i Predictions for reformed A level qualifications (phase 1 – first awarded in 2017)

WJEC must create for each specification a prediction for the Wales cohort of 18-year-old matched cash-in learners. The prediction must be based on the average of the national³ relationship between:

³ National here, and throughout, means the prediction must be based on the average (weighted by entry size) of the three-country relationship applied to the Wales cohort.

1. A level outcomes in that subject for 18-year-old learners in 2017 and GCSE outcomes for those learners in 2015;
2. A level outcomes in that subject for 18-year-old learners in 2018 and GCSE outcomes for those learners in 2016.

b.ii Predictions for reformed A level qualifications (phase 2 –first awarded in 2018)

WJEC must create for each specification a prediction for the Wales cohort of 18-year-old matched cash-in learners. The prediction must be based on the national relationship between:

1. A level outcomes in that subject for 18-year-old learners in 2018 and GCSE outcomes for those learners in 2016;
2. A level outcomes in that subject for 18-year-old learners in 2019 and GCSE outcomes for those learners in 2017.

b.iii Predictions for reformed A level qualifications (phase 3 –first awarded in 2019)

For all subjects, WJEC must create a prediction for the Wales cohort of 18-year-old matched cash-in learners. The prediction must be based on the national relationship A level outcomes in that subject for 18-year-old learners in 2019 and the GCSE outcomes for those learners in 2017.

b.iv Predictions for A level Health and Social Care, ICT and Applied ICT

WJEC must create for the Wales cohort of 18-year-old matched cash-in learners. The prediction must be based on the A level outcomes in that subject for 18-year-old learners in 2019 and the GCSE outcomes for those learners in 2017.

Section 3

Reporting

a. GCE A level reporting

WJEC must report outcomes for matched learners and outcomes for all learners for each subject at all grades, using the templates provided and according to the schedule of expected submission in Table 1 (in Section g below).

Template A must be updated, according to the schedule in Table 1, to show A level results to date.

In a few cases, WJEC may need to carry out further analyses. If there is to be a delay in submission, WJEC must notify Qualifications Wales as soon as possible, and by the date shown on the schedule.

b. GCE AS level reporting

WJEC must report outcomes for outcomes for all learners for each subject at all grades, using the templates provided and according to the schedule of expected submission in Table 1 (in Section g below).

Template B must be updated, according to the schedule in Table 1, to show AS level results to date.

In a few cases, WJEC may need to carry out further analyses. If there is to be a delay in submission, WJEC must notify Qualifications Wales as soon as possible, and by the date shown on the schedule.

c. GCSE reporting

For all GCSE full and short course specifications and GCSE double awards, WJEC must report the outcomes for all learners for each subject at all grades, using the templates provided and data specification(s), according to the schedule of expected submission in Table 1 (in Section g below).

For GCSE Art and Design, the outcomes from the suite of options must be reported as a whole.

WJEC must update **Templates C and D** according to the schedule in Table 1.

In a few cases, WJEC may need to carry out further analyses. If there is to be a delay in submission, WJEC must notify Qualifications Wales as soon as possible, and by the date shown on the schedule.

d. Welsh Baccalaureate Skills Challenge Certificate reporting

WJEC must report all of its June 2021 Skills Challenge Certificate outcomes, using **Template F**.

e. Reporting concerns for GCE A level, GCE AS level, GCSE and Skills Challenge Certificates

WJEC must report any concerns with outcomes. These must be reported according to the schedule in Table 1, using **Template G**.

f. Reporting attainment gaps for GCE A level, GCE AS level, GCSE and Skills Challenge Certificates

WJEC must report any concerns with outcomes. These must be reported according to the schedule in Table 1, using **Template I**.

g. Reporting - schedule of expected submission

WJEC must submit data according to the schedule in Table 1 below.

Centre/WJEC Activity	Confirmed meeting dates
Friday 2 July CDG submission date Mon 5 July – WJEC submit templates A – D, by 5pm	Tues 6 July – emerging results briefing
13 July WJEC submit templates I, J.1, J.2, J.3, 5*, by noon	Data submission Noon
20 July End of CDG amendment window 22 July WJEC submit updated templates, including J.4, by noon	Friday 23 July – Final results briefing

*in descending priority, as agreed

h. Additional analyses

Additional analyses required to support the reporting of results at scheduled briefings are specified in Annex B. WJEC must submit these as outlined in the reporting schedule in Table 1 and as specified in Annex B.

Section 4

Sending data

WJEC must confirm its data exchange contacts with Qualifications Wales before the process begins. All data are to be uploaded to the secure data sharing site (see Annex A).

All returns are subject to the final ratification by WJEC.

On receipt of the above information, Qualifications Wales:

1. may contact WJEC to ask for additional information or clarification and aim to do this within 24 hours of receipt;
2. will hold meetings with WJEC technical colleagues, as necessary, to discuss data and explore any implications;
3. will discuss outcomes with WJEC at the Final Results Briefing meeting on **Friday 23 July** (GCSE, GCE and Skills Challenge Certificate qualifications).

Annex A

Principles for using the secure data-sharing site

1. The site is to be used for sensitive data relating to the data exchange.
2. Email should be used as usual where no sensitive data is included or attached.
3. In terms of version control, all templates must be uploaded using the date in the format YYYYMMDD, as a prefix, for example: 20160701-WJEC-Template 1–08.30. Therefore, whenever a revised data template is uploaded, please create this as a new document, using the date as a prefix and the time as a suffix where necessary.
4. Old versions of templates must not be deleted from the site.

WJEC users must not create extra folders within the data exchange library of the portal without consulting Qualifications Wales first.

Annex B

Additional analyses

Submission date	Additional analyses to support results briefing
Tuesday 13 July By noon	J.1 Qualification type outcomes by centre type J.2 Qualification type outcomes by regional consortia J.3 Qualification type outcomes for private learners J.5 Centre variation
Thursday 22 July By 5pm	J.4 Entries not receiving a grade