

By email to all schools and colleges in Wales
24 November 2020



Dear Head of Centre,

Re: Non examination assessment (NEA) and January exam series

I hope this letter finds you safe and well. It continues to be a challenging time for all, and we recognise the hard work that centres are putting in to provide a safe environment for learners and staff and the commitment to maximise time for teaching and learning.

Following the Minister for Education's policy decision to cancel GCSEs, AS and A levels exams in summer 2021 we have continued to engage with a range of stakeholders to inform our thinking. We have discussed January exams and NEA with the Design and Delivery Advisory Group and our decisions are in line with the views expressed in this group. I can announce the [decision](#) on the way forward for January exams and NEA is:

1. Non examination assessments (NEA) will continue to be included and form part of the assessment model for GCSEs, AS and A levels in 2020-2021.
2. The January exam series – Unit assessments for GCSE Welsh Literature, English Literature and ICT have been cancelled. Other planned assessments will go ahead.

As the independent regulator of qualifications in Wales, our role is to protect learners and build public confidence.

Recognising the ongoing disruption in centres, we will continue to engage with centres and publish information on summer 2021 as it becomes available, sharing information directly with you, on our social media channels and [website](#).

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If you have any questions about our work, then please do not hesitate to contact us on communications@qualificationswales.org.

I appreciate your ongoing support and collaboration.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Philip Blaker', is centered below the text 'Yours sincerely'.

Philip Blaker

Chief Executive