

**STUDENT GUIDE**  
**SUMMER EXAMS 2023**

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## **MAKE SURE YOU UNDERSTAND THE CHANGES.**

We recognise that students will have missed out on valuable learning time and have made a series of changes to the way GCSEs and AS/A levels will be assessed in Summer 2023.

To make sure you are prepared we recommend you familiarise yourself with these changes - they will also help focus your revision.

**Please be aware, this is just a guide and it's also really important that you talk to your school or college too.**

## **WHY ARE EXAMS IMPORTANT?**

Exams are an important part of the learning process. They offer a great way for you to showcase your knowledge, understanding and skills.

Furthermore, they equip you with qualifications, which provide you with the keys to a variety of pathways into your future including higher education and to the job market.

## **WHEN ARE MY EXAMS?**

Make sure you know the dates and times for your exams. [Download the latest timetable here.](#)

## **HOW ARE MY EXAMS DIFFERENT IN 2023?**

We recognise that students will have missed out on valuable learning and will provide advance information which will support your revision for the GCSE/AS/A level exams in summer 2023.

The advance information will be made available on 6th February 2023 for summer 2023 exams.



## **HOW WILL I BE GRADED?**

Grading will be awarded more generously in 2023, broadly midway between the 2019 and 2022 outcomes – in line with [Qualifications Wales' announcement](#).

## **WHAT IS ADVANCE INFORMATION?**

Advance information gives you the focus of some of the questions in the exam; for example, it may outline some of the content, texts, themes, and skills that will be assessed in summer's 2023 exams.

It will vary from subject to subject, but it is there to aid your revision.

## **WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF ADVANCE INFORMATION?**

The purpose of advance information is to support your revision and to help you prepare for your exams.

## **WHERE CAN I FIND THE ADVANCE INFORMATION?**

You can find the full list of subjects [on our webpage here](#).

The webpage will link you to the relevant advance information.

## **WHY IS THE ADVANCE INFORMATION AIMED AT HIGHER TARIFF QUESTIONS ONLY FOR SOME SUBJECTS?**

Tariff refers to the number of marks given for a question.

High tariff questions tend to be used for those which require extended answers, such as essays.

Advance information is being provided to help you prioritise your revision, but exams still need to avoid predictability or the possibility of being able to identify questions in advance.

By focusing mainly on the higher tariff questions the advance information should help you feel confident that you have revised the right topics for the questions worth more marks, and avoids excessive revision on areas that are worth few marks. However, you are still advised to revise the whole specification content.



## **CAN I BRING THE ADVANCE INFORMATION INTO THE EXAM?**

The purpose of advance information is to help you prioritise your revision. It is not intended as an exam aid. If it were to be used in the exam itself, it could provide you with answers or prompts to questions which in turn could lead to unfair results and damage progression.

## **SHOULD I JUST FOCUS ON WHAT'S INCLUDED IN THE ADVANCE INFORMATION?**

In most cases, the advance information will not cover everything that is to be assessed, and some questions in the exams may need knowledge beyond what is included in the advance information.

In many cases the advance information will provide topics of content that will help you prioritise your revision - but remember, content that is not listed could still be assessed in other questions.

To ensure your best possible performance in the exams, you should revise the whole of the course content.

## **HOW SHOULD ADVANCE INFORMATION INFORM HOW I USE PAST PAPERS FOR REVISION?**

A good, broad understanding of all the content of the specification is always the best preparation for success in an exam. It is important to bear in mind that all of your learning in a key topic or area might prove useful.

Advance information is intended to help you focus and prioritise your revision. For example, if the advance information for a particular subject says that the exam will be focused on certain aspects of the specification content, you may want to prioritise that content when using past paper questions as part of your revision.

However, to support your progression and best possible performance in your exams, please make sure your revision plans take account of everything you have been taught.

Advance information will not necessarily cover all aspects of specification content that will be assessed in the 2023 examinations, so to make the best use of past papers you will want to practise a broad range of previous questions.



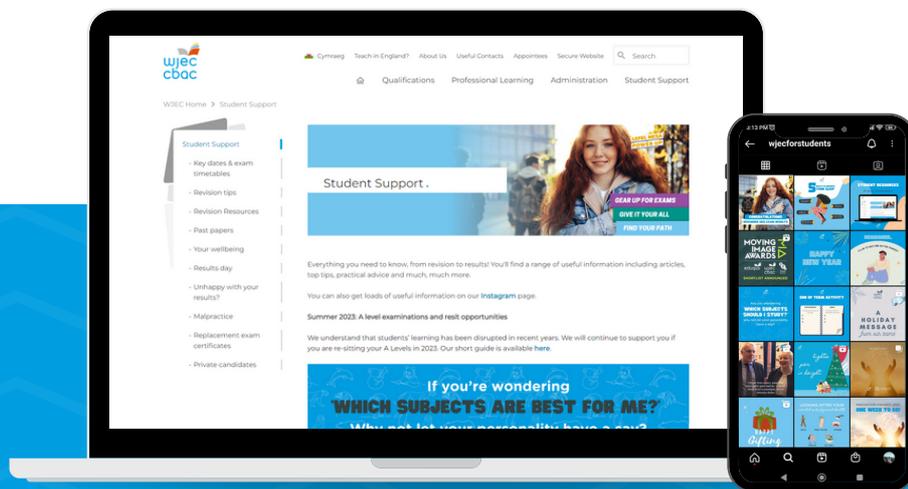
## WHY IS THERE NO ADVANCE INFORMATION FOR THE QUALIFICATION I AM STUDYING?

Advance information has been provided for all WJEC general qualifications (although not necessarily for every unit within each qualification), regulated by Qualifications Wales and all made-for-Wales vocational qualifications regulated by Qualifications Wales.

There is no advance information for Eduqas general qualifications regulated by Ofqual and designated for use in Wales. This is because the government and regulator in England has decided that there will be no advance information in 2023.

## WHAT SUPPORT IS AVAILABLE?

You can access a range of FREE resources to help give your revision a boost – including Knowledge Organisers, Blended Learning modules and Exams Walk Throughs [from our Digital Resources website!](#)



**GET REVISION TIPS, EXAM GUIDANCE AND MORE ON OUR STUDENT SUPPORT HUB AND OUR INSTAGRAM ACCOUNT!**