

Ofqual

[See more information about this Guidance](#)

Guidance

Changes to GCSEs, AS and A levels that will affect each current school year group

Updated 15 December 2015

Contents

1. Year 12
2. Year 11
3. Year 10
4. Year 9
5. Year 8

This document gives an overview of the changes that will happen to GCSEs, AS levels and A levels. Go to the heading for your child's current year group (for the academic year that started in September 2015) to see what the changes will be for them.

1.

Year 12

1.1 September 2015

Students will start studying new AS levels and A levels in:

- art and design
- biology
- business
- chemistry
- computer science
- economics
- English language
- English language and literature
- English literature
- history
- physics
- psychology
- sociology

1.2 Summer 2016

Students have the opportunity to take new AS level exams in:

- art and design
- biology
- business
- chemistry
- computer science

- economics
- English language
- English language and literature
- English literature
- history
- physics
- psychology
- sociology

1.3 Summer 2017

Students will take exams for new AS and A levels in:

- art and design
- biology
- business
- chemistry
- computer science
- economics
- English language
- English language and literature
- English literature
- history
- physics
- psychology
- sociology

2.

Year 11

2.1 September 2016

As well as the subjects in section 1.1, students will be taught new AS levels and A levels in:

- ancient languages
- dance
- drama and theatre
- geography
- modern foreign languages (French, German, Spanish)
- music
- physical education
- religious studies

2.2 November 2016

November resits in GCSE maths, English and English language happen for the last time.

2.3 Summer 2017

As well as the subjects in section 1.2, students will have the opportunity to take AS level exams in:

- ancient languages
- dance
- drama and theatre
- geography

- modern foreign languages (French, German, Spanish)
- music
- physical education
- religious studies

2.4 Summer 2018

As well as the subjects in section 1.3, students will take exams for new AS and A levels in:

- ancient languages
- dance
- drama and theatre
- geography
- modern foreign languages (French, German, Spanish)
- music
- physical education
- religious studies

3.

Year 10

3.1 September 2015

Students currently will start learning new GCSEs, graded 9 to 1, in:

- English language
- English literature

- maths

3.2 Summer 2017

Students will take exams for new GCSEs, graded 9 to 1, in:

- English literature
- English language
- maths

3.3 September 2017

As well as the subjects in sections 1.1 and 2.1, students will be taught new AS and A levels in:

- accounting
- ancient history
- archaeology
- classical civilisation
- design and technology
- electronics
- environmental science
- film studies
- further maths
- geology
- government and politics
- history of art
- law
- maths
- media studies

- music technology
- philosophy
- statistics

3.4 November 2017

Students get the chance to take resit exams for new GCSEs in English language and maths.

3.5 Summer 2018

As well as the subjects in sections 1.2 and 2.2, students will have the opportunity to take AS level exams in:

- accounting
- ancient history
- archaeology
- classical civilisation
- design and technology
- electronics
- environmental science
- film studies
- further maths
- geology
- government and politics
- history of art
- law
- maths
- media studies
- music technology

- philosophy
- statistics

3.6 Summer 2019

As well as the subjects in sections 1.3 and 2.3, students will take exams for new AS and A levels in:

- accounting
- ancient history
- archaeology
- classical civilisation
- design and technology
- electronics
- environmental science
- film studies
- further maths
- general studies
- geology
- government and politics
- history of art
- information and communications technology (ICT)
- law
- maths
- media studies
- music technology
- philosophy
- statistics

Year 9

4.

4.1 September 2016

As well as the subjects in section 3.1, students will start studying new GCSEs, graded 9 to 1, in:

- ancient languages
- art and design
- biology
- chemistry
- citizenship studies
- computer science
- dance
- double science
- drama
- food preparation and nutrition
- geography
- history
- modern foreign languages
- music
- physical education
- physics
- religious studies

4.2 Summer 2018

As well as the subjects in section 3.2, students will take exams for new GCSEs, graded 9 to 1, in:

- ancient languages
- art and design
- biology
- chemistry
- citizenship studies
- computer science
- dance
- double science
- drama
- food preparation and nutrition
- geography
- history
- modern foreign languages
- music
- physical education
- physics
- religious studies

5.

Year 8

5.1 September 2017

As well as the subjects in sections 3.1 and 4.1, students will start learning new GCSEs, graded 9 to 1, in:

- ancient history
- astronomy
- business
- classical civilisation

- design and technology
- economics
- electronics
- engineering
- film studies
- geology
- media studies
- psychology
- sociology
- statistics

5.2 Summer 2019

As well as the subjects in sections 3.2 and 4.2, students will take exams for new GCSEs, graded 9 to 1, in:

- ancient history
- astronomy
- business
- classical civilisation
- design and technology
- economics
- electronics
- engineering
- film studies
- geology
- media studies
- psychology
- sociology
- statistics

[Is there anything wrong with this page?](#)

Services and information

[Benefits](#)

[Births, deaths, marriages and care](#)

[Business and self-employed](#)

[Childcare and parenting](#)

[Citizenship and living in the UK](#)

[Crime, justice and the law](#)

[Disabled people](#)

[Driving and transport](#)

[Education and learning](#)

[Employing people](#)

[Environment and countryside](#)

[Housing and local services](#)

[Money and tax](#)

[Passports, travel and living abroad](#)

[Visas and immigration](#)

[Working, jobs and pensions](#)

Departments and policy

[How government works](#)

[Departments](#)

[Worldwide](#)

[Policies](#)

[Publications](#)

[Announcements](#)

[Help](#) [Cookies](#) [Contact](#) [Rhestr o Wasanaethau Cymraeg](#)

Built by the [Government Digital Service](#)

OGI All content is available under the [Open Government Licence v3.0](#), except where otherwise stated



© Crown copyright

