



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

WRITTEN STATEMENT BY THE WELSH GOVERNMENT

TITLE **Approach to General Qualifications 2021**

DATE **10 November 2021**

BY **Kirsty William, AS for Education**

It is my intention to direct Qualifications Wales that there should be no end of year exams for Qualifications Wales approved GCSE, AS and A level qualifications in 2021. This is in line with the recommendations of both Qualifications Wales and the Independent Review.

The primary reason for my decision is down to fairness; the time learners will spend in schools and colleges will vary hugely and, in this situation, it is impossible to guarantee a level playing field for exams to take place.

- Instead of exams, we intend to work with teachers to take forward teacher-managed assessments.
- These should include assessments that will be externally set and marked, but delivered within a classroom environment under teacher supervision.
- My expectation is that these will form the basis for centre-based outcomes, which will be linked to an agreed national approach to provide consistency across Wales.

I will be delivering an Oral Statement to members later today, where I will provide more details and give Members of the Senedd the opportunity to ask questions. I have also sent a letter to all secondary schools and colleges informing them of my decision.