

CYPE(6)-16-22 – Paper to note 3

Y Pwyllgor Plant, Pobl Ifanc ac Addysg

Children, Young People and Education Committee

Ian Morgan
WJEC

6 July 2022

Summer Exams

Dear Ian,

You will be aware of press reports during the recent examination period about some issues with certain exam papers. These include [missing parts of questions in an English Language and Literature exam](#); and [concerns about A and AS Level maths and chemistry papers and practical exams](#). In particular, these reports highlighted the impact this had on students taking these exams, particularly on their mental health and well-being.

We have also been contacted by a parent raising similar concerns about the maths and chemistry papers. This parent placed the issue in the broader context of the impact of Covid-19 on students over the past two years, and the fact that this examination period was the first time that many students had sat an external exam. They described the significant impact this has had on their child, even before the above concerns about issues with specific exam papers are taken into account.

How do you respond to the above concerns raised in the media and by individual parents to us directly? Could you outline how you plan to mitigate for the potential impact that these issues will have had on students and to ensure that the grades awarded are fair? How did these issues arise, and what steps will you be taking in the future to ensure it doesn't happen again? Can you also outline why there appears to have been some discrepancy between what schools were expecting to be covered in the examinations and what was tested in the papers?

We are also writing to Qualifications Wales on these issues, and will copy you into this correspondence. We are copying in the Minister for Education and Welsh Language and Qualifications Wales into this letter.

We would appreciate a response by 7 September.

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Yours sincerely,



Jayne Bryant MS

Chair of the Children, Young People and Education Committee

Croesewir gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg neu Saesneg.

We welcome correspondence in Welsh or English.