



The following document relates to Birchwood High School's approach to awarding A Level, BTEC Centre Assessed Grades in 2021.

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### **General Principles:**

Following an extensive consultation by Ofqual, the following principles have been agreed to the decision and award of grades in 2021:

- Students will only be assessed on the content that has been delivered by their teachers either in school or remotely.
- Teachers can use evidence of a student's performance from throughout the course to inform their judgement.
- Teachers should determine the grades as late in the academic year as is practicable to enable teaching to continue for as long as possible.
- Teachers should use a broad range of evidence across the taught content to determine the grades before submitting the grades to the exam boards. The sources of evidence will be shared with students and parents on a subject
- Students should continue to work on their non-exam assessment (NEA), including for Project qualifications. NEA will be marked by teachers and will contribute to the overall grade, whether or not it has been completed.
- Overall, it will be no easier or harder for a student to achieve a particular grade this year compared to previous years.
- It is important to note that there will be an internal and external quality assurance process that the school will be required to follow. The external quality assurance process will require the school to submit the evidence to the examination board on which the grade was decided. There will also be an opportunity for students to appeal their grades to the school and examination board.

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## **Assessment Principles:**

Staff are using their holistic professional judgement to formulate students' grades. While they are considering the records of students' work from previous data, the core evidence is from the assessments students have completed this academic year, as this is considered to be reflective of their best performance.

In line with the Ofqual principles the school has introduced two assessment windows in which to have formal assessments, these are designed to gather further evidence to augment previous assessments. The assessments will cover as much of the material that has been covered as possible to allow students the opportunity to demonstrate the breadth of their knowledge and skills. These assessments will not determine their final grades but rather they will be another piece of evidence, together with other sources of evidence, of the level students are performing.

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## **Evidence Overview**

Staff are taking into account a broad range of evidence from study across the course; Where possible all Assessment Objectives are assessed, where this is not possible, due to non-completion of the Programme of Study, this has been highlighted and reduced content has been assessed.

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## **Moderation Overview**

Moderation has been undertaken at a Faculty Level. There is also Faculty moderation of the April/May Series where Moderation will take place before individual marking. Ranking will also be undertaken. The Head of Faculty/Department will lead the moderation, with help from those experienced in examining, and will include input from all members of the department.

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## **Training**

Training resources from the Exam Board are used to help prepare for marking and moderation. The training covers guidance on the mark scheme and marking activities. Comparison of the results to previous cohorts is undertaken. Where student is borderline, they are moderated closely and carefully. Determination will be made with regard to the grade boundaries for each of their pieces of assessed evidence

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## Access Arrangements

Staff have liaised with PLC and the Exams Officer for each of the assessments used as evidence to ensure that students have been able to use their access arrangements. This has been consistent through all Assessments. The SEND allowances include extra time, coloured paper, scribes, readers and the use of EAL dictionaries as per the exam access arrangements for this year.

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## Subject Assessment Detail

### Art GCE: A-Level Fine Art (9FA0)

#### *Subject Overview:*

For Art, a broad range of evidence is being used from study across the course, all Assessment Objectives have been able to be assessed (see below) and Staff are using their holistic professional judgement to formulate students' grades. They are considering the records of students' work from Controlled Assessments, classwork, practice papers, and April/May assessments work completed independently during study periods and at home. The following Formal Assessments have also been used:

- Personal study coursework grade- 100% of overall qualification, including practical work and written essay.
- Practical coursework completed across year 12 and 13.
- Students have created two complete projects.
  - Project one- Still Life and Portraits, was completed before lockdown one. Students received written feedback including current working grade and targets for improvement.
  - Project two- Personal Study, was started prior to lockdown one, continued in Autumn in school, continued in lockdown two and finished on their return to school with the hand-in deadline on Monday 12th April. Students have received written feedback with targets for improvements but NOT their current working grade. Students have then had time to make the required improvements to their work in lessons, during study periods and for HL.
- Personal Investigation essay- started prior to lockdown two and continued in lockdown two. Several stages of feedback, final submission 23rd April. Sufficient evidence had been produced for all 4 assessment objectives. AO1, AO2, AO3 and AO4.

The ESA was removed after lockdown one, to enable students time and access to specialist equipment and teaching staff, thus making the GCE Art and Design course 100% coursework with no externally set assignment.

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### Business GCE: A-Level Business (9BS0)

#### *Subject Overview:*

For Business, a broad range of evidence is being used from study across the course, most Assessment Objectives have been able to be assessed (see below) and Staff are using their holistic professional judgement to formulate students' grades. They are considering the



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records of students' work from Controlled Assessments, classwork, practice papers, and April/May assessments. The following Formal Assessments have also been used:

- Paper 1- Mock completed April 2021
- Paper 2- Mock completed April 2021
- Paper 3- Mock completed April 2021

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### Business BTEC: Pearson BTEC Level 3 National Diploma in Business (601-7157/1)

#### *Subject Overview:*

For Business, a broad range of evidence is being used from study across the course, most Assessment Objectives have been able to be assessed (see below) and Staff are using their holistic professional judgement to formulate students' grades. They are considering the records of students' work from Controlled Assessments, classwork, practice papers, and April/May assessments. The following Formal Assessments have also been used for the BTEC Business Level 3 Diploma:

- Unit 1- Completed January 2020
- Unit 2- Completed January 2020
- Unit 3- Completed May 2020
- Unit 4- Completed May 2021
- Unit 5- Completed May 2021
- Unit 6- Incomplete (was scheduled for May series 2021)
- Unit 8- CAG grade awarded from BTEC in May 2020
- Unit 19- Completed May 2021

4 out of 8 of the units were completed in year 12 (2020). The remaining assignment based units were completed in year 13 2021. All units except the unit 6 examination unit have been completed, assessed and moderated. May 2021 SV liaising with Lead IV with regards to unit 4. Unit 6 grades are determined with mock examinations, classwork and mini tests.

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### Biology GCE: A Level Biology (7402)

#### *Subject Overview:*

For Biology, a broad range of evidence is being used from study across the course, all Assessment Objectives have been able to be assessed and Staff are using their holistic professional judgement to formulate students' grades. They are considering the records of students' work from Controlled Assessments, classwork, practice papers, and April/May assessments.



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The following Formal Assessments have also been used:

- Prior mock data will be used (AS Papers),
- April/May Series - students are completing two full sets of A-Level papers which will form a large proportion of the judgement
- Prior end of chapter test results will be used in the event of student absence from assessments.

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### Chemistry GCE A-Level Chemistry (H432)

*Subject Overview:*

For Chemistry, a broad range of evidence is being used from study across the course, all Assessment Objectives have been able to be assessed and Staff are using their holistic professional judgement to formulate students' grades. They are considering the records of students' work from Controlled Assessments, classwork, practice papers, and April/May assessments. The following Formal Assessments have also been used:

- Prior mock data will be used (AS Papers),
- April/May Series - students are completing two full sets of A-Level papers which will form a large proportion of the judgement
- Prior end of chapter test results will be used in the event of student absence from assessments.

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### Drama GCE: A-level Drama and Theatre Studies (9DR0)

*Subject Overview:*

For Drama, a broad range of evidence is being used from study across the course, all Assessment Objectives have been able to be assessed and Staff are using their holistic professional judgement to formulate students' grades. They are considering the records of students' work from the Year 12, of which there is more evidence than ever before due to the first lockdown. The Component One devising exam was completed in 2020 and this was refined with enough time to be reflective of their best performance. The following Formal Assessments have also been used:

- Component One practical performance – completed September 2020
- Component One written portfolio – completed and final version submitted in March 2021
- Component Two monologue/ensemble performance – to be completed 25th May 2021
- Component Three written exam – part 1 Machinal exam completed on 13th April 2021 – part 2 live review completed on 26th April 2021

Students had not started to explore the second set text so this part of the C3 exam has been omitted.

Practical performances are all recorded so evidence for marking is tangible.

We have used the above evidence to ensure that students are completing most areas of the A level course but are being assessed in line with the content of the course covered thus far. Students had started to create their practical performance in Year 12 and the portfolio had



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been started before the summer. The C2 performance was altered from a group piece to monologues for half of the group to align with social distance rules and students have been given enough time to prepare a performance that reflects their ability. The C3 exam has been reduced in content to allow students sufficient time to revise set text number one and work to review a 'live' performance within the current constraints of the theatrical world!

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### Economics GCE: A Level Economics A (9EC0)

#### *Subject Overview:*

For Economics, a broad range of evidence is being used from study across the course, most Assessment Objectives have been able to be assessed (see below) and Staff are using their holistic professional judgement to formulate students' grades. They are considering the records of students' work from Controlled Assessments, classwork, practice papers, and April/May assessments. The following Formal Assessments have also been used:

- Internal Assessment Paper 1– Completed April 2021.
- Internal Assessment Paper 2– Completed May 2021.
- Home Learning
- Class work

#### Paper 1

- Section A: out of 25 – Assessment 1 data used.
- Section B: out of 50 – Assessment 1 data used.
- Section C: out of 25 – Assessment 1 data used.

#### Paper 2

- Section A: out of 25 – Assessment 1 data used.
- Section B: out of 50 – Assessment 2 data used.
- Section C: out of 25 – Assessment 2 data used.

#### Paper 3

- Excluded: Does not assess additional content or AOs.

Combined total score for Paper 1 and Paper 2 used to identify grade based on most recent grade boundaries, with adjustment to reflect total marks available.

Assessment 3 will be used to support a judgement as to whether any upward adjustment of up to half a grade would be fair where students perform significantly below expected standard. This measure addresses disruption to learning from Covid.

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### English Language GCE A-Level (7702)

#### *Subject Overview:*

For English Language, a broad range of evidence is being used from study across the course, all Assessment Objectives have been able to be assessed and Staff are using their holistic professional judgement to formulate students' grades. They are considering the records of students' work from Controlled Assessments, classwork, practice papers, and April/May assessments. There is at least one piece of evidence for each assessed module



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of the course; this includes NEA work which was completed prior to the decision to assess using CAGs. The following Formal Assessments have also been used:

- October 2020: Full Paper 1 Exam
- April 2021: Full Paper 2 Exam
- May 2021: Full Paper 1 Exam.
- NEA: Language Investigation
- NEA: Original Writing

Teaching of the A2 Language Course switched quickly and effectively to online learning in both lockdown periods. As a result of this students were able to complete the course content in the expected time and, as such, have been assessed formally across the full content of the course. In order to compensate for the lack of 'in person' class teaching, students were given some guidance as to the question foci of the Spring 2021 exams. The purpose of this was to guide their revision and did not involve divulging details of specific questions.

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## English Literature GCE A-Level (7717)

### *Subject Overview:*

For English Literature, a broad range of evidence is being used from study across the course, all Assessment Objectives have been able to be assessed and Staff are using their holistic professional judgement to formulate students' grades. They are considering the records of students' work from Controlled Assessments, classwork, practice papers, and April/May assessments. There is at least one piece of evidence for each assessed module of the course; this includes NEA work which was completed prior to the decision to assess using CAGs. The following Formal Assessments have also been used:

- Combined Comedy and Crime Paper (Comedy Section A, Crime Section B, Comedy Section C) – Completed October 2020.
- Combined Comedy and Crime Paper (Crime Section B, Comedy Section B, Comedy Section C) – Completed April 2021.
- Crime Paper (Section A, Section C) – Completed May 2021.
- NEA Theory and Independence (Christina Rossetti) – Submitted May 2021
- NEA Theory and Independence (Narrative) – Submitted May 2021

Teaching of the A2 Literature B Course switched quickly and effectively to online learning in both lockdown periods. As a result of this students were able to complete the course content in the expected time and, as such, have been assessed formally across the full content of the course. In order to compensate for the lack of 'in person' class teaching, students were given some guidance as to the question foci of the Spring 2021 exams. The purpose of this was to guide their revision and did not involve divulging details of specific questions.

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### Extended Project Qualification: AQA (7993)

#### *Subject Overview:*

For EPQ, a broad range of evidence is being used from study across the course, all Assessment Objectives have been able to be assessed and Staff are using their holistic professional judgement to formulate students' grades. They are considering the records of the final submitted students' work

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### Film Studies GCE A-Level (A670)

#### *Subject Overview:*

For Film Studies, a broad range of evidence is being used from study across the course, all Assessment Objectives have been able to be assessed and Staff are using their holistic professional judgement to formulate students' grades. They are considering the records of students' work from Controlled Assessments, classwork, practice papers, and April/May assessments. The following Formal Assessments have also been used:

- Prior mock data will be used (AS Papers),
- April/May Series - students are completing a full set of A-Level papers which will form a large proportion of the judgement
- Prior end of unit test results will be used in the event of student absence from assessments.
- Coursework projects will be assessed and contribute 30% of the overall in instances where students have been able to complete the modified tasks set in the brief (film scripts). This work will be completed independently through a combination of home learning and class work.

Assessments for Paper One and Paper Two film clusters are taking place in Assessment window 1. These will be used to formulate a grade. Students have had a narrowed assessment focus since January which cover all films studied but concentrates on specific topic areas. Students are aware of these topic areas.

Assessment opportunity for documentary film in Assessment window 2 (as this was studied after students were given specific topic areas to revise). This will be used to formulate a grade.

A second assessment opportunity for Paper one films taking place in Assessment window 2. This will be used to formulate a grade.

Students also have opportunity to submit coursework. This is a script of 1600 words. Students have had the rubric for this since September 2019. Other coursework elements, involving digital elements have been removed. In the event of non-submission, this will not have a detrimental effect upon a student's grade. However, submitted coursework may be used if it has a positive impact upon a student's grade.

Mock exams taken in 2020 will also be taken into consideration when determining the students' strongest response to the 7 film units. There are in total 7 separate assessment components, covering 7 film units. When formulating a final grade, we will 'discount' a student's weakest component and award their grade based on the strongest 6 components. This will be based on overall performance across the 6 components, and we will look for sustained evidence of meeting grade criterion across the 6 components, rather than penalising students if it's not met in a single, specific component area. Where coursework



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has been submitted this will also be considered if it has a positive impact but will be discounted if it has a negative impact upon a student's grade.

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### Financial Studies: LIBF Certificate in Financial Studies (CeFS)

#### *Subject Overview:*

For Financial Studies, a broad range of evidence is being used from study across the course, all Assessment Objectives have been able to be assessed and Staff are using their holistic professional judgement to formulate students' grades. They are considering the records of students' work from Controlled Assessments, classwork, practice papers, and April/May assessments. The following Formal Assessments have also been used:

- Unit 1 Sample Section A - Completed March 2021
- Unit 1 Internal Assessment (Section B) – Completed April 2021.
- Unit 2 Sample Section A - Completed May 2021
- Unit 2 Internal Assessment – Completed May 2021.
- Home Learning
- Class work

Choice of assessment evidence to reflect structure of actual exams:

#### Unit 1

- Section A: out of 35 – Assessment 1 data used.
- Section B: out of 65 – Assessment 2 data multiplied by 1.5 plus up to 5 marks for SPAG

#### Unit 2

- Section A: out of 35 – Assessment 3 data used.
- Section B: out of 65 – Assessment 4 data multiplied by 1.5 plus up to 5 marks for SPAG

Combined total score for Unit 1 and Unit 2 used to identify grade based on most recent grade boundaries.

Assessment 5 and Assessment 6 will be used to support a judgement as to whether any upward adjustment of up to half a grade would be fair where students perform significantly below expected standard. This measure addresses disruption due to Covid and the lost retake opportunity.

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### Financial Studies: LIBF Diploma in Financial Studies (DipFS)

#### *Subject Overview:*

For Financial Studies, a broad range of evidence is being used from study across the course, all Assessment Objectives have been able to be assessed and Staff are using their holistic professional judgement to formulate students' grades. They are considering the records of students' work from Controlled Assessments, classwork, practice papers, and April/May assessments. The following Formal Assessments have also been used:

- Unit 1 Exam – Completed January 2020.
- Unit 2 Exam – CAG awarded June 2020.



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- Unit 3 Sample Section A – Completed March 2021.
- Unit 3 Internal Assessment – Completed April 2021.
- Unit 4 Sample Section A – Completed May 2021.
- Unit 4 Internal Assessment – Completed May 2021.
- Home Learning
- Class work

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### French GCE A-Level (9FR0)

#### *Subject Overview:*

For French, a broad range of evidence is being used from study across the course, all Assessment Objectives have been able to be assessed and Staff are using their holistic professional judgement to formulate students' grades. They are considering the records of students' work from Controlled Assessments, classwork, practice papers, and April/May assessments. The following Formal Assessments have also been used:

- Year 13 mock exams in Listening, Reading & Translation.
  - Paper 1 AS (GCE-style) My Dynamic Learning paper – completed October 2020.
- AW1 Past papers in Listening, Reading, Writing & Translation.
  - Paper 1 (2019) Listening, Reading & translation – completed April 2021.
  - Paper 2 (2019) Film & Literature Essay responses & analyses & translation – completed April 2021.
- AW2 Past papers in Writing & Translation.
  - Paper 1 (2020) Listening, Reading & translation – completed May 2021.
  - Paper 2 (2020) Film & Film Essay responses & analyses & translation – completed May 2021.
  - Paper 3 (2019) Speaking – completed May 2021
- Translations completed in class & at home – June 2020 – April 2021
- Listening & Reading tasks completed in class & at home – June 2020 – April 2021
- Practice essays in class & at home – September 2020 – May 2021
- End of Unit tests on My Dynamic Learning – June 2020 – April 2021
- Speaking completed via a number of different methods, in class, via Teams and at home – June 2020 – May 2021.

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### Geography GCE A-Level (H481)

#### *Subject Overview:*

For Geography, a broad range of evidence is being used from study across the course, all Assessment Objectives have been able to be assessed and Staff are using their holistic professional judgement to formulate students' grades. They are considering the records of students' work from Controlled Assessments, classwork, practice papers, and April/May assessments.

The following Formal Assessments have also been used:

- Geography Paper 1 – Changing Places, Making Spaces – completed April 2021
- Geography Paper 2 – Climate Change and Future of Food – completed April 2021



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- Geography Paper 3 – Global Connections and Earth's Life Support Systems – completed May 2021
- Non-Examined Assessment – completed January 2021

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### German GCE A-Level (9GN0)

#### *Subject Overview:*

For German, a broad range of evidence is being used from study across the course, all Assessment Objectives have been able to be assessed and Staff are using their holistic professional judgement to formulate students' grades. They are considering the records of students' work from Controlled Assessments, classwork, practice papers, and April/May assessments. The following Formal Assessments have also been used:

- Year 13 mock exams in Listening, Reading & Translation.
  - Paper 1 AS (GCE-style) My Dynamic Learning paper – completed October 2020.
- AW1 Past papers in Listening, Reading, Writing & Translation.
  - Paper 1 (2019) Listening, Reading & translation – completed April 2021.
  - Paper 2 (2019) Film & Literature Essay responses & analyses & translation – completed April 2021.
- AW2 Past papers in Writing & Translation.
  - Paper 1 (2020) Listening, Reading & translation – completed May 2021.
  - Paper 2 (2020) Film & Film Essay responses & analyses & translation – completed May 2021.
  - Paper 3 (2019) Speaking – completed May 2021
- Translations completed in class & at home – June 2020 – April 2021
- Listening & Reading tasks completed in class & at home – June 2020 – April 2021
- Practice essays in class & at home – September 2020 – May 2021
- End of Unit tests on My Dynamic Learning – June 2020 – April 2021
- Speaking completed via a number of different methods, in class, via Teams and at home – June 2020 – May 2021.

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### History GCE A-Level (H505)

#### *Subject Overview:*

For History, a broad range of evidence is being used from study across the course, all Assessment Objectives have been able to be assessed and Staff are using their holistic professional judgement to formulate students' grades. They are considering the records of students' work from Controlled Assessments, classwork, practice papers, and April/May assessments. The following Formal Assessments have also been used

- Content from Papers 1 and 2 was assessed in October 2020
- Content from Papers 1, 2 & 3 were assessed in two assessment windows in April and May 2021
- The Topic Based Essay was carried out and assessed in 2021

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### ICT BTEC level 3 extended certificate (601-7575/8)

#### *Subject Overview:*

For BTEC ICT Extended certificate a broad range of evidence is being used from study across the course, most Assessment Objectives have been able to be assessed (see below) and Staff are using their holistic professional judgement to formulate students' grades. They are considering the records of students' work from Controlled Assessments, classwork, practice papers, and April/May assessments. The following Formal Assessments have also been used:

- Unit 1: Information technology systems (External exam) - Grades awarded from Jan 2020
- Unit 2: Creating systems to manage Information (Assessed in school – May 2021)
- Unit 3: Using social media in Business (coursework) - Graded and submitted to SV
- Unit 6: Website development (coursework) – CAG grades from June 2020

For unit 6 Learning aim C has been omitted, this was due to lockdown 1 (March – September 2020). Evaluation skills have been assessed in unit 2 and 3.

Assessment evidence outlined mirrors the evidence that would be produced in a 'normal' year with the exception of Learning Aim C on unit 6. The marks across all the assessments have been aggregated to arrive at the final grading decision.

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### Maths GCE A-level (9MA0)

This applies to students studying A level Maths only.

#### *Subject Overview:*

For Maths, a broad range of evidence is being used from study across the course, all Assessment Objectives have been able to be assessed and Staff are using their holistic professional judgement to formulate students' grades. They are considering the records of students' work from Controlled Assessments, Y12 and Y13 tests, classwork, homework, practice papers, and April/May assessments. The following Formal Assessments have also been used:

- Maths Paper 1 – Completed April 2021
- Maths Paper 2 – Completed April 2021
- Maths Paper 3 – Completed April 2021
- Maths Paper 1 – Completed April 2021
- Maths Paper 2 – Completed May 2021
- Maths Paper 3 – Completed May 2021

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### Maths GCE A-level (9MA0)

This applies to students studying A level Maths and Further Maths.

#### *Subject Overview:*

For Maths, a broad range of evidence is being used from study across the course, all Assessment Objectives have been able to be assessed and Staff are using their holistic professional judgement to formulate students' grades. They are considering the records of



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students' work from Controlled Assessments, Y12 and Y13 tests, classwork, homework, practice papers, and April/May assessments. The following Formal Assessments have also been used:

- Maths Paper 1 – Completed April 2021
- Maths Paper 2 – Completed April 2021
- Maths Paper 3 – Completed April 2021
- Maths Paper 1 – Completed May 2021
- Maths Paper 3 – Completed May 2021

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### Further Maths GCE A-level (9FM0)

*Subject Overview:*

For Further Maths, a broad range of evidence is being used from study across the course, all Assessment Objectives have been able to be assessed and Staff are using their holistic professional judgement to formulate students' grades. They are considering the records of students' work from Controlled Assessments, Y12 and Y13 tests, classwork, homework, practice papers, and April/May assessments. The following Formal Assessments have also been used:

- Core Pure Maths Paper 1 – Completed April 2021
- Core Pure Maths Paper 2 – Completed April 2021
- Further Pure Maths Paper 1 – Completed April 2021
- Decision Maths Paper 1 – Completed April 2021
- Core Pure Maths Paper 1 – Completed May 2021
- Further Pure Maths Paper 1 – Completed May 2021
- Decision Maths Paper 1 – Completed May 2021

A full set of papers plus a further three papers were used to cover as much of the course content as possible, and we are able to set grade boundaries for the papers. The papers were all completed under controlled conditions, giving us confidence that the work was the students' own. Grades achieved in the April/May papers will be considered along with Controlled Assessment and test scores; Controlled Assessments and tests were completed in class under a High level of control.

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### Media Studies GCE A-level (A680)

*Subject Overview:*

Staff are using their holistic professional judgement to formulate students' grades. While they are considering the records of students' work from the Year 12 Data, the core evidence is from the assessments students have completed this academic year (Year 13) as this is reflective of their best performance. They have a broad range of evidence from study across the course; all Assessment Objectives are assessed. There is at least one piece of evidence for each exam paper in Media Studies Component 1 & 2 in addition to Component 3 (comprised of coursework). There are 2 pieces of evidence for Components 1 & 2 and a coursework portfolio for Component 3.

- Prior mock data will be used (Component 1 Paper, and in-class assessments for Component 2 paper).



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- April/May Series - students are completing a full set of A-Level papers which will form a large proportion of the judgement. Prior end of unit test results will be used in the event of student absence from assessments.
- Coursework projects will be assessed and contribute 30% of the overall in instances where students have been able to complete the modified tasks set in the brief (including moodboard, focus group research, product research, annotated design sketches and statement of aims and a written article.). This work will be completed independently through a combination of home learning and class work.

Assessments for Paper One (Component 1) and Paper Two (Component 2) case studies are taking place in Assessment window 1. These will be used to formulate a grade. Students have had a narrowed assessment focus since January which cover all areas of assessment but with a reduced number of case studies (one removed from Component 1 paper) and specific topic areas for Component 2 paper. Students are aware of these topic areas that will not appear on their exam paper.

Students also have opportunity to submit coursework. This is a portfolio of production planning tasks including moodboard, focus group research, product research, annotated design sketches and statement of aims and a written article. Students have had the rubric for this since June 2020. Other coursework elements, involving digital elements have been removed. In the event of non-submission, this will not have a detrimental effect upon a student's grade. However, submitted coursework may be used if it has a positive impact upon a student's grade.

The mock exam (component 1) and the in-class assessment (Component 2: Sections A and B) taken in 2020 will also be taken into consideration when determining the students' strongest response to the 11 case study set texts. There are in total 6 separate assessment components, covering 16 case study texts. When formulating a final grade, we will 'discount' a student's weakest component and award their grade based on the strongest 7 components. This will be based on overall performance across the 7 components, and we will look for sustained evidence of meeting grade criterion across the 7 components, rather than penalising students if it's not met in a single, specific component area. Where coursework has been submitted this will also be considered if it has a positive impact but will be discounted if it has a negative impact upon a student's grade.

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## Physical Education GCE A-Level (OCR – H555)

### *Subject Overview:*

The A level PE students will only be assessed on content that has been taught. This includes the vast majority of the course with the exception of some of the biomechanics content (component 1). Students will be informed as to what has not been taught and therefore, will not be included in either of the Assessment Windows. All 4 components of the course will be assessed with modifications where deemed necessary.

- Component 1 - Physiological factors affecting performance (30%)
- Component 2 - Psychological factors affecting performance (20%)
- Component 3 - Socio-cultural issues in physical activity and sport (20%)
- Component 4 - Performance in physical education (30%)



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A broad range of evidence will be taken into account before coming to a final grade. This will include;

- Five Controlled assessments that have been completed throughout the course
- Practical performances observed by members of the PE faculty (during the course)
- The EAPI which will be marked as in previous years after an internal standardisation meeting.
- Assessment Window 1 (carried out in April 2021) - students will sit 3 assessments
- Assessment Window 2 (carried out in May 2021) – students will sit 3 assessments

60% of the course is assessed through Components 1, 2, and 3 which will be carried out in Assessment Windows 1 & 2. The length of the papers and the time allowed is consistent with the weighting for each of these components. AO 1,2 and 3 will be assessed in these assessments.

Component 4 will cover the performance aspect of the course (including the EAPI and practical element). The EAPI will be conducted as would be the case under normal circumstances. The practical grade will be based on past student performance that has been observed by members of the PE faculty.

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### Physics GCE A-Level (7408)

*Subject overview:*

For Physics, a broad range of evidence is being used from study across the course, all Assessment Objectives have been able to be assessed and Staff are using their holistic professional judgement to formulate students' grades. They are considering the records of students' work from Controlled Assessments, classwork, practice papers, and April/May assessments. The following Formal Assessments have also been used:

- Prior mock data will be used (AS Papers),
- April/May Series - students are completing two full sets of A-Level papers which will form a large proportion of the judgement
- Prior end of chapter test results will be used in the event of student absence from assessments.

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### Politics GCE A-Level (Edexcel - 9PL0)

*Subject Overview:*

For Politics, a broad range of evidence is being used from study across the course, all Assessment Objectives have been able to be assessed and Staff are using their holistic professional judgement to formulate students' grades. They are considering the records of students' work from Controlled Assessments, Y12 and Y13 tests, classwork, homework, practice papers, and April/May assessments. The following Formal Assessments have also been used:

- Internal Assessment Paper - mixture of Component 1 and Component 2 content – Completed October 2020.
- Internal Assessment Window 1 - both Component 1 and Component 2 papers completed – Completed April 2021.





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- Internal Assessment Window 2 - elements of Component 3 assessed – Completed May 2021.
- Home Learning
- Class work including Controlled Essays

Choice of assessment evidence to reflect structure of actual exams:

- Component 1
- Assessment 2 data used.
- Component 2
- Assessment 2 data used.
- Component 3
- Assessment 3 data used.

Combined total score for Components 1, 2 and 3 used to identify grade based on most recent grade boundaries.

Assessments 1, 4 and 5 will be used to support a judgement as to whether any upward adjustment would be fair where students perform significantly below expected standard. This measure addresses disruption to learning from Covid.

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### Product Design GCE A-Level (7552)

*Subject Overview:*

For Product Design, a broad range of evidence is being used from study across the course, all Assessment Objectives have been able to be assessed and Staff are using their holistic professional judgement to formulate students' grades. They are considering the records of students' work from Controlled Assessments, Y12 and Y13 tests, classwork, homework, practice papers, and April/May assessments. The following Formal Assessments have also been used:

- NEA (50%) – Completed May 2021
- Paper 1 – Completed November 2020.
- Paper 2 – Completed November 2020
- Paper 1 – Completed April 2021
- Paper 2 – Completed April 2021

NEA had been completed well throughout lockdown. Time given prior to second assessment window to focus on manufacture of one aspect for testing. Topics for Assessments 4 and 5 were given to students during lockdown to focus their revision more effectively.

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### Psychology GCE A-Level (7182)

*Subject Overview:*

For Psychology, a broad range of evidence is being used from study across the course, all Assessment Objectives have been able to be assessed and Staff are using their holistic professional judgement to formulate students' grades. They are considering the records of students' work from Controlled Assessments, Y12 and Y13 tests, classwork, homework, practice papers, and April/May assessments. The following Formal Assessments have also been used:



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- Internal Assessment Papers 1 and 2 – Completed April 2021.
- Internal Assessment Paper 2– Completed October 2020.
- Home Learning
- Class work including Controlled Essays

Choice of assessment evidence to reflect structure and weighting of actual exams:

- Paper 1
- Assessment data 1 used
- Paper 2
- Assessment data 1 used
- Paper 3
- Assessment data 2 multiplied by 1.5

Combined total score for Papers 1, 2 and 3 used to identify grade based on most recent grade boundaries, with adjustment to reflect total marks available.

Assessment 3 will be used to support a judgement as to whether any upward adjustment of up to half a grade would be fair where students perform significantly below expected standard. This measure addresses disruption to learning from Covid.

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### Religious Studies GCE A-Level (A120)

*Subject Overview:*

For Religious Studies, a broad range of evidence is being used from study across the course, all Assessment Objectives have been able to be assessed and Staff are using their holistic professional judgement to formulate students' grades. They are considering the records of students' work from Controlled Assessments, Y12 and Y13 tests, classwork, homework, practice papers, and April/May assessments. The following Formal Assessments have also been used:

- RS Paper 1 covering Philosophy and Christianity – Completed October 2020
- RS Paper 2 covering Ethics - Completed April 2021.
- RS Paper 3 covering Philosophy and Christianity– Completed April 2021
- RS Paper 4 covering Christianity – Completed May 2021

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### Sociology GCE A-Level (AQA - 7192)

*Subject Overview:*

For Sociology, a broad range of evidence is being used from study across the course, all Assessment Objectives have been able to be assessed and Staff are using their holistic professional judgement to formulate students' grades. They are considering the records of students' work from Controlled Assessments, Y12 and Y13 tests, classwork, homework, practice papers, and April/May assessments. The following Formal Assessments have also been used:

- Mock Examination covering Crime and Deviance, Education and Theory and Methods – Completed October 2020.
- Assessment 1 covering Crime and Deviance and Theory and Methods– Completed April 2021.



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- Assessment 2 covering Beliefs in Society – Completed May 2021
- Assessment 3 – covering Education and Families & Households - Completed May 2021

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### Spanish GCE A-Level (9SP0)

#### *Subject Overview:*

For Spanish, a broad range of evidence is being used from study across the course, all Assessment Objectives have been able to be assessed and Staff are using their holistic professional judgement to formulate students' grades. They are considering the records of students' work from Controlled Assessments, Y12 and Y13 tests, classwork, homework, practice papers, and April/May assessments. The following Formal Assessments have also been used:

- Year 13 mock exams in Listening, Reading & Translation.
  - Paper 1 AS (GCE-style) My Dynamic Learning paper – completed October 2020.
- AW1 Past papers in Listening, Reading, Writing & Translation.
  - Paper 1 (2019) Listening, Reading & translation – completed April 2021.
  - Paper 2 (2019) Film Essay response & analysis & translation – completed April 2021.
- AW2 Past papers in Listening, Reading, Writing, Translation, Speaking.
  - Paper 2 (2019) Literature Essay response & analysis – completed May 2021.
  - Paper 3 (2019) Speaking – completed May 2021
- Translations completed in class & at home – June 2020 – April 2021
- Listening & Reading tasks completed in class & at home – June 2020 – April 2021
- Practice essays in class & at home – September 2020 – May 2021
- End of Unit tests on My Dynamic Learning – June 2020 – April 2021
- Speaking completed via a number of different methods, in class, via Teams and at home – June 2020 – May 2021.

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### Sport BTEC Level 3 Diploma (603-0460/1)

#### *Subject Overview:*

For Sport BTEC, a broad range of evidence is being used from study across the course, all Assessment Objectives have been able to be assessed and Staff are using their holistic professional judgement to formulate students' grades. They are considering the records of students' work from Internal Assessments, Y12 and Y13 tests, classwork, homework, practice papers, and April/May assessments. The following Formal Assessments have also been used:

There are 6 internal assessments and 3 external assessments for the Level 3 Sport BTEC, taught across the 2 year course.

- Unit 1- External assessment
- Unit 2- External assessment
- Unit 3- Internal assessment (via coursework assignments)
- Unit 4- Internal assessment (via coursework assignments)
- Unit 6- Internal assessment (via coursework assignments)



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- Unit 9- Internal assessment (via coursework assignments)
- Unit 22 – External assessment
- Unit 23 - Internal assessment (via coursework assignments)
- Unit 24 - Internal assessment (via coursework assignments)

The evidence above was used because it gives the best/most realistic reflection of pupil's capabilities. These have supported the grading decision by giving subject teachers a 'real' grade/mark

5 out of the required 6 internal assessment units have been fully completed, despite some content being delivered and assessed during lockdowns. The remaining internal assessment is currently being delivered and will be assessed before Year 13 students leave at May half term. 5 out of 6 internal assessment units have, therefore, been completed, assessed and moderated accurately using appropriate assessment evidence.

Due to COVID lockdowns none of the 3 external assessments Unit 1,2 and 22 have been able to be officially sat. Students were awarded CAG's in Year 12 for Units 1 and 2 and will be awarded a CAG for Unit 22 in Year 13.



## Birchwood High School's approach to Centre Assessed Grades 2021

Extensive internal verification (ongoing) and standardisation of OSCA material (at the start of each academic year) helps to ensure accurate planning, delivery and assessment of BTEC unit content.

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### Sport BTEC Level 3 Extended Diploma (603-0459/5)

#### *Subject Overview:*

For Sport BTEC, a broad range of evidence is being used from study across the course, all Assessment Objectives have been able to be assessed and Staff are using their holistic professional judgement to formulate students' grades. They are considering the records of students' work from Internal Assessments, Y12 and Y13 tests, classwork, homework, practice papers, and April/May assessments. The following Formal Assessments have also been used:

- Assessment 1: Unit 1- Exam – Pearson calculated grade
- Assessment 2: Unit 2- Exam – Pearson calculated grade
- Assessment 3: Unit 3- Completed
- Assessment 4: Unit 4- Completed
- Assessment 5: Unit 5- Completed
- Assessment 6: Unit 7- Completed
- Assessment 7: Unit 8 Completed
- Assessment 8: Unit 9 Coursework - Pearson calculated grade
- Assessment 9: Unit 18 Coursework - Pearson calculated grade
- Assessment 10: Unit 19 Exam
- Assessment 11: Unit 22 Completed (Jan 2020)
- Assessment 12: Unit 23 Completed
- Assessment 13: Unit 24 Coursework – Pearson calculated grade
- Assessment 14: Unit 30 Completed

The evidence above was used because it gives the best/most realistic reflection of pupil's capabilities. These have supported the grading decision by giving subject teachers a 'real' grade/mark

3 out of the required 10 internal assessment units were completed in year 12 and another 4 completed in Year 13. The remaining 3 internal assessments were awarded centre assessed grades. 7/10 internal assessment units have, therefore, been completed, assessed and moderated accurately using appropriate assessment evidence.

Out of the 4 external assessment units only 1 (Unit 22 in Jan 2020) was able to be officially sat as an external exam. Unit 1 and 2 were awarded calculated grades by Pearson and Unit 19 has been assessed via internal mock assessments to support Q-TAG in 2021.

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