

A Guide For Parents

Controlled Assessment

What is Controlled Assessment?

The concept of controlled assessment has been developed by the examination regulators to preserve the positive aspects of “coursework” while addressing the concerns of teachers with regard to authenticity and validity of “coursework”.

What is the Controlled Assessment process?

This approach to “coursework” allows greater reliability and credibility of internal assessment. The three processes involved are:

Task setting – To ensure the tasks are valid and reliable;

Task taking – To control the circumstances under which tasks are taken to address issues of authentication of the work;

Task marking – To ensure high quality judgements are made in relation to assessing work.

The majority of GCSE specifications have an element of controlled assessment which ranges from 25% - 60% of the overall assessment.

Pupils should benefit from this system since the time needed to be spent on each assessment is clearly defined and it creates a more even assessment based on pupil performance. Some elements of controlled assessment are marked by the teacher and moderated by the examination board while other elements are marked by the examination board. Within any given subject a combination of marking types can exist.

How much time will Controlled Assessment take and when does it take place?

Different tasks will have different amounts of time allocated to them. Some tasks will have to take place over several days or weeks. Teachers will inform their students of the amount of time they will spend preparing for Controlled Assessment and the time allocated to complete the task.

Controlled Assessments will be undertaken across Years 11 and 12 to accommodate all subjects and their needs. Pupils will be informed of submission dates by their subject teachers. However final GCSE grades will not be known until results are published in August of Year 12.

Can students work in groups to complete their controlled assessment task?

In many subjects students can work in groups, for example to gather information. However, they must produce an individual response which can be assessed as their own work.

If a candidate is absent for any period of time during the task taking, where a time limit is given, how can this be managed?

If a student is absent or misses allocated controlled assessment time they can sit the task or work on it at another convenient time, providing that the controlled assessment supervision requirements for the specific subject(s) are met.

Attendance

Controlled Assessment means that important discussions and valuable preparation will take place in class time and absences will affect progress. Students must attend school every day and when absence is unavoidable they are responsible for catching up on work missed.

What happens if a pupil is absent for a controlled assessment?

At the discretion of the Head of Centre and **only in exceptional circumstance** will a pupil be allowed to sit the controlled assessment at a different time. A parent/guardian should inform the Head of Centre, in writing, giving a valid reason for absence.

Please note in such circumstances it may not always be possible to designate time for preparation or to arrange alternative sessions due to time constraints.

Copying of Work (plagiarism)

Pupils will be required to sign a Declaration Form stating that all work is their own and that they have received no help beyond that outlined in the specification. The regulations state that:

- Work submitted for assessment must be that of the pupil and not copied from another source. All sources must be clearly acknowledged by the pupil.

- Pupils must not allow others to copy their work.

Subject	% of Exam	Details
Art & Design	60%	Core Portfolio consisting of a maximum of 20 A2 sheets or equivalent (40 A3 sheets) to include one piece of work which has been developed to a final outcome. <i>Completed throughout Years 11 & 12.</i>
Business Studies	25%	One controlled assessment involving research and report writing. <i>Completed in Year 12, Term 1.</i>
Business & Communication Systems	25%	One task: Design a website <i>Completed in Year 12.</i>
Child Development	60%	Unit 4 – One task = 30% <i>Completed in Year 11.</i> Unit 3 – One task = 30% <i>Completed in Year 12.</i>
Construction	60%	Unit 2 – 25 hours = 30% Unit 3 – 25 hours = 30% <i>Completed throughout Years 11 & 12.</i>
Drama	60%	Two practical performances, externally moderated. <i>One in Year 11, one in Year 12.</i>

English Language	60%	<p>Three controlled assessments = 40%.</p> <p>Speaking and listening, three tasks = 20%.</p> <p><i>Completed throughout Years 11 & 12.</i></p>
English Literature	25%	<p>One controlled assessment, the study of linked texts.</p> <p><i>Completed in Year 11.</i></p>
French	60%	<p>Writing, two tasks = 15% each (30%)</p> <p>Speaking, two tasks = 15% each (30%)</p> <p><i>Completed throughout Years 11 & 12.</i></p>
Geography	25%	<p>Investigative study involving primary data collection.</p> <p>Compilation of 2000 word report.</p> <p><i>Completed throughout Years 11 & 12.</i></p>
Health & Social Care	60%	<p>Three tasks = 60%</p> <p><i>Completed throughout Years 11 & 12.</i></p>
History	25%	<p>One controlled assessment.</p> <p><i>Completed in Year 12, Term 1.</i></p>
Hospitality	60%	<p>Log book = 24%</p> <p><i>Completed in Year 11.</i></p> <p>Function = 24%</p> <p><i>Completed in Year 12.</i></p> <p>Meal = 12%</p>
ICT	60%	<p>Unit 1: Tools and Applications</p> <p>Task 1- Database. Task 2 - Spreadsheet. Task 3 - Presentation.</p> <p>Unit Total = 30%</p>

		<p><i>Completed in Year 11.</i></p> <p>Unit 2: Using Multimedia and Games Technology</p> <p>Task 1 - Creation of a Multimedia website. Task 2 - Creation of a game.</p> <p>Unit Total = 30%</p> <p><i>Completed in Year 12.</i></p> <p>Starting Unit may vary from year to year.</p>
Irish	60%	<p>Writing, two tasks = 15% each (30%)</p> <p>Speaking, two tasks = 15% each (30%)</p> <p><i>Completed throughout Years 11 & 12.</i></p>
Learning for Life and Work	60%	<p>Unit 1: Report 1 = 30%</p> <p>Unit 2: Report 2 = 30%</p> <p><i>Completed in Year 12.</i></p>
Motor Vehicle & Road User Studies	60%	<p>Unit 2: Investigative Study = 30%</p> <p>Unit 3: Practical Riding Activity = 30%</p> <p><i>Completed throughout Years 11 & 12.</i></p>
Music	65%	<p>One practical task, externally moderated = 35%</p> <p>One composition = 30%</p> <p><i>Completed throughout Years 11 & 12.</i></p>
Physical Education	60%	<p>Component 2 : Developing and Maintaining a Balanced, Healthy Lifestyle = 20%</p> <p>Component 3: Individual Performance in Physical Activities = 40%</p> <p><i>Continually assessed throughout Years 11 & 12. Final mark awarded at external moderation, end of Year 12.</i></p>
Science	25%	<p>Single Award – One controlled assessment = 25%</p> <p>Double Award – Two controlled assessments = 25%</p> <p><i>Started in Term 3 of Year 11, completed in Term 1 of Year 12.</i></p>
Technology & Design	60%	<p>Unit 4 – 13 hours = 20%</p> <p><i>Completed in Year 11.</i></p> <p>Unit 5 – 30 hours = 40%</p> <p><i>Completed throughout Years 11 & 12.</i></p>

