

Adaptations Summary Sheet for entries summer 2021

WJEC – Level 3 Food Science and Nutrition

Level 3 Applied Diploma in Food Science and Nutrition

For Diploma candidates' part-way through their qualification in Summer 2020, the following options are available for completion in Summer 2021:

Option 1

- Candidates sit Unit 2 *Ensuring food is safe to eat* and either Unit 3 *Experimenting to Solve Food Production* or Unit 4 *Current issues in food science and nutrition*.

Option 2a

- Candidates sit Unit 2 *Ensuring food is safe to eat* and either Unit 3 *Experimenting to Solve Food Production* or Unit 4 *Current issues in food science and nutrition*.
- In addition, candidates sit both the internal and external assessment in Unit 1 *Meeting nutritional needs of specific groups*.

Option 2b

- Candidates sit Unit 2 *Ensuring food is safe to eat* and either Unit 3 *Experimenting to Solve Food Production* or Unit 4 *Current issues in food science and nutrition*.
- In addition, candidates sit **either** the internal or external assessment in Unit 1 *Meeting nutritional needs of specific groups*.

Adaptations to assessments in 2020/21

Unit 1: Meeting nutritional needs of specific groups – controlled assessment and external examination 50%

The requirement for direct supervision (high control) will be removed for part of task 1 allowing candidates to complete research into dishes to meet the needs of the client group and nutritional analysis outside of the classroom.

The need for a physical interview will be removed from task 3. Instead candidates may submit the evidence they have produced in preparation for the interview and the teacher can use this to complete the observation record.

Unit 2: Ensuring food is safe to eat – external examination 25%

There are no changes to the assessment of this unit.

Unit 3: Experimenting to solve food production problems (optional) – controlled assessment 25%

The requirement for direct supervision (high control) will be removed for task 1 - research into food production, and for the sensory analysis (tasting and testing) of practical outcomes in task 2.

Unit 4: Current issues in food science and nutrition (optional) – controlled assessment 25%

The requirement for direct supervision (high control) will be removed for the first part of task 2, carrying out research.

Further information

- The deadline for presenting evidence for the NEA will remain on 15th May 2021.
- Centres should be aware that these rules apply to 2021 only and any candidates wishing to re-sit in 2022 would be expected to enter all Units as in the approved Specification <https://www.wjec.co.uk/media/gr3jc4gg/level-3-diploma-in-food-science-and-nutrition-specification-2019-2020.pdf>

Rationale

Adaptations have been made to the way in which assessments are completed in 2020/21.

The removal of the requirement for teachers to conduct individual interviews with learners as part of the unit 1 assessment will help address social distancing concerns and free up additional classroom time for teaching and learning.

The removal of the requirement for direct supervision from aspects of the controlled assessment will provide more flexible assessment arrangements and allow candidates to produce evidence for assessment outside of the timetabled classroom hours. The time saved in the classroom can be used for additional teaching and learning for the external examination in unit 2.

Extra teaching time for the examination content could also be gained from reducing the number of practical sessions learners have to practice food preparation skills. This may also be a necessity to accommodate social distancing requirements and if no equipment is to be re-used within 72 hours.

We invited centres to comment on these proposed adaptations in July this year. There were 35 responses to the survey. Over 67% of respondents agreed that the proposal is appropriate to mitigate lost teaching and learning time and a similar number confirmed that the proposals do not give an advantage or disadvantage to learners over and above those seen in other subjects. 92% agreed that the proposals ensure that essential content and skills are maintained and 83% agreed the demand of the qualification was retained which ensures the integrity of the qualification. Over 60% agreed that the proposal alleviated social distancing issues for group work and practical work, although we do appreciate there is some variation in approaches across centres.

Some centres were concerned about candidates needing to complete both the Certificate and Diploma assessments in 2020-21 however; as outlined above, candidates who were part-way through their qualification in summer 2020 will not need to complete the Certificate units. This amounts to a 50% reduction in assessment across the full Diploma level qualification for those cashing in in 2021. Therefore, the adaptations aim to ensure that assessment in the Diploma units is manageable in 2021, whilst retaining the full 50% assessment contained in the Diploma units, as any further reduction in assessment would jeopardise the integrity of the qualification.