



GCSE Information & Communication Technology

When can the units be assessed?



You now have choices on when you can assess each unit.
Below are four options you may like to consider, which take into account the 40% rule.

Option 1 – Want to sit the exam first?

June 2011	June 2012	Advantages
Unit 1 – Exam 40%	Unit 2 – Controlled Assessment Unit 3 – Controlled Assessment 60%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Get the exam marks banked If a student did not perform well they could re-sit the exam in either January or June 2012 and the best exam mark will count towards the qualification Have more time to do the controlled assessment units

Option 2 – Want to get all of the Controlled Assessment completed first?

June 2011	January 2012 <small>Or completed in</small> June 2012	Advantages
Unit 2 and Unit 3 – Controlled Assessment 60%	Unit 1 – Exam 40%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Get the Controlled Assessment marks banked Students have the opportunity to re-sit Unit 2 alongside the exam in June 2012 Students have the opportunity to re-sit Unit 3 in either January or in June 2012 alongside the exam Students have the opportunity to re-sit Unit 1 in June 2012 however, due to the 40% rule, the re-sit mark will count towards the qualification

Option 3 – Want to do all the assessment at the end?

June 2011	January 2012	June 2012	Advantages
N/A	N/A	Unit 1 – Exam Unit 2 – Controlled Assessment Unit 3 – Controlled Assessment 100%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Do the assessment all at once Have more time to prepare

Assessment Overview

- Unit 1 – Exam 40%**
- Unit 2 – Controlled Assessment 30%**
There will be one assignment and it will change every year
- Unit 3 – Controlled Assessment 30%**
There will be six tasks that will be reviewed by AQA every three years

40% Rule:

At least 40% of the assessment must be taken at the end of the course

Availability of units

	Unit 1	Unit 2	Unit 3
June 2011	✓	✓	✓
January 2012	✓		✓
June 2012	✓	✓	✓
each January thereafter	✓		✓
each June thereafter	✓	✓	✓

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When can the units be assessed? Continued



Option 4 – Want to get some of the Controlled Assessment completed first?

June 2011	January 2012 Or completed in June 2012		Advantages
Unit 2 – Controlled Assessment 30%	Unit 1 – Exam Unit 3 – Controlled Assessment 70% (or 30% if you just do Unit 3)	Unit 1 – Exam Unit 3 – Controlled Assessment 70% (or 40% if you just do the exam)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Some Controlled Assessment marks will be banked • You can check that your marking is on the right track with your Unit 2 moderated marks • If the student sat the exam in January 2012 and did not perform well, they could re-sit the exam again in June 2012 • If your students did not do well in the Controlled Assessment Units they have opportunity to re-sit them in June 2012 • It can break the assessment into three blocks



June 2011	January 2012 Or completed in June 2012		Advantages
Unit 3 – Controlled Assessment 30%	Please note: with this option students could not sit the exam in January 2012 as they would not meet the 40% in June 2012 with only doing Unit 2 Controlled Assessment.	Unit 1 – Exam Unit 2 – Controlled Assessment 70%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Some Controlled Assessment marks will be banked • You can check that your marking is on the right track with your Unit 3 moderated marks

Re-sit information

Candidates can re-sit a unit only once before they certificate. The better marks will count towards the qualification apart from the 40% terminal assessment marks which will contribute to the final grade, even if the candidate has had a better result previously.

If my students re-sit Unit 2 do they have to do a new assignment?

- Yes they will have to sit a new assignment. However, a new assignment is only available once a year. For example if a candidate did unit 2 in June 2011, they would need to complete the new (2012) assignment if they wished to re-sit the unit the following June.

If my students re-sit Unit 3 do they have to do a new task?

- No, candidates can attempt the same task when re-taking Unit 3, provided, firstly, that the task is still valid and, secondly, that the work undertaken is new work.

How much time should my students spend when re-sitting Unit 2 or Unit 3?

- For unit 2 or 3 students could spend approximately 25 hours completing the work.