



Monday, 16 October 2023

Dear Parents/Carers,

In this letter, you will find crucial information regarding recent changes to the BTEC assessments that will impact your son/daughter. Due to new specifications being released, there is a need to conduct assessments in a different way: this means that each assessment must be carried out within a specified assessment window and they must take place in school, under the supervision of their class teacher.

For all BTEC courses (other than Textiles), students are required to complete two internally assessed components within two assessment windows – one in year 10, one in year 11. This will then be followed by an externally assessed component at the end of year 11. This may vary for students who are undertaking a 3-year BTEC course (for example, 3-year Health and Social Care) as their assessment windows will fall at different times across the duration of the course. Irrespective of the dates, all of the assessments count towards the student's final outcome for the course.

Assessment windows take place over a number of weeks, with a new assignment task/brief released by the exam board. Every lesson within each assessment window will count towards their final assessment grade for that component. Now, more than ever, every lesson counts. If your child is absent from a lesson, they will be missing an hour of study that would go towards their assessed component, so attendance for BTECs really is crucial.

It is important to be aware that students are allowed to take pre-prepared notes into their assessment. We strongly encourage students to actively work on these notes outside of lesson time, in the same way they would complete revision for other subjects. Although the specific requirements of this may vary for each subject, our staff are here to support the students and will be more than happy to provide more specific guidance.

In terms of resitting for BTEC subjects, a student is only able to resit a component once in the duration of the course. It is important to note that, if a student does need to resit, they will have to complete two components simultaneously during one assessment window. Whilst students can make use of the work already submitted for the component, they will be required to adapt it in a way that matches the new brief provided by the exam board. We want to avoid this where possible as the additional pressures of completing two components at once can have a negative impact on their outcomes.

We are currently generating a list of students who are required to resit any components already undertaken and we will be in touch in due course with further information and guidance.

If you have any questions about the new requirements for the BTEC assessments or would like to discuss this further, please contact Ms L. Johnson on johnsonl@tmhs.rkt.co.uk.

Kind Regards,

R. French

Miss R French
KS4 Phase Leader

