****

**External Awarding Bodies Headline Position on Assessment/Exams Protocol during COVID-19 Crisis**

N.B. All entries are current as of: 01/04/2020

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | AL/GCSEs | Vocational | ESOL/LLDD/FS | Apprenticeships  | External Verification/External Moderation/External Quality Assurance |
| DfE/Gov.uk/Ofqual | **24/3/20- Remains TBC** No exams.this summer.1. Ofqual will develop a process that will provide a calculated grade to each student which reflects their performance as fairly as possible, and will work with the exam boards to ensure this is consistently applied for all students. The exam boards will be asking teachers who know their students well to submit, for each student, a set of evidence which will include performance in mock results as well as their judgement about the grade that they believe the student would have received if exams had gone ahead.
2. Ofqual and exam boards will be talking to teachers’ representatives before finalising an approach,
3. There will also be an option to sit an exam early in the next academic year for students who wish to
 | **25/3/20- Remains TBC**1. Teacher calculated grade, or other form of estimation based on assessment that has already taken place. For other qualifications, it might be more appropriate to adapt the assessment or delivery arrangements.
2. Qualifications [with] occupational competence...might need to be delayed in order to ensure public safety and meet the needs of employers.
 |  | **23/3/20- Remains TBC w/emerging direction*** the modification and rescheduling of end-point assessment arrangements, including remote assessments wherever possible
* can initiate a break in learning where the interruption to learning due to COVID-19 is greater than four weeks
* where apprentices are made redundant, it is our ambition to find them alternative employment and continue their apprenticeship as quickly as possible and within 12 weeks
 | NA |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| AAT | Suspended | SuspendedAll AAT assessments suspended as of 22 March AAT continues to be fully operational in all other respects,  | NA | **Continuin**gIncludes the portfolio reflective element of apprenticeship End Point Assessments for those in the UK, which will be conducted remotely. | NA |
| Ascentis | NA | **NA** | **Delaying/reschedule exams only?**For all externally set assessments (ESOL, Short Online Qualifications, English & Maths), these are flexible, on demand assessments therefore can be rescheduled to a later date by the centre.We are not in the position to estimate results as this is not possible for our qualifications.  | NA | **Suspended** All external verification **visits** after this week have been suspended. Centres will be offered **remote verifications** where possible and EQAs will guide centres on how to arrange this. |
| AQA | As per Ofqual above | **NA** | NA | NA | NA |
| ASDAN | NA | NA | 1.4.20Only impacts on LLDD: ASDAN *Personal Progress & Employability.*All moderation visits for this academic year are cancelled and moderation will be by post. | NA | **Continuing remotely** where final checks to candidate work have been made, but it has not been possible to make any minor adjustments |
| C&GILM |  | . | Online only | ?? | **Continuing remotely** Website has no detail and requests for sampling still being made.* C&G are working develop an approach which for the wide range of vocational and technical qualifications (VTQs) used for progression and taken in schools, colleges and training providers, and are considering how similar arrangements to those set out for GCSEs, AS and A levels could be applied. Some form of teacher calculated grade, or other form of estimation based on assessment that has already taken place, will be possible in many cases.
* For other qualifications, it might be more appropriate to adapt the assessment or delivery arrangements so that everyone can have confidence in the outcome.
* For some qualifications that signify occupational competence or award a licence to practise in safety-critical industries, assessment might need to be delayed in order to ensure public safety and meet the needs of employers.

C&G are working with the Department for Education, awarding organisations, other regulators and the wider sector to develop and publish a clear approach for the different categories of . |
| EAL |  | **Continuin**gThe majority of EAL EAL ***would advise that learners and centres should continue to prepare for external assessments in the usual way*** | Awaiting update | At this time, EAL has no plans to cancel End-Point Assessments.   | **Continuing remotely**  |
| **ESB** |  |  | 23/3/20ESB are currently reviewing their assessments scheduled for next term and will place updated messages for centres on our website (https://esbuk.org/web/ )and contact our wider ESB team directly.Central to our ethos is connection – do please continue to email customer@esbuk.org with questions; Let ESB know if you would like resources or support for your learners and continue to check back in to their website this week for our update. |  |  |
| Gateway |  |  |  |  | **Continuing remotely**  |
| IMI |  | Accreditation – with immediate effect IMI have implemented a 6 month extension window for certain groups. IMI advise anyone who has any questions to get in touch with their EQA or the Centre Admin team. |  |  | **Continuing remotely**EPAO – working within government guidelines and so if there are candidates at centres that are unaffected, IMI will commit to carry out the EPAO activity. Decision to switch to digital certificates for qualifications and IMI products. |
| NCFE/Cache | 26/3**Suspended**Following government guidelines, all NCFE and CACHE external assessments after 20 March 2020 will be cancelled or rescheduled until further notice. Do we still need to book learners onto external assessments that are currently cancelled or rescheduled? Yes. We still ned to ensure learners are registered onto the qualifications and booked onto the external assessment opportunity, even if this date is currently cancelled or rescheduled. | Unclear1/4/20The College has asked NCFE to confirm the following re CACHE:To confirm my understanding of the situation for this year:* I have told her that all external assessments, including on-line assessments, have been cancelled.
* teachers need not ask students to complete the work they would have submitted for external scrutiny as the external assessments have been cancelled and not postponed.
 | **Suspended****Functional Skills**1. The paper based external assessments will no longer take place for the foreseeable future.  We are not however turning off our online assessment system 2.We are unable to approve Entry Level Reading & Writing Functional Skills assessments being carried out remotely | As above Ofqual advice | **Continuing remotely** EQAs will be completing remote visits wherever possible so there should be no impact on certification claims where learner evidence can be sampled.  |
| NOCN |  | NOCN will be providing digital on-line support to you, this may include the ability to offer WebEx interviews, develop online invigilated exams in place of physical papers, and certain digital content support.  | **Continuing remotely** At this time NOCN has no plans to make any changes to the services and support provided for Functional Skills Qualifications, and we are monitoring the situation on a daily basis.NOCN advises centres and students to prepare for external assessments as is their usual practice |  | **Remote EV?** |
| OCR | With the other exam boards and Ofqual, and together with teachers' representatives, we're going to agree a consistent approach to how grades are calculated.OCR will ask teachers to tell them the grades students would have got if they had sat exams.Teachers can take into account evidence such as mock exams and non-exam assessment.OCR will then use data, such as prior attainment, to decide on a final calculated grade. | Vocational qualifications, including Cambridge Nationals and Cambridge TechnicalsWe’ll be working with other boards and with Ofqual, to agree an approach to ensure no students are disadvantaged.OCR will use the best available evidence, which could include assessments that students have completed, to confirm final calculated grades. |  |  | **Continuing remotely?** |
| OCN |  | Trying to arrange Access Online Completion of assignmentsLooking into ways to assess practical elements and controlled assessments |  |  | Remote completion of ERAC, final moderation and Award Board  |
| Pearson |  | 23/3RQF: Enter all BTEC Candidate entries for external assessment by 3rd April. Completed BTEC units- Please be advised for learners due to complete their BTEC qualification this summer, please upload all completed units on EOL | Online FS skills onlyPaper-based FS: Functional Skills paper-based and onscreen testing remains available to centres.  Pearson are continuing to send out Functional Skills papers for tests previously booked by centresAction:* Cancel any paper-based already booked and no longer needed;
* For April/May tests: Pearson urgently need to know whether you intend to continue with paper-based.

Contact Exams asap to let them know whether you will be continuing with these tests. Exams will then inform Pearson | Pearson are looking to move all verification visits to remote. This means that we do not expect visits to take place and instead verification will be conducted through e-portfolio systems, electronic evidence submission, or postal sampling. Please be advised for learners due to complete their BTEC qualification this summer, please upload all completed units on EOL | **Suspended**  |
| Pearson HE |  | HN EE remote sampling suspended but can continue if wished+ apply for distance learning! |  |  | **EE Continuing remotely if wished** |
| UAL |  | Suspended No Final Major Project.UAL are developing a grade estimation model based on previously completed work |  |  | ???? |
| VTCT |  | . |  | **End-point Assessment services**All EPA bookings for March, April and May will now be **postponed until at least June 2020**. VTCT will be accepting bookings for the month of June, however, please be aware that that depending on circumstances and government guidelines these may be subject to change | **Continuing remotely**  |
| WJEC | **WJEC:*** **is currently working closely with the regulators,  the Department for Education, and other awarding organisations to consider how we collectively manage the particular risks which may impact the smooth running of exams and assessments should there be a widespread outbreak of coronavirus.**

***At this stage, learners, teachers and centres should continue to prepare for the summer exams and assessments as usual. Should the need arise, centres will be notified of any changes to arrangements for the summer.*** **- is receiving a high numbers of enquiries regarding visiting moderators and examiners. Their teams are working through these enquiries as a matter of urgency.****To support our centres further, each subject team is preparing a list of FAQs which should answer any queries that you have relating to the submission of work which would usually be assessed by a visiting moderator or examiner. Please navigate to the**[**individual subject**](https://www.wjec.co.uk/en/qualifications/)  **at: https://www.wjec.co.uk/en/qualifications/** |  |  |  |  |

KJOC 1.4.20