

Protocol to ensure that learners having to isolate due to the Pandemic are not unduly disadvantaged.

Due to the continued impact the pandemic is still having within education and particularly for some students during this January Vocational exam series, we have made the decision in correspondence with both OCR and Edexcel exam boards, that any Year 2 student who have not been able to sit their exam at this time as planned due to Covid self-isolation, whether or not they had a positive test result, will have an application for special consideration entered with the relevant exam board.

We will not be applying for special consideration at this point for Year 1 students who had to isolate as they will still have three external examination series over their time at the college to sit these papers which will ensure that they have ample time to revisit content and achieve the best grade possible. This application for special consideration will not count as an exam sitting, meaning that no extra fees will be payable when it is agreed the time is right for them to sit the assessment.

Currently students do NOT need to produce medical evidence to support this request.

The guidance from Pearson/ BTEC states that, if an application for special consideration is accepted, the learner will have their result for the affected assessment populated at the point of certification (the end of the year), so BTEC students who have had an application for special consideration accepted will not receive a unit result in March.

This will either be a unit grade for the exam which will be calculated by looking at the individual student's performance in similar external examined units, or an aggregated score based on the student's overall performance. A comparison to the performance nationally could also be applied.

We are not sure at this stage whether students would receive this grade in March if they sat a CTEC exam or whether it will be applied to their final grade.

Students do still have the option to sit this exam again. Year 1's will be able to sit it in the summer series or next January, while Year 2's will be able to sit it in the summer of this academic year.

The highest grade that the student receives will be the one that they take forward. Subject teachers will work closely with these students to ensure that as always, they can access the best grade possible.

If you have any questions please contact the exams team; exams@wyke.ac.uk or the students subject teacher or tutor.