



6th January 2021

Dear parents, carers and BTEC candidates,

BTEC Examinations – January 2021

Many pupils and parents will want to know what is now happening with the BTEC examinations due to take place this half term. The first examination was today, and the next is due to happen tomorrow.

The Government made an announcement on Monday 4th January that January exams would go ahead, and then on Tuesday this changed to a decision whether or not exams should go ahead is now down to schools.

The timing and change of this announcement has been tricky to navigate to determine what we feel would be best for pupil in light of no confirmed details of the grading/ assessment system for Summer 2021.

After careful consideration, and prioritisation of the candidates due to sit an exam today, we have made the decision to give pupils the option and involve them in the decision making process. Therefore, if they believe they are going to achieve a strong grade based on their preparation and revision, we are happy to support them to continue with their BTEC exam(s) this half term. Decisions should be information by the following context:

- If pupils choose to sit their spring exam/s, the grade that is achieved in the examination will count towards the arrangements for awarding the qualification in Summer 2021. Once the examination is completed, the outcome is determined now and can't be changed.
- If pupils choose not sit their Spring exam/s, the unit/s they were due to sit will join other units being assess/ graded via teacher assessment (the final arrangements for BTEC grading in Summer 2021 are yet to be announced) in the Summer.

We ask therefore that pupils, parents and carers consider the above information carefully and email Mrs Cloves (Examinations Officer) via r.cloves@decschool.co.uk before the examination is due to take place to confirm your decision. A reminder that the examinations due to take place imminently are:

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|------------------------|----------|--------------------|
| Music | 07.01.21 | Year 11 candidates |
| Health and Social Care | 08.01.21 | Year 12 candidates |
| Health and Social Care | 11.01.21 | Year 13 candidates |
| Business | 12.01.21 | Year 12 candidates |
| Media | 18.01.21 | Year 12 candidates |
| Enterprise | 01.02.21 | Year 12 candidates |
| Health and Social Care | 05.02.21 | Year 11 candidates |

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact school via enquiry@decschool.co.uk

Yours sincerely

Mr M Dunn
Head Teacher

