

BTEC Student Handbook

Pearson BTEC Level 3 National Diploma in Engineering
(NQF)

Level 3 BTEC Engineering

This document contains the new rules and regulations regarding deadlines in BTEC courses at the WMG Academy for Young Engineers. This Document outlines how the (NQF) BTEC Level 3 Diploma in Engineering will be assessed and the rules that must be followed in order to be awarded qualifications. The WMG Academy for Young Engineers will be expected to comply with these rules. Further information about the course will be given during your lessons.

Introducing the Staff:

Leads for Engineering: Mrs Kilbride & Mr Sephton

Mrs Kilbride and Mr Sephton are responsible for all Engineering courses within the WMG Academy, Solihull. If you have any concerns that cannot be answered by another member of staff, then please see either of them.

Lead Verifier: Mrs Kilbride

Mrs Kilbride is also responsible for the overall quality of the course and will be verifying the course for you. Staff will liaise with Mrs Kilbride and if you have an appeal that reaches stage 2, Mrs Kilbride will respond.

Course tutors:

Mr Bain

Mr Childs

Mr Dialpuri

Mrs Eyles

Mr Hardwick

Mr Hale

Mr Harrison

Mr Henry

Mrs Imran

Mr Mahmood

Mr Sephton

Mrs Sephton

You will be studying a variety of units and these will be led by different tutors. They will tell you which units they are responsible for and the assessment dates that you need to adhere to.

Technicians:

Mr Parry

Miss Machin

The technicians will provide support, guidance and instruction in the workshop.

BTEC ENGINEERING UNITS:

You have started on the BTEC Level 3 Diploma [720 glh] which is equivalent in size to 2 A levels. All units have a point's value and to achieve the overall qualification you must have studied and submitted work for units totalling 720 guided learning hours (glh).

Below are the units you will be following to gain your Engineering qualification. You will be given the content and the assessment criteria when you start each unit.

Mandatory Units

Unit	Unit Title	Assessment	GLH	Year
1	Engineering Principles	External	120	1
2	Delivery of Engineering Processes Safely as a Team	Internal	60	1
3	Engineering Product design and Manufacture	External	120	1
4	Applied Commercial and Quality Principles in Engineering	Internal	60	1
5	A Specialist Engineering Project	Internal	60	2

Optional Units

Unit	Unit Title	Assessment	GLH	Year
7	Calculus to Solve Engineering Problems	Internal	60	1
8	Further Engineering Mathematics	Internal	60	2
10	Computer Aided Design in Engineering	Internal	60	2
18	Electrical Power Distribution and Transmission	Internal	60	2
24	Maintenance of Mechanical Systems	Internal	60	2
25	Mechanical Behaviour of Metallic Materials	Internal	60	2

BTEC ASSESSMENT

Assessment of BTEC units can be either internal or external.

Two of the units are externally assessed. Units 1 and 3. The course staff will explain the assessment for these units and prepare you for them. You need to gain a 'Near Pass' or above to pass the course overall in these assessments.

All other units are internally assessed in this qualification. This means that your tutor will set you assignments and you will complete the work and they will mark this. However this work will be subject to a verification check by BTEC during the academic year.

You need to make sure that you meet deadlines and follow the guidelines and rules given to you about submission of assignments.

The Importance of Meeting Deadlines

Meeting deadlines is one of life's most important skills to acquire. All of us, no matter what job we will do in our life, will need this skill in order to be successful. BTEC courses are designed to reflect and acknowledge real-world employment conditions and, as such, teaching students how to meet deadlines is a top priority. Therefore you must meet the deadlines set for submission

From September 2014, BTEC decided that students will have one submission opportunity only for their work. Once submitted, the work will be graded. It is, therefore, absolutely crucial that you develop good working habits as soon as you begin the course.

Resubmission

If you do not achieve the targeted assessment criteria on the first submission you may be given one opportunity to improve and re-submit your work, to gain the pass criteria. However this has to be decided by the Lead Internal Verifier, under the rules laid down by BTEC. Your teacher will need to ask the Lead Internal Verifier to give authorisation to allow you to resubmit your work, but this will NOT be granted automatically.

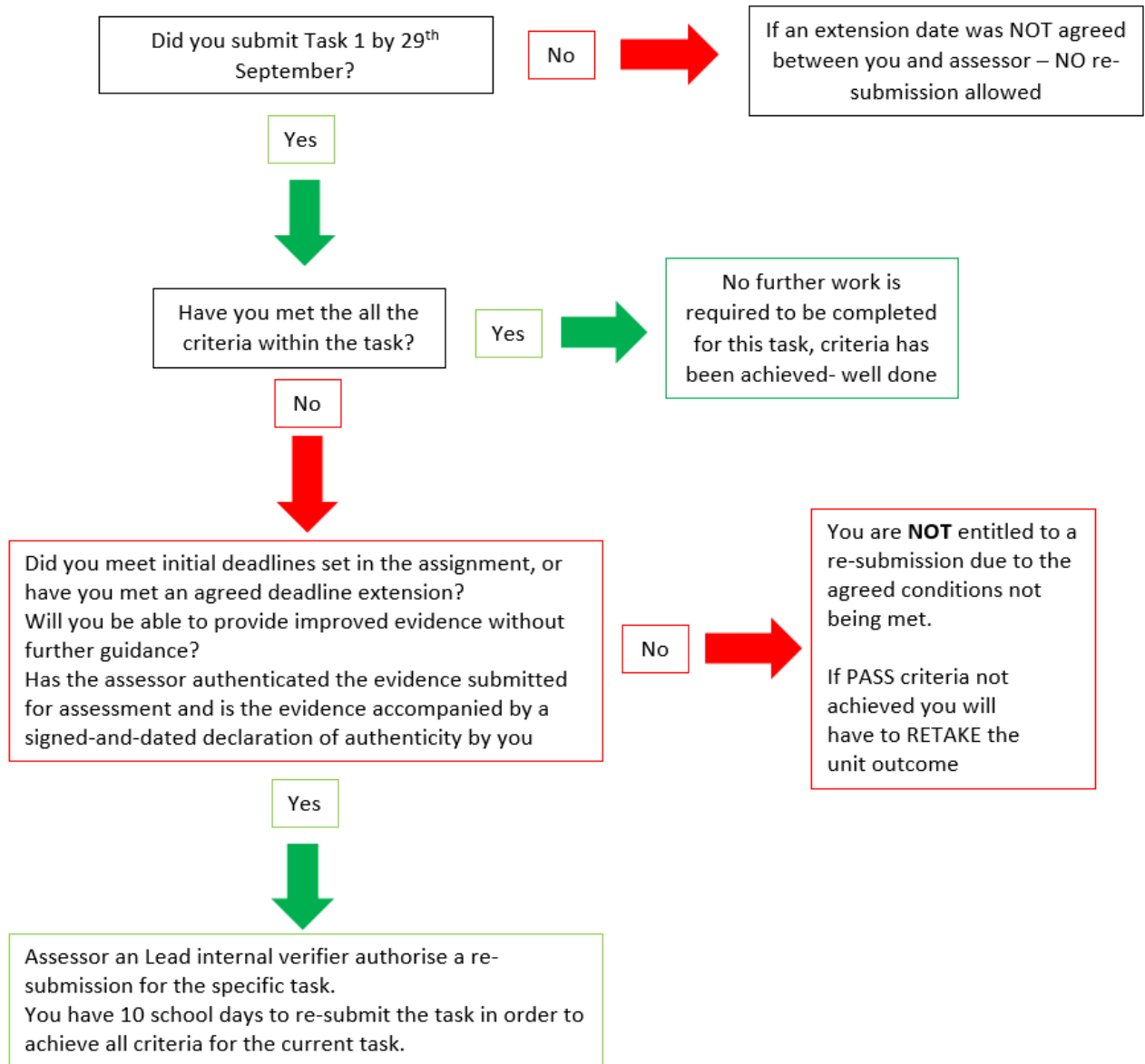
If you are allowed to resubmit a piece of work you must improve/add to the original piece without further guidance and must hand this in on the date agreed with your teacher (usually within 10 working days). Also this must not roll over into the next academic year.

However, in exceptional circumstances, there may be a legitimate reason for not being able to meet the deadline. This gives you an opportunity to explain the reasons why you cannot meet the assessment deadline and agree a new deadline date. This must be done at least 5 days before the deadline date wherever possible, not afterwards. The submission diagram on the following page is useful tool to help understand the process.

Submission Diagram

Example:

You have been set a deadline for the 29th September 20XX- the diagram below will outline the submission and resubmission guidelines:



BTEC Internal Assessment rules:

You must complete a BTEC form with every assignment you hand in. By doing this you are

1. Signing and dating a declaration of authenticity. This means that you are confirming the evidence you are presenting is your own and that you understand the consequences of submitting plagiarised work.
2. Submitting work which has all the evidence for the criteria being examined.

Plagiarism

Authenticity of your work

You are encouraged to read around the units of work that you study and to use a range of resources. Assignments that are thoroughly researched are of a higher quality. You will need to quote from your sources and be able to site examples that illustrate your ideas. Teachers will explain how to quote and reference work in your units. However, if you take another author's work as your own and do not reference it, you will be plagiarising.

The following forms of plagiarism are:

- Copying from texts or journals.
- Copying from other students.
- Wholesale downloading from the internet.
- Using programs to write any part of your assignment.

Assignments will be held by teachers until the unit has been completed by all students.

The teaching team will monitor the progress of assignments as they are being undertaken and will discourage plagiarism.

If your teacher feels that you have plagiarised then a meeting will take place to consider the case and the outcome. There is a high chance that you will fail the unit if found plagiarising.

Group Work

Some tasks will be completed in groups. You can work in groups to prepare fully for the assignment but you must complete and submit the work individually.

Submission Checklist

1. Complete the work to the best of your ability and print single sided maximum size 12 text with each page numbered and your name in the header.
2. Print out the assignment brief and attach it to your work.
3. Print off and complete a Learner Assessment Submission and Declaration Form.
4. Print off and complete a receipt for your assignment submission.

GLOSSARY OF BTEC TERMS

This glossary lists the most common BTEC directive terms that are used in unit assessment criteria together with indicative definitions.	
ACCOUNT FOR	Requires more than a description. An explanation of the topic is needed, giving reasons why.
ANALYSE	Break down a complex topic into simpler parts, exploring patterns and explaining significance.
ASSESS	Examine the strengths and weaknesses or opposing viewpoints
COMPARE	Identify and explain the similarities and differences.
CONTRAST	Identify and explain the differences.
DEMONSTRATE	Show awareness and understanding.
DESCRIBE	Give a description of the major features.
DISCUSS	Present and examine clearly the various views on a topic or issue.
EVALUATE	Examine the strengths and weaknesses (just like Assess) and judge the merits of particular perspectives.
EXAMINE	Lay out the essential elements of an issue and investigate in detail.
EXPLAIN	Show clearly knowledge and understanding of a topic.
EXPLORE	Examine or investigate a topic or issue, often in an imaginative way.
IDENTIFY	Pick out and describe the main points.
ILLUSTRATE	Give examples to clarify the argument or answer.
INTERPRET	Clarify or explain the meaning.
INVESTIGATE	A careful and systematic inquiry into a topic or issue.
JUSTIFY	Provide reasons why something is valid.
OUTLINE	Identify the main features.
RESEARCH	Use a variety of sources to establish facts or collect information.
REVIEW	Write a critical assessment.
SIGNIFICANCE	Consequence or importance.
SPECIFY	Identify clearly and definitely.
STATE	Provide information in a brief uncomplicated form.
SUMMARISE	Give an account of the main points.

BTEC GRADING OF THE QUALIFICATION

Each unit has a specification [what you need to learn] and then assessment criteria. Each unit is graded Pass, Merit or Distinction.

- To get a Pass, you must have meet all the Pass Assessment criteria
- To get a Merit, you must have meet all the Merit Assessment criteria
- To get a Distinction, you must have meet all the Distinction Assessment criteria

The grade you will achieve is based on a sum of the points you are awarded for each unit.

The number of points depends on the size of the unit [in GLH]

Points per Internal unit:			
	Pass	Merit	Distinction
60 GLH	6	10	16
90 GLH	9	15	24
Points per External unit:			
	Pass	Merit	Distinction
90 GLH	9	15	24
120 GLH	12	20	32

This adds up to give you a total points score once you have completed all 15 units. As you complete units, you will be able to keep a track of the grade you may get at the end of the course.

Extended Diploma

Total points	Grade	UCAS points	Equivalent to:
180+	D*D*	114	A*A*
162-179	D*D	102	A*A
144-161	DD	96	AA
124-143	DM	80	BC
104-123	MM	64	CC
88-103	MP	48	CE
70-87	PP	32	EE

BTEC APPEALS PROCEDURE – FOR STUDENTS

If you think that an assessment is inaccurate or unfair then you can appeal. This is a formal process, and not to be confused with informally asking your teacher for advice about the assessment decisions or the work. Therefore we need to be formal and have procedures and time constraints.

The only materials that can be considered in an appeal are;

- Your work that you originally handed in
- The task that you were being assessed against
- The relevant Awarding Body assessment criteria
- The written reasons for your appeal.

WMG Academy for Young Engineers has set paper work for this procedure and you will receive a copy of this and the teacher will keep a copy.

There are THREE stages to the appeals procedure.

Stage 1 Student and Teacher [Assessor]

Time scale: Maximum eight working days

If you disagree with an assessment you must inform the teacher and ask for the assessment decision(s) to be reconsidered.

- You need to be clear about which assessment decisions you are appealing and tell the assessor.
- You may give the teacher written reasons why you think the assessment is inaccurate/unfair.
- You should do this as quickly as possible and within a week of receiving the original assessment decision.
- Your teacher will look again at your work against the task and the Awarding Body Criteria and they will feedback to you within three working days.
- Their feedback will tell you what their decision is and explain how they have reached this decision
- You must inform the teacher if you are:
 - a) Satisfied, in which case the appeal stops.
 - b) Disagree and wish to appeal further to stage 2 Internal Verifier

This decision must be notified to the teacher within two working days.

- All this information will be recorded by the teacher and logged with the Quality Nominee

Stage 2 Student and Internal Verifier

Time scale: Maximum eleven working days

- If you decide to disagree with the stage 1 decision(s) and continues the appeal then teacher will pass on all materials to the internal verifier within 24 hours.
- The internal verifier will reconsider the assessment decisions taking into account
 - All of the materials considered in stage 1 (see above)
 - Your opinion in writing or verbally from a meeting if requested by you (request must be within three working days of the stage informing the teacher that you wish to continue with the appeal)
- Will look again at your work against the task and the Awarding Body Criteria and they will feedback to you within three working days.
- Their feedback will tell you what their decision is and explain how they have reached this decision
- You must inform the teacher if you are:
 - a) Satisfied, in which case the appeal stops.
 - b) Disagree and wish to appeal further to stage 2 Internal VerifierThis decision must be notified to the teacher within two working days.

Within five working days the internal verifier will give the candidate

- a) a new decision or confirmation of the original
- b) a clear written explanation of the assessment decision

The candidate must inform the internal verifier if they are

- a) Satisfied, in which case the appeal stops.
- b) Disagree and wish to appeal further to stage 3 Senior Management

This decision must be notified to the assessor within two working days.

Stage 3 Senior Management

If the candidate decides to disagree with the stage 2 decision(s) and continues the appeal then internal verifier will pass on all materials to the Quality Nominee within 24 hours

The candidate will be informed when the Quality Nominee will be considering the stage 3 appeal asked if they wish to speak to the Quality Nominee or make a written submission to Quality Nominee before this meeting.

The appeal will be discussed in private at Quality Nominee level and the decision will be given to the candidate in writing within five working days of the meeting. At the same time it will be given to the Internal Verifier.

c) The opinion of another assessor from the centre.

The centre is responsible for ALL internal assessment decisions and Pearson is not part of the Appeals procedure. Therefore the decision made at Stage 3 is final and cannot be appealed further.

PLEASE WRITE YOUR NAME AND SUBMIT THIS DOCUMENT VIA GOOGLE CLASSROOM TO CONFIRM THAT YOU HAVE READ AND UNDERSTOOD THIS DOCUMENT

Student
name:.....
.....

Date:
.....
.....

I have read the BTEC Student handbook and the appeals procedure in detail.

I know the process, if I wish to appeal against a grade awarded for an assignment and understand the process that must be followed and timescales.

Student

Signature

.....

(Type name and submit handbook back to agree that you have read and agree with the terms in this handbook).