

Adult Programmes News Feed

(Adults attending Study programme courses with young learners should also read the 16-18 feed)

Date	Topic	Useful Links
17 th March	Keeping safe The government are encouraging whole household lateral flow testing and we recommend that you look on your local council website for home test collection pick up point information. The College continues to operate robust Covid safe systems including the wearing of masks, social distancing, hand sanitising, timetable adjustments etc	
25 th February	Return to College In line with Government guidance we are seeking to have a staged return to College. For adult students this is likely to mean that face to face classes are not resumed until post Easter albeit a small number of students may be able to return for professional examination purposes. These individuals will be contacted by their tutor and specific guidance will be provided. In the meantime we shall continue to teach to timetable on line. We look forward to seeing you face to face in just a few short weeks.	
14 th Jan	Exams and Assessment over view Learning is continuing on-line during this period of lockdown and staff and tutors at College are remaining in close contact with awarding bodies to ensure that all students continue to build up the necessary evidence of achievement and competence to enable them to be successful in their programme of study. Details are only gradually emerging and we aim to keep you informed in a general way through this news feed but specifically through your tutors. There is currently little information concerning the most practical subject areas and we shall keep you informed as any details emerge.	
12 th Jan	GCSE English, Maths & Science Following the announcement that it won't be possible for exams to go ahead as normal this summer, the Education Secretary has confirmed that GCSE exams will be replaced by a form of teacher-assessed grades, with training and support provided to education providers to ensure these are awarded fairly and consistently. The full details will be decided in consultation with Ofqual.	
12 th Jan	Update on Access courses from Open Awards	current arrangements for the Award of the

	<p>Adaptations to delivery and assessment will be completed by tutors to ensure that all units can be completed</p> <p>Open Awards have advised course providers to continue to apply the arrangements published in September 2020. These arrangements were designed to recognise the changes course providers have already made for teaching and assessing the Access to HE Diploma. They also allow for additional adaptations to be made as necessary under this and any future lockdowns.</p> <p><i>They go on to state, ‘we recognise that for many students, the additional pressures of work, caring responsibilities or illness may make study even more challenging and, in some cases, impossible at the present time. However, we have confidence that there are sufficient measures in place to ensure that these extenuating circumstances can be dealt with under the current arrangements to support students through their studies.’</i></p> <p>If you are finding it difficult to study at the moment, you should let your course tutor know about the circumstances that are affecting your performance so that these extenuating circumstances can be taken into consideration.</p> <p>You will receive grades for all graded units you complete and these grades are provisional until they are confirmed by the Final Awards Board. No estimated grades will be awarded. The current arrangements for the award of the Diploma will ensure that students receive fair grades.</p>	Access to HE Diploma in 2020-21,
12 th January	<p>VTCT Qualifications update</p> <p>In light of the Government’s announcement on Monday 4th January 2021, practical assessments should not go ahead at this time.</p> <p>VTCT has published a range of teaching and learning resources to support the VTCT COVID-19 Infection Prevention qualification for Sports Massage. VTCT will also very shortly be making a range of teaching and learning video resources available, to support online and blended delivery of sports massage courses. In addition, VTCT will shortly publish adaption guidance for Sports Massage.</p>	
12 th January	<p>OCR qualification update</p> <p>External Assessment_There may be an opportunity to take the external assessment at a future date. If this is not</p>	

	<p>possible due to arrangements still to be announced for this summer, OCR will work with the DfE and Ofqual to make sure they are treated fairly.</p> <p>Internal Assessment OCR have reviewed all the units being taken this academic year and have provided guidance at qualification and unit level on changes to requirements or alternative approaches to support public health guidance. These changes will make sure that the learning outcomes and assessment criteria can still be met. The adaptations depend on the nature of the unit.</p>	
8 th January	<p>Ascentis assessment announcement / reassurance</p> <p>In light of the Prime Minister's decision to return to a national lockdown, with schools and colleges closed, we will continue to work with our regulators (Ofqual, CCEA, Qualifications Wales & QAA) and we will communicate any information to centres as soon as it becomes available.</p>	
6 th January	<p>City & Guilds and ILM assessment announcement / reassurance</p> <p>City & Guilds will continue to work with Ofqual and Government to ensure that they can support learners and providers during the lockdown period, so that no learners are disadvantaged. Both City & Guilds and ILM run assessments throughout the year and have wide ranging adaptations in place to enable most of them to continue throughout the Covid19 pandemic and lockdowns. In relation to the Spring and Summer exams series, they are working with the regulators and government departments on how to proceed and will communicate further as soon as possible.</p>	
5 th January	<p>AAT assessment announcement</p> <p>We currently expect AAT assessments to remain available worldwide during the national restrictions in the UK announced on 4 January.</p> <p>Training providers and assessment venues that are able to remain open to administer assessments in line with their local guidance must continue to adhere to all Covid-19 regulations and guidance in order to ensure the safety of staff and students. They should also consider moving to increased levels of online learning where possible.</p> <p>The College is providing access to AAT exams during this period and your tutor will keep you advised.</p>	
6 th January 2021	<p>All adult learning programmes will be taught on-line until further notice due to the National Covid pandemic Lockdown. (See letter)</p>	

	A small number of specific exams are allowed to be administered during this period and students will be advised if this is the situation for their course.	
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