

Exam arrangements

This email is applicable to:

- all Transition, 1st and 2nd Year students sitting BTEC or Criminology public exams/controlled assessments in January 2021
- all 2nd Year A-level students sitting internal Mid-Year Exams w/b 25th of January 2020
- all students sitting public exams in summer 2021

Dear Students, Parents and Carers,

Thank you for the unwavering dedication you have shown to your studies at Collyer's over what has been a challenging term. It has been inspiring to see how our students have adapted to blended learning, balancing the demand of on site and distance learning. We all dearly hope that the New Year and Spring term bring some seasonal shoots of recovery and a more normal way of life.

As we approach a well-earned break over Christmas, I would like to take the opportunity to explain arrangements for the January BTEC and Criminology public exams / controlled assessments, the internal A-level Mid-Year Exams for 2nd Year students, and the current Department for Education and Ofqual's position on public exams during summer 2021.

The January exams will require some students to be on campus during their distance learning weeks. The chance of year group bubbles mixing therefore exists. The Department for Education is very clear that mixing of year group bubbles is to be avoided. To prevent mixing we will have strict procedures in place during the January exam period. These procedures are to mitigate the risk of transmission of COVID for the safety of all students and staff. To

Exam Guidance for exams and controlled assessments during January 2021

If your exam/controlled assessment is in your distance learning week

- Please check your exam timetable on MyProgress.
- Arrive a **maximum** of 20 minutes prior to your exam.
- Please go directly to your exam room where you will be allowed to enter and sit at your exam desk. This is to prevent crowds of students congregating outside of exam rooms.
- Before entering the exam room, your phone and any additional digital devices must be switched off and stored in your bag or coat. This does not apply to calculators or other devices permitted in exam rooms.
- On entering and leaving your exam room you must sanitise your hands. Your exam desk will have been disinfected prior to your arrival.
- Once you have entered the exam room, normal exam conditions will apply.
- The exam rooms will be well ventilated. Whilst the room temperature will not be cold, it may be colder than you are used to, so appropriate warm clothing (a jumper) should be worn.
- After your exam has finished you must leave the campus **immediately**. Please do not congregate with other students for post-exam discussions.
- During your time on campus, you will not be able to access the refectory. Please bring your lunch and snacks with you. Remember only water is allowed during exams.
- If you have an AM and PM exam a room will be provided for you to study/eat lunch in between your exams.
- Where students have exam clashes, they will be made aware of these clashes and escorted to a room between exams in which they can study/eat lunch. These students will not be able to use their phone or any computer equipment during this period and will be supervised.

If your exam/controlled assessment is in your on-site week

The above guidance applies except:

- You will have access to the campus facilities including social spaces and the refectory.
- You may attend lessons when not sitting an exam / controlled assessment.

Department for Education and Ofqual's current position on summer 2021 exams

The current position is that exams will progress as normal during summer 2021. Students can expect to sit the same number of exams of the same duration and format as in a normal year.

For GCSE and A-level exams students can expect some information regarding the topics that will arise. The exact details of when this information will be published and how substantive this information will be, has not yet been confirmed. A commitment to "more generous" grading has been made.

For BTEC qualifications there will be some reduction in the number of assessed units for some qualifications. Further details can be found [here](#).

Please be assured that as soon as further information is available, we will communicate this to students.

Kind regards,

Rob Hussey

Vice Principal: Curriculum