



**Myerscough
College**
Opportunities for all to succeed



27 April 2020

Dear Student

Further Education Post Easter / Term 3 Update

On behalf of the College Governors and the whole staff team at Myerscough, we would like to wish you well and hope you are managing the challenges of lockdown.

We wanted to thank you for your resilience, patience and continuing engagement with your Tutors, Progress Coaches and Inclusive Learning staff.

We have very encouraging data about the first week of operating online, with our attendance over 80%+ on many courses and congratulate you for working with us in making the move to on line learning.

We are aware of some misinformation and conflicting messages circulating on social media and other channels, so this letter is to clarify important information as factually as we can at present.

Up to date information from awarding bodies about assessment indicates that we will be required to eventually make grade estimates later in May. However, for some practical assessments and industry related qualifications, these will be delayed and assessed at a later date.

At present a series of consultations are ongoing between the Office for Qualifications (Ofqual) and the awarding bodies, such as, BTEC and City & Guilds, amongst others.

For those students that are registered for GCSE English, Maths and/or Sciences, we have already been informed that teaching staff will be asked to calculate grades based on the work provided.

We are anticipating that this is likely to be the case with all vocational qualifications offered by a number of bodies of which BTEC and City & Guilds are involved, but we await actual confirmation. Once we have this verified, we will update you immediately.

It is very likely that the evidence we will use to inform grade decisions will come from the following sources:

- records of your performance over the course of study up to Easter, including information from progress reviews, classwork, bookwork, and/or assessed work and any non-assessed work that has contributed to your programme performance, for example participation in practical activity and/or work placements.
- If you are enrolled to do GCSE English and/or Maths, your grades will be calculated according to Ofqual guidance.
- Your performance on any class or homework assessments and mock exams/internal assessments taken over the course of study up to the lockdown date of 20 March.
- any other relevant information.

Where students with a disability have an agreed reasonable adjustment (*for example a reader or scribe*), or other students have an agreed access arrangement, we will consider this in our judgements and ensure that we take account of likely achievement with the reasonable adjustment/access arrangement in place.

If during the year you have suffered a bout of illness or some other circumstance happened that meant you were unable to take an assessment, that might have affected your performance, we will not allow this to affect grade judgements.

Judgements will reflect how you would have performed under ordinary circumstances in order to ensure that no student is disadvantaged.

Given the timing of the announcement for the College to move to remote online delivery, we recognise that we will not have complete evidence. Judgements will therefore be made on the evidence that is available.

As a College we will not be required to set additional mock exams or homework tasks for the purposes of determining our centre assessment grades during Term 3.

We are continuing to deliver online learning and expect you to continue to engage with the online sessions and work sent out on CANVAS or other mediums by your tutors. The reason for this is simple. As we wrote before the Easter break, maintaining a focus on your next steps, ongoing development and progression is important. We want all Myerscough students to continue to be taught in Term 3 and be able to continue to develop their knowledge and confidence, ready to support preparation for 'stepping up' onto to your next course. This continued engagement is very important in order to support you and minimise any skills and knowledge gaps required for a smooth transition.

On Thursday 23 April, we launched our internal applicant online application form, should you want to apply for our September programmes. We would be happy to consider your application for next year and will update you quickly on progress once in receipt.

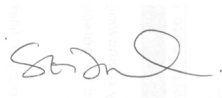
We also offer support for you if you choose to move from Further Education into Higher Education, offering a range of university courses that we are sure will be of interest. If you want to discuss next steps, please contact your Programme Leader or our Careers Co-ordinator via email at careers@myerscough.ac.uk.

As referred to earlier, as soon as we have more information from the awarding bodies we will update you immediately.

Please keep safe and well and if you need any support from the team at Myerscough please contact your Programme Leader or Progress Coach.

May we take this opportunity to wish you well and encourage you to continue with your studies online for the remainder of this academic year.

Yours sincerely



Steven Downham-Clarke
Vice Principal & Deputy CEO
Myerscough College & University Centre

