

20 October 2017



Dear Parents and Carer of students in 11D/CS1 and 11E/CS1

You will be aware that these classes have been working on the non-exam assessment part of the GCSE Computer Science course. This element is a 20 hour assessed task that is worth 20% of their GCSE qualification. So far, the students on this course have begun preparation work for the assessment and completed four hours of the twenty permitted to complete the task.

Unfortunately all schools and colleges offering this qualification were contacted by the examination board yesterday to inform them of an enforced change to the assessment brief. The statement we have at present from Edexcel is as follows:

"We have had to replace the original GCSE (9-1) Computer Science Project brief (NEA Task) with a new version.

We are very sorry for any inconvenience this may cause to you or your students. We can assure you that steps have been taken to ensure that this situation will not arise in any future exam series and that no student will be adversely affected."

As a result of this, students on this course will be required to undertake a new assessment, under the same conditions as the original one. We are currently waiting for details of the new assessment and will keep you informed, as soon as there are further details available.

Please be assured that our students will be supported by teaching staff to ensure the impact upon them is minimal and they will be given every available opportunity to complete the task. We are working with Edexcel to ensure that students are not adversely affected by this externally imposed change.

Our immediate concern is that our students do not worry about the changes as they enter the half term break and we have met with them today to explain the situation.

Should you have any queries regarding this, please contact me or Miss Fellows, using the email addresses below.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J Cox'.

Miss J Cox
Head of ICT and Business Studies

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