

BTEC Level 3 Nationals in Engineering

Get ready for external assessment

**Your quick-reference support guide for teachers
and tutors**



Engineering



Why have we created this guide?

We have created this easy-to-use guide to bring together details of all the support materials and key information you can use to help prepare your learners for the external assessments in the Engineering sector, provided at a unit level. You may need your Edexcel Online login details in order to access some of the materials which are listed in the following pages.

We have also included within this guide a list of any changes from previous assessment windows which you should be aware of and included details of forthcoming support.

We would also suggest that you refer to the Instructions for Conducting External Assessments document. This guide provides you with the information you need to carry out external assessments for BTEC Nationals. It takes you through: what you need to do; who's responsible at each stage and; gives additional advice and guidance around best practice. This document can be found [here](#).



What does this guide provide?

This short guide presents all information below at unit level:

- a breakdown of our existing support
- an overview of what additional support is coming up
- an offer to purchase revision guides and workbooks at a discounted rate (limited time available)*
- a list of external assessment dates for summer 2018
- Key changes to be aware of

* You don't need to buy resources to deliver our qualifications



Engineering

Choose your unit...

Unit 1

Engineering Principles



Unit 3

Engineering Product Design and
Manufacture



Unit 6

Microcontroller Systems for
Engineers





Engineering

Unit 1: Engineering Principles

(click on each link to access materials)

Sample assessment support

[Sample Assessment Material](#)

(for learners to sit as mocks)

[Sample Marked Learner Work](#)

(to see how mark schemes are applied)

Past papers & reports

Summer 2017

[Past paper](#)

[Mark Scheme](#)

[Lead Examiner Report](#)

January 2018

[Past paper](#)

[Mark Scheme](#)

[Lead Examiner Report](#)

Have you tried our revision guides and workbooks?*

As a school or college, you can get 50% off the recommended retail price by using the code BTECNAT18 when purchasing online, via these links:

[Revision Guide](#) or [Revision Workbook](#)

or a free sample from our student books

To support preparation for assessment, by clicking [here](#)

What's coming up (April/May)

- Full-day 'Preparing for external assessment' training events, focusing on all external units for Engineering.
- Additional Sample Marked Learner Work from January 2018 series.
- Rich Feedback report at both centre level and learner level
- Access to Scripts service, click [here](#)

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Unit 3: Engineering Product Design and Manufacture

(click on each link to access materials)



Engineering

Assessment support

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(for learners to sit as mocks)

[Sample Marked Learner Work](#)

(to see how marking schemes are applied)

[Administrative Support Guide](#)

(guidance on how to run an assessment)

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Unit 6: Microcontroller Systems for Engineers

(click on each link to access materials)



Engineering

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Key dates for summer 2018

Engineering				
EXAMS				
Unit	Date	Time	Duration	
31706H Engineering - Unit 1: Engineering Principles	04/06/2018	PM	2 hours	
SET TASKS				
Unit	Release Date	Window for Supervised period	Submission deadline	Length
31708H Engineering - Unit 3: Product Design and Manufacture	Part A: 30/04/2018 Part B: 08/05/2018	08/05/2018 - 21/05/2018	25/05/2018	Prep: 3 hours Supervised: 8 hours
31725H Engineering - Unit 6: Microcontroller Systems for Engineers	23/04/2018	23/04/2018 -04/05/2018	15/05/2018	Supervised: 12 hours

You should check the official timetable in case of any changes.
The full summer 2018 timetable can be found [here](#)

Key changes to be aware of...



Improvement to Sample Assessment Materials

After listening to feedback from schools and colleges following the summer 2017 exam series, we've reviewed the content, structure and types of questions for Unit 1 Engineering Principles.

Through the awarding process in summer 2017, the grade boundaries were set at an appropriate level for the demand of the paper, which ensured learners received grades that reflected their performance. However, we have made improvements that will mean learners are better rewarded for the knowledge and understanding they demonstrate in the assessment.

What has changed?

Changes to specification content: In Unit 1: Engineering Principles, we've removed Topic D2 Thermodynamic systems and made a few minor clarifications to the content.

Changes in the SAMs: Section B now focuses on mechanical principles and Section C on electrical and electronic principles.

Approaches to calculation questions: There are fewer calculation questions. We've revised the presentation of the questions and the mark schemes so learners will be better rewarded for the method they apply to solving a calculation.

Which unit is affected, and where can I find updated specifications and Sample Assessment Materials (SAMs)?

There's a new table near the front of the specifications which summarises all the changes, and we've updated the SAMs to show the different potential approaches to live assessments:

[BTEC Nationals in Engineering \(2016 and 2017\) specifications](#)

[Unit 1: Engineering Principles Sample Assessment Materials \(SAMs\)](#)

Do the changes apply immediately?

Yes – these changes are live now and will apply to the January 2018 assessment onwards.

Will this mean changes to teaching and learning completed for this unit so far?

There won't be any impact on the preparation you've completed so far for this unit. From now on you won't need to teach Topic D2 Thermodynamic systems.



Engineering

Specialist help and advice

You've also access to specialist support and advice from our Engineering subject advisor, Evren Alibaba.

Evren will be happy to help with any questions you may have about your BTEC Level 3 Engineering qualifications.

Evren Alibaba

Engineering

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