



Pearson

# BTEC Nationals in Applied Science (2016)

## Improved structure for externally assessed Set Tasks

### Simpler guidance – clearer processes

We've taken on board feedback from BTEC teachers and the DfE to make improvements to some of the organisation and processes for the Set Task external assessments in your new BTEC Nationals (2016 & 2017). You'll see these changes clearly marked in each specification and in your Sample Assessment Materials (SAMs). For easy reference, here's a summary of the changes:

### Changes that take effect from the first assessment:

## PART A (INVESTIGATION/RESEARCH)

Timings and schedule	Supervision and controls
<p>You'll receive <b>Part A</b>:</p> <p><b>Units 5 and 7</b>  <b>1 week</b> before the supervised assessment (Part B).</p> <p><b>Units 5 and 7</b>  Learners should spend up to <b>3 hours over 1 week</b> on Part A in timetabled, supervised sessions. This can include lessons or other already timetabled slots.</p>	<p><b>Units 5 and 7</b>  <b>During the research period (Part A):</b>  <b>Learners:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>carry out independent research on the case study given in the Part A booklet</li> <li>take up to 4 sides of A4 notes made during the research period (Part A) into the supervised assessment (Part B).</li> </ul> <p><b>Units 5 and 7</b>  <b>Learners cannot:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>take other content with them into the supervised assessment (Part B) or receive support with their Part A investigation or research notes from teachers or tutors.</li> </ul> <p><b>Teachers and invigilators will need to:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>monitor the investigation/research and check learners' data/notes to ensure the content meets the unit requirements</li> <li>collect all research notes (Units 5 and 7) after the Part A session and give them back to learners at the start of Part B.</li> </ul>

More on Page 2

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## PART B (ASSESSMENT)

Timings and schedule	Supervision and controls
<p>The Set Task (<b>Part B</b>):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Units 5 and 7</b> <b>2.5 hours</b></li> </ul> <p>on a timetabled date set by Pearson.</p>	<p><b>Teachers and invigilators:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>can schedule a supervised rest break during the session</li> <li>must retain learners' notes after the assessment and store them securely; Pearson may ask to see them.</li> </ul>

**Changes that take effect from January 2018 (after the first assessment):**

## PART A (INVESTIGATION/RESEARCH)

Timings and schedule	Supervision and controls
<p>You'll receive <b>Part A</b>:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Unit 3– From January 2018</b> <b>8 days</b> before... ...the supervised assessment (Part B).</li> </ul> <p><b>Unit 3</b> Learners should spend up to <b>3 hours</b> on the Part A investigation in a timetabled, supervised session.</p>	<p><b>Unit 3</b> <b>During the investigation (Part A):</b> <b>Learners:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>carry out the investigation given in the Part A booklet in a timetabled, supervised session</li> <li>write their results/observations in the Part A booklet.</li> </ul> <p><b>Unit 3</b> <b>Learners cannot:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>take other content with them into the supervised assessment (Part B) or receive support with their Part A investigation or research notes from teachers or tutors.</li> </ul> <p><b>Teachers and invigilators will need to:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>monitor the investigation/research and check learners' data/notes to ensure the content meets the unit requirements</li> <li>collect the Part A booklet (Unit 3) after the Part A session and give them back to learners at the start of Part B.</li> </ul>

**More on Page 3**

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## PART B (ASSESSMENT)

Timings and schedule	Supervision and controls
<p>The Set Task (<b>Part B</b>):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● <b>Unit 3</b> <b>1.5 hours</b></li></ul> <p>on a timetabled date set by Pearson.</p>	<p><b>Teachers and invigilators:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● can schedule a supervised rest break during the session</li><li>● must retain learners' notes after the assessment and store them securely; Pearson may ask to see them.</li></ul>