

FAQ for June 2018 and June 2019 Series

NEA Rule Changes Summary for June 2018 and June 2019

Old Rules (up to 07 January 2018)	New rules (from 08 January 2018)	Further Comments
One NEA task to be attempted	NO CHANGE	A new set of tasks will be released on 01 September 2018 for the June 2019 series as normal.
Students to be given the opportunity to spend 20 hours to complete the task	NO CHANGE	Centres must set 20 hours aside in the timetable to attempt the programming task. Teachers will be required to declare this on a centre authentication form (CCS161).
NEA work must be individual	NO CHANGE	Teachers will be required to declare this on a centre authentication form (CCS161).
Any resource used must be referenced	NO CHANGE	Centres should make candidates aware of the need to reference.
NEA is submitted for moderation	SOME CHANGE	Teachers will still submit a sample of work. The sample will be monitored , rather than moderated. The CCS161 must be sent with the sample .
NEA submitted either through the OCR repository or by post on memory stick or CD/DVD	SOME CHANGE	Postal submission ONLY of sample on memory stick or CD/DVD
NEA is formally marked by teachers	NO LONGER APPLICABLE	No formal marks are needed as the programming project (NEA) no longer counts towards GCSE grade.
Internet access is prohibited	NO LONGER APPLICABLE	Candidates may have access to the Internet. They must reference all sources used.
Resource access limited to a resource bank only	NO LONGER APPLICABLE	Students may have unlimited access to resources. They must reference all sources used.
NEA conducted under Formal Supervision	NO LONGER APPLICABLE	Task now done in the classroom under normal teaching conditions.
No teacher assistance/feedback permitted	NO LONGER APPLICABLE	Teachers can provide feedback at all stages. Candidate work must be individual.
Student access to work restricted	NO LONGER APPLICABLE	Students may use normal school accounts to work from.

programming project (NEA) arrangements for June 2018/2019

We will now use **programming project (NEA)** to refer to the NEA. This is consistent with the current J276 GCSE (9-1) Computer Science Specification.

Administration of the programming project (NEA)

Question: **Do I still need to complete a centre authentication form?**

Answer: Yes. Your centre will still need to complete a centre authentication form (CCS161) to send with the requested sample.

Question: **Do candidates still need to fill in a candidate authentication form?**

Answer: Yes. Candidates will still be required to complete a candidate authentication form. These will be kept at the centre, in line with the current arrangements.

Question: **What are the new rules that I can use for the Programming Project (NEA)?**

Answer: We have included a table of the rule changes (above) that you can apply to the current June 2018 cohort onwards.

If you have any queries regarding the changes, we advise that you call one of the Subject Advisor team for Computer Science and ICT (01223 553 998).

Question: **Do I still need to set up secure accounts?**

Answer: No. There is no longer a requirement to use secured accounts for completing the programming project (NEA).

Question: **Do I still need to set up a resource bank?**

Answer: No. There is no longer a requirement to use a secured resource bank for completing the programming project (NEA). Candidates may have unrestricted access to resources.

Question: **Do candidates need to reference?**

Answer: Yes. Candidates are still expected to reference any 3rd Party Resources used appropriately.

Question: **Do candidates still complete one programming project (NEA) task?**

Answer: Yes. Candidates are only required to complete one task for the programming project (NEA).

Question: **Will the tasks change for June 2019 submission?**

Answer: Yes. We will release a new set of programming project (NEA) tasks on 01 September 2018 for June 2019. Centres must use one of the new set of tasks for June 2019.

Delivery of the programming project (NEA)

Question: What if I have already completed the programming project (NEA) for June 2018?

Answer: If you have already completed the programming project (NEA), then you do not need to worry. As there is no requirement to mark the work, you will only need to complete the centre authentication form (CCS161) and submit the sample upon request. The programming project (NEA) must be completed by 15 May 2018.

Question: What if I am part way through the programming project (NEA) for June 2018?

Answer: If you are part way through, you can now opt to relax the conditions under which the candidates take the task. As there is no requirement to mark the work, you will only need to complete the centre authentication form (CCS161) and submit the sample upon request. The programming project (NEA) must be completed by 15 May 2018.

Question: What if I have not started the NEA Task for June 2018?

Answer: You must allocate 20 hours of classroom time for completing the NEA. A suitable record of the 20 hours allocated for work on the NEA should be kept. Candidates may undertake the task under the rules outlined above. As there is no requirement to mark the work, you will only need to complete the centre authentication form (CCS161) and submit the sample upon request. The programming project (NEA) must be completed by 15 May 2018.

Question: Are candidates still expected to spend 20 hours on the programming project (NEA)?

Answer: Yes. Centres are expected to allocate 20 hours of classroom time to the Programming Project. This will be confirmed when signing the centre authentication form (CCS161) which is submitted with the sample.

Question: Do I need to record the 20 hours classroom time?

Answer: Yes. You should be able to demonstrate, if requested, that the centre have planned for and delivered 20 hours of classroom time for undertaking the programming project (NEA) task. There is no formal form provided by OCR. You are free to record this as you wish. Evidence of this may be requested.

Question: Can I now give feedback to candidates?

Answer: Yes. The limited feedback requirements have been lifted. You may provide feedback to candidates to support them in their programming project (NEA). It is important to remember that candidates will benefit from an authentic experience. Solutions to the programming project (NEA) are expected to be driven by the student.

Question: Do I need to complete the programming project (NEA) by 31 March?

Answer: No. We have moved the deadline for completion to May 15 for June 2018 and subsequent years. This is in line with other subjects.

Question: Can candidates work in groups for the programming project (NEA)?

Answer: No. Candidates must work individually to produce a solution.

Question: Can candidates use the internet?

Answer: Yes. Candidates may now use the internet. They must reference appropriately.

Question: **Can candidates introduce resources that they find outside of the classroom?**

Answer: Yes. Candidates have unrestricted access to resources. This means that they could bring in useful sources part-way through the programming project (NEA). They should reference any resources used appropriately.

Question: **Can candidates work outside of classroom time?**

Answer: Yes. It is important to remember that there **must** be 20 hours of classroom time dedicated to the programming project (NEA). If candidates wish to research or develop their solution outside of classroom time, that this will be in **addition** to the 20 hours they have within the classroom.

Centres must be able to authenticate candidate work as individual.

Assessment and Sampling of the programming project (NEA)

Question: **Do I need to mark the programming project (NEA)?**

Answer: No. As there is no requirement to mark the work, you will only need to complete the Centre Authentication Form (CCS161). The programming project (NEA) must be completed by 15 May.

Question: **What if I have marked the programming project (NEA)?**

Answer: The programming project (NEA) is designed to reinforce the learning examined within Component 02: Computational Thinking, Algorithms and programming. Your marking may help to identify potential revision foci for students and will help with examination preparation.

Question: **Does the programming project (NEA) count towards final grading?**

Answer: No. Candidate's results will be based on examination performance alone from the Component 01 and Component 02 examination papers.

Question: **Is the programming project (NEA) still moderated?**

Answer: No. As there are no marks, we do not need to moderate the Programming Project. However, centres will still submit a sample to OCR for monitoring.

Question: **When will the programming project (NEA) sample be requested?**

Answer: The programming project (NEA) must be completed by 15 May. A sample request will be made – centres will be advised of this date in due course.

Question: **How do I send the sample?**

Answer: You will send the requested candidate work and the centre authentication form (CCS161) on a CD, DVD or memory stick. You will **post** this to the stated monitor.

Question: **Can I still use the repository for submitting the sample?**

Answer: No. The repository will not be available for submitting samples.

Question: **Would I still be expected to send a further sample on request?**

Answer: Yes. It may be that we request a further sample, or request evidence to show that the 20 hours of classroom time has been completed.