



Joint Council for  
Qualifications<sup>CIC</sup>

## Guidance notes on alternative site arrangements for the academic year 2022/23

**NB** The use of an alternative site **is not** an arrangement that requires advance approval. The online form is completed to notify the JCQ Centre Inspection Service that the centre will be conducting examinations away from the registered address. Once the form has been submitted, it **is not** necessary to contact the JCQ Centre Inspection Service for confirmation that the arrangement has been approved.

Produced on behalf of:



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In addition to these guidance notes, centres **must** also refer to the JCQ publication *Instructions for conducting examinations*:

<http://www.jcq.org.uk/exams-office/ice---instructions-for-conducting-examinations>

**1** An online submission **must only** be made for timetabled written examinations in the following qualifications:

- AEA
- AQA Applied General qualifications
- AQA Level 1, Level 2 and Level 3 Technical qualifications
- BTEC qualifications (BTEC Firsts, BTEC Nationals and BTEC Tech Awards)
- Cambridge Nationals
- Cambridge Technicals
- Edexcel Awards
- Edexcel International GCSE
- ELC
- FSMQ
- GCE
- GCSE
- OCR Level 3 Certificates
- WJEC Level 1 and Level 2 General qualifications
- WJEC Level 1 and Level 2 Vocational Awards and Certificates
- WJEC Level 3 Applied Certificates, Diplomas and Extended Diplomas.

For any other qualification please contact the relevant awarding body for guidance.

An online submission is made via the Centre Admin Portal (CAP). CAP can be accessed via any of the awarding bodies' secure extranet sites.

**2** An online submission **must not** be made for:

- GCSE controlled assessment units
- GCE coursework units
- GCE/GCSE non-examination assessment components
- MFL Speaking Tests
- practical assessments.

If an alternative site is required for a non-timetabled assessment, centres **must** contact the relevant awarding body for guidance.

**3** An online submission **must only** be made when a centre intends to conduct an examination for any candidates at an address other than the centre's registered address (see the JCQ publication *Instructions for conducting examinations*).

**4** Alternative site arrangements **do not** cover transferred candidate arrangements.

- 5 Any queries about the suitability of the proposed site **must** be discussed with the JCQ Centre Inspection Service before completing the online form.
- 6 Question papers and examination stationery **must** be kept under secure conditions at the centre's registered address until **90 minutes before the awarding body's published starting time for the examination**. The question papers will then be taken to the examination venue by a member of centre staff.
- 7 **It is the centre's responsibility to ensure that question papers and examination stationery are transported securely within 90 minutes of the awarding body's published starting time for the examination.**
- 8 Material **must not** be transported **under any circumstances** before the day of the examination.
- 9 **The head of centre is responsible for ensuring that the examination(s) will be conducted as detailed in the JCQ publication *Instructions for conducting examinations*.**

The notification of intent to conduct examinations at an alternative site **must** be submitted online no later than six weeks before the start of the examination series.

However, if the notification is for a candidate to sit examinations at home or in hospital due to a medical condition, it may not be possible to submit the information six weeks in advance. In these circumstances a late submission should be made as soon as the details are known.

**Medical evidence is not required to allow a candidate to sit their examinations at home or in hospital.**

If the centre subsequently identifies that the alternative site arrangement is no longer required, then it should be withdrawn online using the Centre Admin Portal.

#### For advice:

##### Centres in England and Scotland

e-mail: [jqcinspectionsservice@aqc.org.uk](mailto:jcqinspectionsservice@aqc.org.uk)

Tel: 01483 556 271

##### Centres in Wales

e-mail: [jqcinspectionsservice@wjec.co.uk](mailto:jcqinspectionsservice@wjec.co.uk)

Tel: 02920 265 077

##### Centres in Northern Ireland

e-mail: [centresupport@ccea.org.uk](mailto:centresupport@ccea.org.uk)

Tel: 0289 026 1293