

# Exam Guidance

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2023/24

## INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this document is to remind you of the expectations we have of you during your examinations.

The awarding bodies (exam boards) have strict guidelines that must be followed. If any of the guidelines are broken, your results could be discounted or withheld by the boards.

In this booklet you will find the following:

- > Key dates
- Centre Specific Information
- > JCQ Information for candidates Written Examinations
- > JCQ Information for candidates On-screen Examinations
- > JCQ Information for candidates Using social media and examinations
- > JCQ Information for candidates Information about you & how we use it
- > What to do on the day of your exam

### Key Dates

Exam results will be available from the following days:

#### **Jan Series**

- > WJEC Health & Social Care Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March 2024
- OCR Engineering Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> March 2024
- > BTEC Enterprise, Music & Sport Thursday 21st March 2024

#### **June Series**

Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> August 2024

## CENTRE SPECIFIC INFORMATION

- > Exams will take place in the Sports Hall (unless stated otherwise)
- > Candidates with access arrangements will be in the Sports Hall (if appropriate) or based in N111
- > Candidates will be provided with all of the required stationery
- Clear, plastic bottles of water are allowed in the exam room. Anything other than this will be removed from candidates until after the exam
- > Food is **not allowed** in the exam room
- > Morning exams will start at 9am, afternoon exams will start at 1:30pm
- > During exam time, Year 11 will have lunch on the first sitting (12:35 13:05pm)

#### **INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES - WRITTEN EXAMINATIONS**

#### A. Regulations - Make sure you understand the rules

- Be on time for all your exams. If you are late, your work might not be accepted.
- 2 Do not become involved in any unfair or dishonest practice during the exam.
- 3 If you try to cheat, or break the rules in any way, you could be disqualified from all your subjects.
- 4 You must not take into the exam room:

(a) notes;

(b) an iPod, a mobile phone, a MP3/4 player or similar device, a watch, <u>AirPods, earphones/earbuds</u>.

Any pencil cases taken into the exam room must be see-through.

# Remember: possession of unauthorised material is breaking the rules, even if you do not intend to use it, and you will be subject to penalty and possible disqualification.

- 5 If you have a watch, the invigilator will ask you to hand it to them.
- 6 Do not use correcting pens, fluid or tape, erasable pens, highlighters or gel pens in your answers.
- 7 Do not talk to or try to communicate with, or disturb other candidates once the exam has started.
- 8 You must not write inappropriate, obscene or offensive material.
- 9 If you leave the exam room unaccompanied by an invigilator before the exam has finished, you **will not** be allowed to return.

10 Do not borrow anything from another candidate during the exam.

#### B. Information - Make sure you attend your exams and bring what you need

- Know the dates and times of all your exams. Arrive at least ten minutes before the start of each exam.
- 2 If you arrive late for an exam, report to the invigilator running the exam.
- 3 If you arrive more than one hour after the published starting time for the exam, you may not be allowed to take it.
- 4 Only take into the exam room the pens, pencils, erasers and any other equipment which you need for the exam.
- 5 You must write clearly and in black ink. Coloured pencils or inks may only be used for diagrams, maps, charts, etc. unless the instructions printed on the front of the question paper state otherwise.

#### C. Calculators, dictionaries and computer spell-checkers

- 1 You may use a calculator unless you are told otherwise.
- 2 If you use a calculator:
  - (a) make sure it works properly; check that the batteries are working properly;
  - (b) clear anything stored in it;
  - (c) remove any parts such as cases, lids or covers which have printed instructions or formulae;
  - (d) do not bring into the exam room any operating instructions or prepared programs.
- 3 Do not use a dictionary or computer spell checker unless you are told otherwise.

#### D. Instructions during the exam

- 1 Always listen to the invigilator. Always follow their instructions.
- 2 Tell the invigilator at once if:
  - (a) you think you have not been given the right question paper or all of the materials listed on the front of the paper;
  - (b) the question paper is incomplete or badly printed.
- 3 Read carefully and follow the instructions printed on the question paper and/or on the answer booklet.
- 4 Do not start writing anything until the invigilator tells you to fill in all the details required on the front of the question paper and/or the answer booklet before you start the exam. Do not open the question paper until you are instructed that the exam has begun.
- 5 Remember to write your answers within the designated sections of the answer booklet.
- Do your rough work on the proper exam stationery. Cross it through and hand it in with your answers.
  Make sure you add your candidate details to any additional answer sheets that you use, including those used for rough work.

#### E. Advice and assistance

- If on the day of the exam you feel that your work may be affected by ill health or any other reason, tell the invigilator.
- 2 Put up your hand during the exam if:
  - (a) you have a problem and are in doubt about what you should do;
  - (b) you do not feel well;
  - (c) you need more paper.
- **3** You **must not** ask for, and will not be given, any explanation of the questions.

#### F. At the end of the exam

 If you have used more than one answer booklet and/or any supplementary answer sheets, place them in the correct order.

Place any loose additional answer sheets inside your answer booklet. Make sure you add your candidate details to any additional answer sheets that you use.

- 2 Do not leave the exam room until told to do so by the invigilator.
- 3 Do not take any stationery from the exam room. This includes the question paper, answer booklets used or unused, rough work or any other materials provided for the exam.

#### INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES - ON-SCREEN EXAMINATIONS Effective from 1 September 2020

#### A. Regulations - Make sure you understand the rules

- Be on time for your on-screen test(s). If you are late, your work might not be accepted.
- 2 Do not become involved in any unfair or dishonest practice during the on-screen test.
- 3 If you try to cheat, or break the rules in any way, you could be disqualified from all your subjects.
- 4 Only take into the exam room the materials and equipment which are allowed.
- 5 You must not take into the exam room:
  - (a) notes;
  - (b) an iPod, a mobile phone, a MP3/4 player or similar device, a watch, <u>AirPods, earphones/earbuds</u>.

Unless you are told otherwise, you must not have access to:

- (c) the internet, email, data stored on the hard drive, or portable storage media such as floppy disks, CDs and memory sticks;
- (d) pre-prepared templates.

# Remember: possession of unauthorised material is breaking the rules, even if you do not intend to use it, and you will be subject to penalty and possible disqualification.

- 6 If you have a watch, the invigilator will ask you to hand it to them.
- 7 Do not talk to or try to communicate with or disturb other candidates once the on-screen test has started.
- 8 If you leave the exam room unaccompanied by an invigilator before the on-screen test has finished, you will not be allowed to return.
- 9 Do not borrow anything from another candidate during the on-screen test.

#### B. Information – Make sure you attend your on-screen test and bring what you need

- Know the date and time of your on-screen test(s). Arrive at least ten minutes before the start of your on-screen test.
- 2 If you arrive late for an on-screen test, report to the invigilator running the test.
- 3 If you arrive more than one hour after the published starting time for the on-screen test, you may not be allowed to take it.
- 4 Your centre will inform you of any equipment which you may need for the on-screen test.

#### C. Calculators, dictionaries and computer spell-checkers

- 1 You may use a calculator unless you are told otherwise.
- 2 If you use a calculator:
  - (a) make sure it works properly; check that the batteries are working properly;
  - (b) clear anything stored in it;
  - (c) remove any parts such as cases, lids or covers which have printed instructions or formulae;
  - (d) do not bring into the examination room any operating instructions or prepared programs.
- 3 Do not use a dictionary or computer spell checker unless you are told otherwise.

#### D. Instructions during the on-screen test

- Always listen to the invigilator. Always follow their instructions.
- 2 Tell the invigilator at once if:
  - (a) you have been entered for the wrong on-screen test;
  - (b) the on-screen test is in another candidate's name;
  - (c) you experience system delays or any other IT irregularities.
- You may be given a question paper or the instructions may be on-screen. In either case, read carefully and follow the instructions.
  Do not open the question paper until you are instructed that the exam has begun.

#### E. Advice and assistance

- If on the day of the on-screen test you feel that your work may be affected by ill health or any other reason, tell the invigilator.
- 2 Put up your hand during the on-screen test if:
  - (a) you have a problem with your computer and are in doubt about what you should do;
  - (b) you do not feel well.
- 3 You must not ask for, and will not be given, any explanation of the questions.

#### F. At the end of the on-screen test

- Ensure that the software closes at the end of the on-screen test.
- 2 If you are required to print off work outside the time allowed for the on-screen test, ensure that you collect your own work. You **must not** share your work with other candidates. Make sure that another candidate does not collect your printout(s).
- 3 Do not leave the exam room until told to do so by the invigilator.
- 4 Do not take any stationery from the exam room. This includes rough work, printouts or any other materials provided for the on-screen test.



# Using social media and examinations/assessments Information for candidates

While we like to share our experiences online, when it comes to exams, we have to be careful.

- Sharing ideas online can be helpful when you're studying or revising
- However, sharing certain information (see information on the right) can break the rules and could affect your results
- If you're not sure what you can and can't discuss online, check with your teacher
- If you receive exam content on social media, you must tell your teacher
- Don't be caught out by scammers selling fake exam papers





#### INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES - USING SOCIAL MEDIA AND EXAMINATIONS

#### INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES - INFORMATION ABOUT YOU AND HOW WE USE IT

You have entered general or vocational qualifications such as GCSE, A-level, functional skills qualifications etc with one or more of the awarding bodies. In order to be able to provide examinations and assessments, the awarding body needs to collect and use information about you. This notice provides you with a high-level summary of the information the awarding body is required by law to give you about what happens to that information. For more detail see each awarding body's full Privacy Notice:

AQA <u>https://www.aqa.org.uk/about-us/privacy-notice</u> CCEA <u>https://ccea.org.uk/legal/privacy-notice</u> City & Guilds <u>https://www.cityandguilds.com/help/help-for-learners/learner-policy</u> NCFE <u>https://www.ncfe.org.uk/legal-information</u> OCR <u>https://www.ocr.org.uk/about/our-policies/website-policies/privacy-policy/</u> Pearson <u>https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/about-us/qualification-brands/gdpr.html</u> WJEC <u>https://www.wiec.co.uk/home/privacy-policy/</u>

#### Who we are and how to contact us

Each awarding body is a separate organisation. Your school or examination centre will be able to confirm to you which awarding body is delivering each qualification you are undertaking and you will receive a statement confirming what qualifications you have been entered for and which awarding body. You will find links to each awarding body's website and information on how to contact them here: <a href="https://www.jcq.org.uk/contact-our-members/">https://www.jcq.org.uk/contact-our-members/</a>

#### Information about you and from where it is obtained

Each awarding body whose qualifications you enter will need to use a variety of information about you. This includes obvious identification details such as your name, address, date of birth and your school or examination centre. It also includes information about your gender, race and health, where appropriate. This information is provided by you or your parents/guardians and/or by your school or examination centre.

Each awarding body will create certain information about you such as a candidate number, examination results and certificates.

You will find further information about this in the awarding bodies' full Privacy Notice (see links above) or by contacting the awarding body (see above).

#### What happens to the information about you

The awarding bodies use the information about you to deliver the examinations and assessments which you have entered. This includes making a variety of arrangements for you to sit the examinations or assessments, marking, providing you and your school or centre with results and certificates. The awarding bodies also use some of the information about you for equality monitoring and other statistical analysis.

The awarding bodies may share information about your results with official bodies such as the Department for Education and the examinations regulators (e.g. Ofqual in England) and also relevant local authorities and the Universities and Colleges Admissions Service (UCAS). An awarding body may also use information about you to

investigate cheating and other examination malpractice and will share information about malpractice with other awarding bodies.

The awarding bodies take the security of the information about you that they hold seriously.

You will find further, technical information about what the awarding bodies do with information about you, why and the legal basis in the awarding bodies' full Privacy Notice, which can be accessed here (see links on page one) or by contacting the awarding body (see above).

#### Your rights

The law gives you a number of rights in relation to the information about you that the awarding bodies hold. Those rights are:

- Access you are entitled to ask each awarding body about the information it holds about you.
- Rectification you are entitled to ask each awarding body to correct any errors in the information that it holds about you.
- Erasure in certain circumstances you are entitled to ask each awarding body to erase the information about you that it holds.
- Object to or restrict processing in certain circumstances you are entitled to ask each awarding body to stop using information about you in certain ways.
- Complain you are entitled to complain to the Information Commissioner (the body regulating the use of personal information) about what each awarding body does with information about you.

You will find further information about your rights in relation to information about you in the awarding bodies' full Privacy Notice, which can be accessed here (see links on page one) or by contacting the awarding body (see above).

#### How long the information about you is held

Each awarding body retains information about you only for as long as it is needed. Some of the information is needed only during the period in which you are undertaking the examination or assessment and is securely destroyed a short while afterwards. Other information about you, such as your name, gender, address, qualification and subjects entered and the results, are held indefinitely and for at least 40 years.

Each awarding body has its own retention policy that sets out what information it retains, how it is retained and for how long. You can find out more about retention policies by contacting each awarding body (see above).

#### How to find out more about the information about you that the awarding bodies use

To find out more about the information about you that the awarding bodies collect and use, including what happens to that information and why, you can review the awarding bodies' full Privacy Notice, which can be accessed here (see links on page one) or contact the awarding body. You will find links to each awarding body's website and information on how to contact them here: <u>https://www.jcq.org.uk/contact-our-members/</u>.

#### **Please note**

It is important to note that this notice concerns only how the awarding bodies use information about you (called your "personal data"). Complaints about how an awarding body handles your personal data can be made to the Information Commissioner (www.ico.org.uk). Information about the examinations and assessments themselves, including the rules about assessments, can be found on the JCQ Exams Office pages (www.jcq.org.uk/exams-office). The awarding bodies are regulated by Ofqual (https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofqual) in England; Qualifications Wales www.qualificationswales.org) in Wales, and the Council for the Curriculum, Examinations and Assessment (http://ccea.org.uk/regulation) in Northern Ireland.



AQA	City & Guilds	CCEA	OCR	Pearson	WJEC

# Warning to candidates

- 1. You **must** be on time for all your examinations.
- Possession of a mobile phone or other unauthorised material is not allowed even if you do not intend to use it. You will be subject to penalty and possible disqualification from the exam/qualification.
- 3. You **must not** talk to, attempt to communicate with or disturb other candidates once you have entered the examination room.
- 4. You **must** follow the instructions of the invigilator.
- You **must not** sit an examination in the name of another candidate.
- You must not become involved in any unfair or dishonest practice in any part of the examination.
- 7. If you are confused about anything, only speak to an invigilator.

The *Warning to candidates* must be displayed in a prominent place outside each examination room. This may be a hard copy A3 paper version or an image of the poster projected onto a wall or screen for all candidates to see.

Effective from 1 September 2022



OCR

Pearson

WJEC

# **NO MOBILE PHONES NO WATCHES**

## **NO POTENTIAL TECHNOLOGICAL/WEB** ENABLED SOURCES OF INFORMATION



Possession of unauthorised items, such as a mobile phone or any watch, is a serious offence and could result in



from your examination and your overall gualification.

This poster must be displayed in a prominent place outside each examination room.