



Alternative Rooming Arrangements Policy (Exam)

Gordano School

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Centre name	Gordano School
Centre number	50639
Date policy first created	06/10/2023
Current policy approved by	David Beesley
Current policy reviewed by	Thomas Shallcross
Date of review	11/10/2024
Date of next review	10/10/2025

Key staff involved in the policy

Role	Name
Head of centre	Louise Blundell
Senior leader(s)	David Beesley
Exams officer	Thomas Shallcross
SENCo (or equivalent role)	Lucie Broad
Other staff (if applicable)	

This policy is reviewed and updated annually to ensure that alternative rooming arrangements at Gordano School are awarded and managed in accordance with current requirements and regulations.

References in this policy to AA and ICE refer to the JCQ documents **Access Arrangements and Reasonable Adjustments** and **Instructions for conducting examinations**.

Introduction

Alternative rooming arrangements (for example, a room for a smaller group of candidates with similar needs) is an available access arrangement as defined in the JCQ regulations. This is an arrangement where a candidate with an established difficulty may be eligible to take their examinations in a smaller environment away from the main examination room.

Purpose of the policy

The purpose of this policy is to confirm the criteria when these arrangements may be considered and granted for a candidate at Gordano School in compliance with the regulations.

1. Decisions on the awarding of the arrangement

At Gordano School, decisions on the awarding of the arrangement are made by: Lucie Broad - Access Arrangements Co-ordinator

Decisions are based on:

- Whether the candidate has a substantial and long-term impairment which has an adverse effect (AA 5.16)
- The candidate's normal way of working within the centre (AA 5.16)
- Ensuring the proposed arrangement does not unfairly disadvantage or advantage the candidate (AA 4.2.1)

(In accordance with the regulations: A centre must make decisions on appropriate access arrangements for their candidates. Although professionals from other organisations may give advice, they cannot make the decision for the centre. They will not have a working knowledge of an individual candidate's needs and how their difficulties impact in the classroom and/or in timed assessments. It is the responsibility of the SENCo (or equivalent role within the centre) to make appropriate and informed decisions based on the JCQ regulations.)

- Nervousness, low level anxiety or being worried about examinations is not sufficient grounds for separate invigilation within the centre

1:1 invigilation and the use of an alternative room would apply where the candidate has a serious medical condition such as frequent seizures, Tourette's or significant behavioural issues which would disturb other candidates in the examination room (AA 5.16)

Additional information:

Evidence will be collated from the various departments within the school to ensure that the right provision is in place for a student. These arrangements will be authorised by the Exams Access Arrangement Co-ordinator and communicated to parents in advance of the exam season. Any arrangement put in place will be aimed to be in place to trial during mock exams.

2. Criteria for the awarding of the arrangement

Alternative rooming arrangements will be considered where the arrangement would prevent a candidate from being placed at a substantial disadvantage and where the following conditions are met:

- The candidate has an established difficulty as defined in section 5.16 of the JCQ's **Access Arrangements and Reasonable Adjustments** document (ICE 14.18)
- The candidate's disability is established within the centre and known to relevant staff or a senior member of staff with pastoral responsibilities (AA 5.16)
- Alternative rooming arrangements reflects the candidate's normal and current way of working in internal tests and mock examinations (AA 5.16)

- Where a candidate sits their examinations in a smaller environment away from the main examination room, the regulations and guidance within the JCQ publication **Instructions for conducting examinations** will be adhered to, particularly in relation to accommodation and invigilation arrangements (ICE 14.18)

Additional information:

3. Other rooming arrangements

At Gordano School arrangements for seating candidates in rooms separate to the main cohort may be put in place in other circumstances. As and when applicable, these circumstances include:

Students with 'access arrangements' that require additional support may be seated in an access room if for example they require use of a word processor, reader, scribe.

Changes 2024/2025

(Changed) Any reference to ALS Lead/SENCo changed to SENCo (or equivalent role).

(Added) Additional detail added to bullet points 3 and 4 under the heading **Decisions on the awarding of the arrangement** (Decisions are based on:)

Point 3: (In accordance with the regulations: A centre must make decisions on appropriate access arrangements for their candidates. Although professionals from other organisations may give advice, they cannot make the decision for the centre. They will not have a working knowledge of an individual candidate's needs and how their difficulties impact in the classroom and/or in timed assessments. It is the responsibility of the SENCo (or equivalent role within the centre) to make appropriate and informed decisions based on the JCQ regulations.)

Point 4: 1:1 invigilation and the use of an alternative room would apply where the candidate has a serious medical condition such as frequent seizures, Tourette's or significant behavioural issues which would disturb other candidates in the examination room.

Centre-specific changes

n/a