

Access Arrangements for Examinations at MCS

Monmouth Comprehensive School follows the Joint Council for Qualifications (JCQ) criteria to formally apply and provide access arrangements and reasonable adjustments for examinations. This provides a robust and equitable approach.

The JCQ regulations reflect a whole centre approach to access arrangements and reasonable adjustments. The Additional Learning Needs Co-ordinator (ALNCo), fully supported by teaching and support staff, alongside the leadership team, leads on the access arrangements and reasonable adjustments in the centre.

Access Arrangements are agreed before an assessment. They allow a candidate with specific needs - additional learning needs, disabilities or temporary injuries - to access the assessment and show what they know and can do without changing the needs of the assessment. The intention of the access arrangement is to meet the needs of the candidate without impacting the integrity of the assessment.

Reasonable adjustments are made for candidates with disabilities within the meaning of the Equality Act 2010 for candidates who would be at a substantial disadvantage in comparison to someone who is not disabled.

Access arrangements and reasonable adjustments will be considered in-line with the JCQ criteria for candidates who have:

- Additional learning needs
- A disability
- Long term medical needs

The following information must be available within the centre in order to proceed to application:

- A history of need (individual learner profile or statutory plan) and a history of provision (evidence of reasonable adjustments and support which has been in place over a period of time)
- Evidence of a normal way of working from teaching staff from Year 9 onwards
- For certain access arrangements (including additional time, reader and scribe), assessments completed by the school assigned specialist assessor which fall in the below average and low average range

Please note that centres are unable to apply for access arrangements based on an independent assessment alone, as this is specifically prohibited in the JCQ guidance.

The guidance and criteria from JCQ can be found via [this link](#).

Should you have any queries in relation to access arrangements for examinations, please contact inclusion@monmouth.schoolsedu.org.uk in the first instance.