

What are Access Arrangements?

Access arrangements are pre-examination adjustments for candidates based on evidence of need and normal way of working. Access arrangements fall into two distinct categories; some arrangements are delegated to centres and others require prior JCQ awarding body referrals. These can include but are not limited to 25% extra time, a reader or a laptop Etc.

How can my child be referred for Access Arrangements?

They could be referred by their members of staff at Fairfield, professional outside agencies and self-referred by parents/carers or self-referral.

JCQ (Joint Council for Qualifications) state that all access arrangement testing has to take place by the end of year 9; therefore, any referrals received during KS4 will either not be assessed or we will explore special considerations.

If you have any concerns regarding your child needing extra time, please communicate those to their head of year as early as possible.

How will my child be assessed for Access Arrangements?

Your child will be formally assessed by our qualified in-house assessor, Hayley Kelly. We have access to a multitude of assessments that evaluate a wide spectrum of skills.

Will my child have access arrangements in every subject?

JCQ explicitly states that access arrangements should be awarded and evidenced on a subject-by-subject basis. We will need subject specific teachers to refer and evidence the need. Access arrangements can also be removed if a pupil does not use them.

My child has a SEND, will they automatically receive access arrangements?

This is dependent on their Special Educational Need. Students with ASD, HI/VI/MSI, ADHD and SEMH will automatically receive AA. However, this high level of need will need to be supported by specialist evidence i.e. Doctors letter etc.

These high-level of SEND will receive AA in all examinations.

Students with any other SEND will need to be assessed by the in house assessor and level of need judged on a subject by subject basis.

My child has dyslexia, will they automatically receive access arrangements?

No. The JCQ clearly states that a diagnosis of dyslexia does not automatically entitle a student to 25% extra time. As with all other areas of need, this is evaluated on a subject by subject basis.

Will my child have these access arrangements at Post 16?

Yes, all access arrangement information will be shared with post 16 centres ahead of their transition.

Where can I find out more about the JCQ guidelines for Access Arrangements?

<https://www.jcq.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/08/AA-regs-2020-2021-version-for-website.pdf>

I have an additional question, who can I ask?

Please refer any questions to our Access Arrangements Co-ordinator, Hayley Kelly;

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