

Assessments for Extra Time in Exams



Regulations governing Access Arrangements are issued by the Joint Council of Qualifications (JCQ). These regulations are updated each year and schools have to abide by their guidelines. An Exam Inspector visits the School each year to ensure compliance.

Current emphasis is on the teachers having evidence and documentation showing that the “candidate’s disability/difficulty has impacted on teaching and learning in the classroom”. In addition, the School must hold evidence that the pupil underperforms when working with time restrictions. The Exam Inspector has asked us to collect unfinished exam papers by the pupil for his inspection. Along with this evidence, the pupil must have a speed related assessment score that falls into the ‘below average’ range (i.e. standardised scores below 85 in tests that assess reading speed, writing speed, or processing speed).

The 2018-19 guidelines state that reports from external assessors (Educational Psychologists and Specialist Teachers) can only be accepted by the School if the School has an established relationship with the assessor prior to the assessment. The name of the assessor **must** be submitted to the JCQ by the School in advance of any assessments. In the case of Specialist Teachers, the School must hold copies of the assessor’s Certificates of Qualification. The assessor **must** ask the School for evidence of need before the assessment takes place. Stowe is no longer in a position to accept reports from external assessors.

Only evidence and assessments carried out from Year 9 (Stowe Third Form) onwards are accepted for GCSE arrangements and from Lower Sixth onwards for A Level arrangements. A pupil who was awarded extra time at Common Entrance may not qualify for extra time in GCSE and A Level exams. Year 9 must be seen as a new start and evidence collected from that point onwards in order to qualify. Here at Stowe we have staff qualified to carry out the assessments needed. If the learning difficulty is more complex, we have established relationships with two Educational Psychologists who come into School and carry out assessments.

At Stowe, pupils are monitored for need and use of extra time. If a pupil persistently has problems with completing class tasks, tests and internal exams within the given time, then we will arrange to complete an assessment within School. Where a pupil is found to fit the JCQ criteria, an application is made. Parents will be informed of the outcome of the application.

For further information please contact Sharon Carter, SENCo on scarter@stowe.co.uk