

# Access arrangements for EAL candidates GCE and GCSE qualifications

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Joint Council for  
Qualifications

# Access arrangements for EAL candidates GCE and GCSE qualifications



# Arrangements delegated to centres (GCE and GCSE qualifications)

Entirely down to the SENCo or EAL Co-ordinator

- Bilingual dictionary (GCSE or GCE students)
- Coloured overlays
- Examination reading pen
- Prompter
- Read Aloud
- Word processor



**No evidence needed for inspection purposes.** Simply based upon the candidate's normal way of working within the centre. **An on-line application is not required.**

# Arrangements delegated to centres

Entirely down to the SENCo or EAL Co-ordinator

## Examination reading pen

**Remember** that an EAL candidate can use an examination reading pen in a paper or a section of a paper testing reading

For example, the Reading section of a GCSE English Language paper or in GCSE/GCE MFL papers

An examination reading pen can also be used in GCSE English Literature examinations

# Arrangements delegated to centres

## **Supervised rest breaks**

May be of benefit to a candidate for whom English is an additional language

Would allow the examination to be broken up into more manageable 'chunks' for the candidate

An on-line application is not required but the SENCo or EAL Co-ordinator must produce centre based evidence

# Arrangements delegated to centres

## **Supervised rest breaks**

A short concise file note produced by the SENCo, EAL Co-ordinator or a senior member of staff on centre headed paper, signed by hand and dated

Confirms the need for supervised rest breaks and that the arrangement reflects the candidate's normal way of working within the centre

# Modified language papers

Vast majority of question papers are now modified at source, particularly core GCSE subjects

The standard question paper is deemed accessible to all candidates, irrespective of their difficulty, their impairment

However, where a question paper is not modified at source, a modified language paper may be ordered

Evidence of need is not required: the SENCo or EAL Co-ordinator believes a modified language paper is appropriate to the candidate's needs

# Coloured/enlarged papers

Coloured or enlarged paper available to an EAL candidate

Evidence of need not required but

On-line application is required





# Non-interactive electronic (PDF) question papers

An EAL candidate could have access to a non-interactive electronic (PDF) question paper

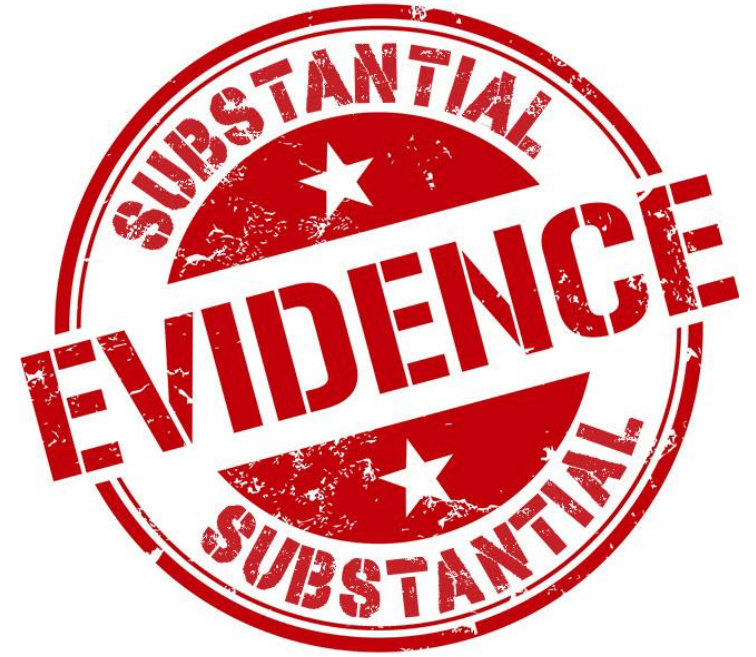
Evidence of need not required

Order must be made though by 31 January



25% extra time, computer reader, reader, scribe

Compelling



25% extra time, computer reader, reader, scribe  
A picture of need

## Picture of need

**A compelling and substantial picture of need must be painted by the SENCo within Section A of Form 8**

The three key questions within Section A of Form 8 **must** be comprehensively addressed by the SENCo

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## A picture of need

### Picture of need

The SENCo would draw upon, for example:

- comments and observations from teaching staff
- individual education/learning plans
- intervention strategies
- pupil attainment and pupil tracking data
- screening test results
- normal way of working within the centre

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## A picture of need

### Picture of need

The SENCo needs to show that the candidate's difficulties go way beyond English being an additional language

The SENCo needs to show that this is not a case of a candidate simply struggling to read, write or process information in the English language

The SENCo needs to show why he/she feels that the candidate has underlying difficulties in his/her first language

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## **Assessment of the candidate's needs**

The SENCo must liaise with the specialist assessor if different persons

The specialist assessor can conduct age appropriate, nationally standardised and up to date UK/US assessments, i.e. the standard assessments can be used

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## **Assessment of the candidate's needs**

The specialist assessor **must** confirm within Section C, 'Other Information', that in his/her professional judgement the candidate does have underlying difficulties in his/her first language

The specialist assessor must indicate why he/she feels that the requisite standardised scores are not reflective of someone simply struggling to learn the English language

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*Judgement*





# 25% extra time, computer reader, reader, scribe

The SENCo has to use his/her professional judgement and integrity

The specialist assessor has to use his/her professional judgement and integrity

The SENCo needs to ensure that there is a compelling case for the arrangement based upon a substantial picture of need **and** the relevant test scores

Decision based on professionalism, judgement and integrity

25% extra time, computer reader, reader, scribe



25% extra time, computer reader, reader, scribe



The SENCo, or a member of the senior leadership team, must defend the decision to award 25% extra time, a computer reader, a reader and/or a scribe should the application be subject to scrutiny when a JCQ Centre Inspector calls

# Bilingual dictionary and up to 25% extra time



# Bilingual dictionary and up to 25% extra time (GCSE candidates only)

The candidate must meet the published criteria as per **page 73** of the JCQ regulations

Principally:

- the candidate's first language is not English, Irish or Welsh
- the candidate entered the United Kingdom within two years of the examination(s)
- English is not one of the languages spoken in the family home
- prior to their arrival in the United Kingdom the candidate was not educated in an International school where some or the entire curriculum was delivered in English

# Bilingual dictionary and up to 25% extra time

- prior to their arrival in the United Kingdom the candidate was not prepared for or entered for IGCSE qualifications where the question papers were set in English
- prior to their arrival in the United Kingdom the candidate was not prepared in English for other qualifications, e.g. IELTS qualifications
- the candidate has to refer to the bilingual translation dictionary so often that examination time is used for this purpose, delaying the answering of questions
- the provision of extra time of up to 25% reflects the candidate's usual way of working with the dictionary

# Bilingual dictionary and up to 25% extra time

The evidence must be compiled by the EAL Co-ordinator or the SENCo on centre headed paper, signed by hand and dated

