

CANDIDATE LATE ARRIVAL POLICY

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| Approved by | David Butterworth | Date | January 2026 |
| Next review due by | | | January 2027 |

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| Centre Name | Weston Secondary School |
| Centre Number | 58659 |

Key Staff involved in the policy

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| Head of Centre | David Butterworth |
| Senior Leader(s) | Natalie Bungay Steve Smith Chris Collins Luke Wilson |
| Exams officer | Claire Harlow |

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This policy is reviewed and updated annually to ensure that candidates who arrive late to examinations at Weston Secondary School are managed in accordance with current requirements and regulations.

References in this policy to GR and ICE refer to the JCQ documents **General Regulations for Approved Centres** and **Instructions for conducting examinations**.

2. Purpose of the policy

The purpose of this policy is to confirm the arrangements for candidates who arrive late for an examination at Weston Secondary School.

As per JCQ regulations a candidate will be considered late if they arrive:

- after the start of the examination and (for an examination which lasts an hour or more) up to 10.00am for a morning examination or up to 2.30pm for an afternoon examination

As per JCQ regulations a candidate will be considered very late if they arrive:

- more than one hour after the awarding body's published starting time for an examination which lasts one hour or more, i.e. after 10.00am for a morning examination or after 2.30pm for an afternoon examination
- after the awarding body's published finishing time for an examination that lasts less than one hour (ICE 21.3)

A candidate will be considered late if they arrive:

- after the start of the examination – Morning exams start at 08.50 / Afternoon exams start at 13.00) Unless there is exceptional circumstances no candidate will be allowed to enter the exam room after the first 30 minutes of any exam.
- If there are exceptional circumstances, then the latest a student will be able to enter a venue is 1 hour after the published exam board start times – Morning – 10.00 / Afternoon – 14.30.
- A candidate will be considered very late if they arrive: more than one hour after the awarding body's published starting time for an examination which lasts one hour or more, i.e. after 10.00am for a morning examination or after 2.30pm for an afternoon examination (ICE 21.3)
- If a candidate is consistently late for 3 consecutive exams the school reserves the right to withdraw them from all remaining exams. The school will seek reimbursement for fees paid for exams where they have failed to arrive on time and have been refused entry.

This policy confirms that Weston Secondary School reserves the right to exercise discretion whether to allow a candidate who arrives after the start of the examination to enter the examination room and sit the examination, and confirms:

- the correct procedures are followed when dealing with a candidate who arrives late to an examination
- appropriate arrangements are in place for the management of late arrivals in order to maintain the security and integrity of the examination

3. Candidates who arrive late

The following procedures are applied at Weston Secondary School in relation to candidates who arrive late to examinations:

- A candidate who arrives after the start of the examination may be allowed to enter the examination room and sit the examination (ICE 21.1) Within Weston Secondary School students must arrive within 30 minutes of the start of the exam to be allowed entry to sit.

- A candidate who arrives late, and is permitted to sit the examination, will be allowed the full time for the examination (ICE 21.2)
- A candidate who arrives within one hour of the awarding body's published starting time for an examination which lasts an hour or more, i.e. a candidate arriving up to 10.00am for a morning examination or up to 2.30pm for an afternoon examination (ICE 21.1) will be permitted by the centre to sit the examination. N.B This rule will only be applicable if there are exceptional circumstances for the student being late.
- A candidate who arrives after 10.00am for a morning examination will be considered very late (ICE 21.3) and will not be permitted by the centre to sit the examination
- A candidate who arrives after 2.30pm for an afternoon examination will be considered very late (ICE 21.3) and will not be permitted by the centre to sit the examination
- A candidate who arrives after the awarding body's published finishing time for an examination that lasts less than one hour will be considered very late (ICE 21.3) and will not be permitted by the centre to sit the examination
- A candidate who arrives in the afternoon for a paper that had been re-arranged for a morning session, may be allowed to take the paper at the published time as long as the candidate has not had any contact with candidates who sat the paper earlier. (ICE 21.5)

The awarding body will be informed of the situation and will decide whether to accept the script (ICE 21.6)

- In all cases the centre will submit a declaration for the very late arrival of a candidate for examinations, in accordance with the current JCQ publication Instructions for conducting examinations (GR 5.9)

4. Roles and Responsibilities

The role of the exams officer

- Inform invigilators of the policy/process for dealing with candidates who arrive late/very late through training
- Provide an exam room incident log for invigilators to record relevant information relating to candidates who arrive late/very late
- Warn a candidate who arrives very late that the awarding body may not accept their script (ICE 21.4)
- Send the script of a candidate who arrives late/very late to the awarding body/examiner in the normal way (ICE 21.4)
- Submit on-line, using the Centre Admin Portal (CAP), Form JCQ/VLA - Report on candidate admitted very late to examination room within seven days of the examination having taken place, providing the following details:
 - the time the candidate came under centre staff supervision
 - the reason the candidate arrived late, including any details of special arrangements made for the candidate to reach the centre
 - the actual starting and finishing times of the examination

- the time the candidate started and finished the examination
- any assurances that the candidate did not access and was not made aware of the paper's content prior to sitting the exam (ICE 21.4)

The role of invigilators

- Ensure candidates who arrive late/very late are given the required instructions prior to starting the examination (the invigilator's announcement) without disturbing other candidates
- Ensure relevant information is recorded on the exam room incident log relating to candidates who arrive late/very late
- Allow a candidate who arrived late/very late, and is allowed the full working time to do the examination, to continue after the normal finishing time, instructing them to stop working after the full working time allowed has passed (ICE 26.2)

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| Signed: | |
| Date: | |