



Qualifications
Scotland
Teisteanasan Alba

Parent & Student Guide



Assessment Arrangements

Castlehead High School

What are alternative assessment arrangements?

- Assessment arrangements (AA) are intended to enable learners to demonstrate their attainment, not to compensate for lack of attainment.
- AA must be considered in the context of the distinction between a learner's attainment and that of their ability to demonstrate their attainment under assessment conditions.
- AA are agreed before an assessment takes place and allow disabled learners to access the assessment and show the skills, knowledge and understanding they have acquired.
- ALL AA MUST REFLECT A YOUNG PERSON'S USUAL WAY OF WORKING.

We can only put assessment arrangements in place when:

- The need for the arrangement is identified, documented and clearly evidenced by the class teacher.
- The arrangements requested are similar to how a young person is supported in class and reflects their usual way of working.
- Decisions about AA are not just based on the nature of a disability or condition, but also on how individuals learn, and the effect these arrangements have on their ability to demonstrate what they've learned.

Who decides?

While learning is happening, class teachers will be making decisions about the best arrangements that are possible and that will be suitable for individual needs. Candidates have regular opportunities to discuss their needs and advocate for the support(s) they feel they need.



Some examples!

- A learner who is profoundly deaf, and who uses sign language such as BSL may need sign language support to access an assessment task
- A neurodivergent learner with dyslexia who experiences difficulties with processing written text, may need a digital text reader and may also need extra time to complete an assessment
- A candidate with who has persistent difficulties with concentrating such as ADHD, may need to undertake an exam in a separate room, or in a room with only a small number of learners

What next?

- A candidate agrees to the arrangements the centre has requested.
- A candidate agrees to the school, college or training provider passing on some personal details about a disability or an additional support need (we will look after this information very carefully and will delete it after the assessments are finished).
- Before any exam date, the school college or training provider will contact the Qualifications Scotland to request assessment arrangements and review if these are still appropriate as a candidate progresses.



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