



Sibford
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Leaving the Examination Room Policy

Sibford School

Leaving the Examination Room Policy

Centre name	Sibford School
Centre number	62211
Date policy first created	20/09/2023
Current policy approved by	Rebecca Evans
Current policy reviewed by	Sarah Lake
Date of review	08/10/2025
Date of next review	01/10/2026

Key staff involved in the policy

Role	Name
Head of centre	Rebecca Evans
Senior leader(s)	Jessica Boyle - Assistant Head (Academic and Operations)
Exams officer	Sarah Lake
Other staff (if applicable)	

This policy is reviewed and updated annually to ensure that candidates leaving the examination room at Sibford School is managed in accordance with current requirements and regulations.

References in this policy to ICE refer to the JCQ document **Instructions for conducting examinations**.

Purpose of the policy

The purpose of this policy is to confirm that candidates leaving the examination room at Sibford School is managed in line with JCQ regulations.

This policy confirms:

- the correct procedures are followed in relation to candidates leaving the examination room
- Sibford School reserves the right to exercise discretion whether to allow extra time to compensate candidates for their temporary absence from the examination room

1. Arrangements for leaving the examination room

- For examinations that last one hour or more, candidates must stay under centre supervision until 10.00am for a morning examination or 2.30pm for an afternoon examination, i.e. one hour after the awarding body's published starting time for that examination (ICE 23.1)
- For examinations that last less than one hour, candidates must be supervised and question papers must be kept in secure storage until the published finishing time of the examination (ICE 23.2)
- Candidates who are allowed to leave the examination room temporarily must be accompanied by a member of centre staff. This must not be the candidate's subject teacher or a subject expert for the examination in question. (ICE 23.3)

Candidates may be allowed extra time at the discretion of the centre to compensate for their temporary absence. (ICE 23.5)

- Candidates can only leave the examination room where necessary or where supervised rest breaks have been granted by the SENCo. The centre must ensure that candidates who leave the room do not have access to any unauthorised materials. (ICE 23.4)
- Candidates who have finished the examination and have been allowed to leave the examination room early must hand in their script, question paper and any other material before they leave the examination room. Those candidates must not be allowed back into the room (ICE 23.6)
- At the end of the examination, candidates must hand in their script, question paper and any other material before they leave the examination room (ICE 23.7)

The following arrangements are applied at Sibford School:

- Based on normal practice in class re toilet breaks/visits candidates (without a known medical condition/those not approved supervised rest breaks) may be allowed to leave the room temporarily.
- Students are made aware that toilet breaks are an 'incident' and are recorded as such.
- Students are not permitted to take a toilet break within the first 15 minutes and last 15 minutes of an exam.
- Students are discouraged from taking toilet breaks wherever possible.
- Candidates who are allowed to leave the examination room temporarily may be allowed extra time to compensate for their temporary absence (ICE 23.5)

Candidates will be allowed extra time to compensate for temporary absence from the examination room where they are entitled to supervised movement breaks as an exams access arrangement

- Candidates will be allowed extra time to compensate for temporary absence from the examination room where there is a medical reason known to the centre

- Candidates will be allowed extra time to compensate for temporary absence from the examination room in the event that a candidate feels unwell
- Candidates are expected to remain in the examination room for the published duration of the examination unless an established medical reason is known to the centre

Additional arrangements:

- Candidates will NOT be allowed extra time to compensate for temporary absence from the examination room for toilet breaks, unless there is an established medical reason. This will be at the discretion of the exams invigilator where a candidate is in or has been in exams over an extended period of time

2. Roles and responsibilities

The role of the exams office/officer

- Through training, ensure invigilators are aware how candidates who may be allowed to leave the examination room temporarily should be managed and recorded

Additional responsibilities:

Not applicable

The role of the invigilator

- Ensure a candidate who may be allowed to leave the examination room temporarily is accompanied by a member of centre staff who is not the candidate's subject teacher or a subject expert for the examination in question (ICE 23.3)
- Record instances on the exam room incident log of candidates who may be allowed to leave the examination room temporarily because they may be feeling unwell or require a toilet break (ICE 20.2)
- Ensure candidates who have finished the examination and have been allowed to leave the examination room early hand in their script, question paper and any other material before they leave the examination room. Ensure those candidates are not allowed back into the room (ICE 23.6)
- At the end of the examination, ensure candidates hand in their script, question paper and any other material before they leave the examination room (ICE 23.7)
- Record toilet breaks in ExamsAssist. Records must include the time that the candidate stopped working and when they resumed work.

Additional responsibilities:

- Where a candidate has left the room for an authorised reason, the candidate must be allowed extra time to compensate for temporary absence from the examination room, including any extra time due to access arrangements
- Inform the exams officer immediately if a candidate leaves the examination room without being accompanied. This must be recorded in ExamsAssist

Changes 2025/2026

(Added) Under heading **Arrangements for leaving the examination room**, optional insert field added to allow for expansion on the arrangements applied at the centre.

(Added) Under heading **The role of the invigilator** optional insert field added to allow for expansion on recording incidents and timings, etc.

Centre-specific changes

Upon review in October 2025, the job title of Jessica Boyle has been updated.