



The Eaglewood School

“Raising Aspiration and Changing Lives”

Exam Access Arrangements 2023/24 Information for Students and Parents

Access Arrangements

Access arrangements are 'reasonable adjustments' for students who have a disability or a special educational need that significantly affects them in class, test, and exams.

All schools and colleges operate under the same regulations set out by the Joint Council for Qualification (JCQ) and the process is strictly monitored to ensure that standards and processes are the same nationally.

There are a variety of access arrangements that can be provided where there is a clear need in school. These might include:

- Support for reading (e.g. a reader, a reading pen)
- Support for writing (e.g. a scribe, a word processor)
- Support for working to time (e.g. rest breaks, prompt, 25% extra time)

Other individual arrangements may be available if there is clear need.

Access arrangements

- Must not change the skills or knowledge being tested
- Must not give an unfair advantage, but...
- Do give a level playing field so students can show their knowledge

Any arrangements that are used in exams are based on the normal way of working in the classroom, tests and exams. Wherever possible, access arrangements that enable a student to work independently without adult intervention are encouraged.

Evidence is needed for some access arrangements and these need to be applied for and approved before they can be used in external exams. This sometimes means that testing needs to be carried out. Testing takes place in school by a qualified assessor. Strict rules must be followed so that the test scores can be used as evidence for access arrangements.

Please note: A diagnostic assessment for dyslexia or other learning disability is not required in order to be approved for exam arrangements. Private assessments that have been carried out without prior contact with the school/college cannot be used for access arrangements.

We will always seek to work with students and parents to ensure the most appropriate outcome for all students.

If you have any concerns or queries and we will be happy to advise. Please contact us by emailing the exam access arrangements assessor m.strachan@eaglewoodschool.co.uk

Melanie Strachan.