

Examination policies and procedures



Leaving the exam room Policy 2025/26

Leaving the Exam Room Policy

Centre name	Bankside College
Centre number	
Date procedures first created	04/10/2024
Current procedures approved by	Kate Jasper
Current procedures reviewed by	Kate Jasper & Dawn Taylor
Date of next review	30/09/2026

Key staff involved in the procedures

Role	Name
Head of centre	Kate Jasper
Senior leader(s)	Kate Jasper: Headteacher Angela Parker: College Lead
Exams Officer	Dawn Taylor
Other staff (if applicable)	

This policy is reviewed and updated annually to ensure that candidates leaving the examination room at Bankside 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 Bankside School is managed in line with JCQ regulations.

This policy confirms:

- the correct procedures are followed in relation to candidates leaving the examination room
- Bankside 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 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 may be allowed extra time at the discretion of the centre to compensate for their temporary absence. (ICE 23.5)
- 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 Bankside School:

- Candidates who are allowed to leave the examination room temporarily may be allowed extra time to compensate for their temporary absence (ICE 23.5)
- Where candidates leave the room (supervised) for any other reason not covered by an authorised access arrangement, the Head of centre, SLT and/or Exams officer will determine whether extra time will be added to the original finish time on a case by case basis.

Additional arrangements:

Candidates who leave the examination room without permission where they are in breach of the JCQ requirement to remain in the examination room for the first hour, will be reported to the awarding body for malpractice. Please see the Examinations Malpractice Policy.

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

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)