




Joint Council for
Qualifications^{CIC}

Further clarification for centres affected by RAAC, Caledonian Modular or similar building issues – March 2024

Produced on behalf of:





This document provides further clarification on how established arrangements apply to centres affected by RAAC, Caledonian Modular or similar building issues. It builds on information previously published by the JCQ awarding bodies in October 2023.

These arrangements, as published in JCQ documentation, have been applied in a comparable way in previous examination series where, for example, a fire or flooding may have affected a school or college.

It is important that a school or college discusses its circumstances with the relevant awarding body/bodies. This will allow the school or college to demonstrate to the awarding body that candidates have been fully prepared for the specification(s) but there has been a material and detrimental effect on candidates' ability to complete the assessment(s). Equally, such a conversation will allow the awarding body to determine appropriate support and what may be possible using established, published arrangements.

Awarding bodies cannot accept applications for special consideration due to disruption to teaching and learning because of RAAC, Caledonian Modular or similar building issues.

The arrangements are summarised below. They will not be awarded to all candidates in schools and colleges affected by RAAC, Caledonian Modular or similar building issues as a standard arrangement.

Coursework/non-examination assessment extensions

For affected centres, the awarding bodies have allowed extensions to the submission of candidates' marks and work by up to 45 days.

Candidates present but disadvantaged when producing work for assessment (coursework/non-examination assessment)

In those schools or colleges most affected by RAAC, Caledonian Modular or similar building issues, candidates may have been able to complete work for assessment, with or without an extension, but did so under adverse circumstances during the assessment(s).

Where a school or college believes there has been a material detrimental effect on the production of coursework or non-examination assessment, an application for special consideration should be submitted to the relevant awarding body.

The awarding body will determine the application as standard, in line with **section 3** of the JCQ document *A guide to the special consideration process* -

<http://www.jcq.org.uk/exams-office/access-arrangements-and-special-consideration>

A reduced quantity of work (coursework/non-examination assessment)

Where RAAC, Caledonian Modular or similar building issues have had such a substantial effect on a school or college that candidates would not be able to complete work for assessment, even with an extension to the deadline, it may be possible for an awarding body to accept a reduced quantity of work. Affected centres must seek advice from the relevant awarding body.

A school or college must discuss its specific circumstances with the relevant awarding body, exploring practical options for a possible reduced quantity of work in a coursework unit or non-examination assessment component. Please see **paragraph 5.3** of the JCQ document *A guide to the special consideration process* -

<http://www.jcq.org.uk/exams-office/access-arrangements-and-special-consideration>

Insufficient work for assessment

Where it is not possible to accept a reduced quantity of work for assessment, an awarding body may grant special consideration by making an adjustment to the candidate's grade as per **section 4** of the JCQ document *A guide to the special consideration process*. An awarding body will consider applications on a case-by-case basis.

Timetabled examinations

For timetabled examinations in May and June 2024, awarding bodies will not be able to accept applications for special consideration due to disruption to teaching and learning because of RAAC, Caledonian Modular or similar building issues.

The established special consideration process will continue to apply, as detailed in the JCQ document *A guide to the special consideration process*.

It is important that schools and colleges review their arrangements for conducting examinations this summer, ensuring, as far as possible, that any disruption to examinations, such as noise, can be minimised.

Awarding body contact information

Schools and colleges must contact the relevant awarding body/bodies at the earliest opportunity to discuss their individual circumstances. The contact details for the awarding bodies are listed below:

AQA

RAACqueries@aqa.org.uk

0203 107 4739

OCR

support@ocr.org.uk

01223 553998

Pearson

<https://support.pearson.com/uk/s/qualification-contactus>

In the 'description' a centre should quote 'RAAC' which will ensure their case is directed to the right team.

0344 463 2535

WJEC

Specialrequirements@wjec.co.uk