

Emergency evacuation procedure

(Exams)

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Emergency evacuation procedure

Invigilators are trained in this procedure and understand the actions they must take in the event of a fire alarm or other emergency that leads to an evacuation of the exam room.

Emergency evacuation procedure

Actions to be taken

(as detailed in the current JCQ Instructions for conducting examinations chapter 18, Emergencies)

Stop the candidates from writing

Collect the attendance register (in order to ensure all candidates are present) and evacuate the examination room in line with the instructions given by the appropriate authority

Evacuate the examination room in line with the instructions given by the appropriate authority

Candidates should leave the room in silence and evacuate the building as per the evacuation procedure

Make sure that the candidates are supervised as closely as possible while they are out of the examination room to make sure there is no discussion about the examination

Make a note of the time of the interruption and how long it lasted.

Allow the candidates the full working time set for the examination.

If there are only a few candidates, consider the possibility of taking the candidates (with question papers and scripts) to another place to finish the examination

Make a full report of the incident and of the action taken, and send to the relevant awarding body

Additional centre-specific actions to be taken

In the case of a fire alarm, await confirmation (if safe to do so) from the Exams Officer/Academic Administration Officer (AAO) that the room should be evacuated

Evacuate the room by the nearest fire exit

Escort candidates to the assembly point in Oriel Square

When/if allowed to return to the exam room, allow candidates time to settle down, reminding them they are still under exam conditions

Restart the exam and allow candidates the remaining time set for the exam

Make relevant changes to the displayed finish time

Record as much detail as you can on the exam room incident log and ensure the Exams Office Dept is fully briefed at the end of the exam by the invigilator(s) to enable a full report to be sent to the awarding body

Where not allowed to return to the exam room, or the decision is made that the exam must be abandoned – the centre's exam contingency plan will be invoked and candidates will be briefed accordingly at the time

Exams Officer or AAO to contact the Vice Principal (Academic) to inform them of the situation

Exams Officer to apply for Special Considerations as appropriate

Exams Officer or AAO to contact the candidates to explain consequences of the situation