



## Exams Policies & Procedures 2025-26

### EXAMS ARCHIVING POLICY

Record type	Record(s) description (where required)	Retention information/period	Action at end of retention period (method of disposal)
Access arrangements information	Any hard copy information kept by the EO relating to an access arrangement candidate.	To be returned to SENCo (or equivalent role) as records owner at end of the candidate's final exam series.	Confidential destruction
Alternative site arrangements	Any hard copy information generated on an alternative site arrangement. Notifications submitted online via CAP	To be retained until after the deadline for EARs or until any appeal, malpractice or other results enquiry has been completed, whichever is later.	Confidential destruction
Attendance register copies		To be retained until after the deadline for EARs or until any appeal, malpractice or other results enquiry has been completed, whichever is later, as the awarding bodies may need to refer to them.	Confidential destruction
Awarding body administrative information	Any hard copy publications provided by awarding bodies.	To be retained until the current academic year update is provided.	
Candidates' scripts	Any unwanted copies of scripts returned to the centre through the Access to Scripts (ATS) service	To be retained until after the deadline for EARs or until any appeal, malpractice or other results enquiry has been completed, whichever is later. Scripts accessed using the awarding bodies' access to scripts service/s will be confidentially destroyed when no longer required.	Confidential destruction
Candidates' work	Non-examination assessment work (including controlled assessment, coursework, portfolios) returned to the centre after awarding body moderation.	To be logged on return to the centre and immediately returned to subject staff as records owner.  To be stored safely and securely along with work that did not form part of the moderation sample (including materials stored electronically) until after the deadline for EARs or the resolution of any outstanding enquiry/appeal or malpractice investigations for the exam series.	Returned to candidates or safe disposal
Certificates	Candidate's certificates issued by awarding bodies	Unclaimed/uncollected certificates to be retained securely for a minimum of 3 years from date of issue.	Confidential destruction

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Certificate destruction information	A record of unclaimed certificates that have been destroyed.	To be retained for 4 years from the date of certificate destruction.	Confidential destruction
Certificate issue information	A record of certificates that have been issued to candidates.	To be retained for 4 years from the date of certificate issue.	Confidential destruction
Confidential materials delivery logs	A log recording confidential materials delivered by awarding bodies to the centre and issued to authorised staff.	To be retained for the relevant academic year.	Disposal
Confidential materials tracking logs	A log to track materials taken from or returned to secure storage throughout the time the material is confidential.	To be retained for the relevant academic year.	Disposal
Conflicts of interest records	A log of any staff with a conflict of interest pertaining to exams	To be retained until the start of the next academic year	Deletion
Dispatch logs	Proof of dispatch of exam script packages to awarding body examiners covered by the <a href="#">DfE (Standards &amp; Testing Agency) yellow label service</a>	To be retained until after the deadline for EARs or until any appeal, malpractice or other results enquiry has been completed, whichever is later.	Disposal
Entry information	Any hard copy information relating to candidates' entries.	To be retained until after the deadline for EARs or until any appeal, malpractice or other results enquiry has been completed, whichever is later.	Confidential destruction
Exam question papers	Question papers for timetabled written exams.	<p>Issued to teaching staff 24 hours after the awarding body's published end time of the exam.</p> <p>Where a candidate is sitting an examination scheduled for the afternoon session on the following morning under an overnight supervision arrangement, unused question papers for that examination will not be released to any individual until the candidate has completed that examination.)</p> <p>Instructions issued by an individual awarding body relating to the use of question papers for vocational qualifications after the examination has taken place are followed.</p>	Issued to subject staff

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Exam room checklists	Checklists confirming room conditions and invigilation arrangements for each exam room.	To be retained until after the deadline for EARs or until any appeal, malpractice or other results enquiry has been completed, whichever is later.	Disposal
Exam room incident logs	Logs recording any incidents or irregularities in exam rooms.	To be retained until after the deadline for EARs or until any appeal, malpractice or other results enquiry has been completed, whichever is later.	Confidential destruction
Exam stationery		When awarding body or JCQ common stationery is considered surplus or is out-of-date it will be confidentially disposed of.	Confidential destruction
Examiner reports		To be immediately provided to head of department as records owner.	
Finance information	Copy invoices for exams-related fees.	To be returned to Finance department as records owner at the end of the academic year.	
Invigilator and facilitator training records	Copies of certificates for online training and signed attendance sheet for annual update training	To be retained until the start of the next academic year	Deletion
Moderator reports		To be immediately provided to head of department as records owner.	
Overnight supervision information	Copy of JCQ form <i>Timetable variation and confidentiality declaration for overnight supervision</i> for any candidate eligible for these arrangements.	To be retained for JCQ inspection purposes for the relevant exam series.	Confidential destruction
Post-results services: confirmation of candidate consent information	Hard copy or email record of candidate consent for an EAR or ATS request to be submitted to an awarding body	EAR consent to be retained for at least six months following the outcome of the enquiry or any subsequent appeal. ATS consent to be retained for at least six months from the date consent given.	Confidential destruction
Post-results services: requests/outcome information	Any hard copy information relating to a post-results service request (EARs, appeals, ATS) submitted to an awarding body for a candidate and outcome information from the awarding body.	To be retained with the EAR consent for at least six months following the outcome of the enquiry or any subsequent appeal. To be retained with the ATS consent for at least six months from the date consent given.	Confidential destruction

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Post-results services: scripts provided by ATS service	Copies of exam scripts (or an electronic image of the script) returned to the centre by the awarding body/copies downloaded by the centre where the awarding body provides online access to scripts.	Where copies of scripts are retained by the centre, they must be securely stored (including any electronic versions) until they are no longer required.	Confidential destruction
Proof of postage – candidate work	Proof of postage of sample of candidates’ work to awarding body moderators.	To be retained until after the deadline for EARs or until any appeal, malpractice or other results enquiry has been completed, whichever is later.	Disposal
Resolving clashes information	Any hard copy information relating to the resolution of a candidate’s clash of exam papers or a timetable variation.	To be retained until the date of the exam clash or timetable variation has passed.	Confidential destruction
Results information	Broadsheets of results summarising candidate final grades by subject by exam series.	Records for current year plus previous 6 years to be retained as a minimum.	Confidential destruction
Seating plans	Plans showing the seating arrangements of all candidates for every exam taken.	To be retained until after the deadline for EARs or until any appeal, malpractice or other results enquiry has been completed, whichever is later.	Confidential destruction
Special consideration information	Any hard copy information relating to a special consideration request and supporting evidence submitted to an awarding body for a candidate.	Evidence supporting an on-line special consideration application and evidence supporting a candidate’s absence from an exam must be kept until after the publication of results.	Confidential destruction
Suspected malpractice reports/outcomes	Any hard copy information relating to a suspected malpractice investigation/report submitted to an awarding body and outcome information from the awarding body.	Evidence supporting a malpractice investigation/report must be kept until after the publication of results.	Confidential destruction
Transfer of credit information	Any hard copy information relating to a GCE AS transfer of credit arrangement (for a legacy unitised GCE AS specification) application submitted to an awarding body for a candidate.	To be retained until the issue of the GCE A level result for the candidate.	Confidential destruction
Transferred candidate information	Any hard copy information relating to an application for a transferred candidate arrangement submitted to an awarding body for a candidate.	To be retained until the transfer arrangements are confirmed by the awarding body.	Confidential destruction

Record type	Record(s) description (where required)	Retention information/period	Action at end of retention period (method of disposal)
Very late arrival reports/outcomes	Any hard copy information relating to a very late arrival report submitted to an awarding body for a candidate and outcome information from the awarding body.	To be retained for JCQ inspection purposes for the relevant exam series.	Confidential destruction