

30<sup>th</sup> November 2021

Dear Students, Parents and Carers,

**Re: Changes to JCQ evidence criteria for exam access arrangements 2021/2022.**

We wish to inform you of the recent significant changes in the JCQ criteria for assessing and processing new applications for 25% extra time which will apply to all year 12 students and a small number of year 13 students. In previous years, the college has been able to process extra time applications based on one below average score of 84 or below. However, under the new revised guidelines set by JQC, students must now have:

- **two** below average standardised scores of 84 or below, in two different areas of speed of working **or**
- one below average standardised score of 84 or below **and** one low average standardised score (85-89) in two different areas of speed of working

In either scenario the two standardised scores must relate to **two different** areas of speed of working such as:

- speed of reading and speed of writing, or
- speed of reading and speed of cognitive processing, or
- speed of writing and cognitive processing, or
- two different areas of cognitive processing which have a substantial and long-term adverse effect on speed of working.

Due to the new guidelines, we are no longer able to roll over a Form 8 received from students and/or feeder schools without checking that the evidence provided meets the new guidelines. In all cases, we will endeavour to maintain the extra time and as a result, students may need to be re-tested. Students and parents impacted by the new criteria will be contacted individually. If a student no longer qualifies for extra time, we will look at alternative arrangements and/or supportive strategies. You are able to view the new guidance here:

[https://www.jcq.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/07/AA\\_regs\\_21-22.pdf](https://www.jcq.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/07/AA_regs_21-22.pdf)

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Kind regards,

Sarah O'Neill

SENDCo – New College Pontefract  
New College Trust SEND Manager

A: Park Lane, Pontefract, West Yorkshire, WF8 4QR  
T: 01977 702139 ext 699  
E: sarahoneill@nclt.ac.uk