

# Exam Delivery Guidance

Guidance for centres on exam administration, invigilation and the return of exam materials:

**Dated examinations** 

# Agenda

- 1 Introduction aims of this webinar
- Preparing for the exam
- Invigilation, certificates and exam stationery
- 4 After the exam: returning scripts
- Resources available for support
- 6 Questions & Answers

Aims of this webinar

## Importance of following exam guidance

### Potential consequences of not meeting exam delivery requirements

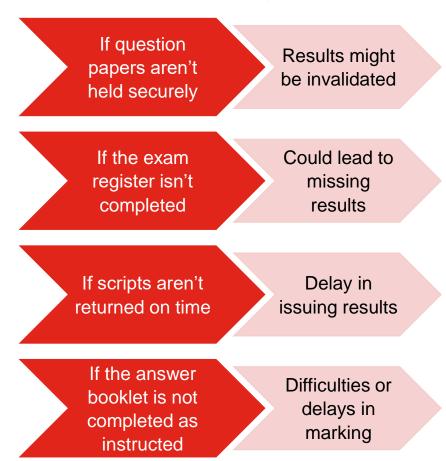
#### Purpose of these requirements

We hope to support you to ensure:

- exams are completed under JCQ / City & Guilds' requirements
- we can authenticate candidates' work
- malpractice is avoided

If these requirements are not adhered to, it could mean that:

- · candidate scripts are not marked
- results are incorrect or cannot be issued on time



### Review the packages of exam material you have received



#### **Qualifications this will cover:**

- > These instructions apply to all dated examinations, including T Level and Technical Qualifications.
- > We are now using Parcelforce to dispatch all your packages of exams material.



#### Your delivery of Question papers will now be packed in this order:

- > The Delivery Note will now be at the top of your package.
- ➤ This will be followed by the Exam Supplement.
- > Finally, the return bags will be packed.



#### **Candidate barcodes:**

Invigilator certificates will now be separated with barcodes, and the Question Papers will be banded together, this is to make it easier for you to locate the correct barcodes for the QPs.

### Keeping question papers and other examination materials secure

Upon receipt of question papers and any other examination materials, it is the centre's responsibility to ensure these are signed for at the initial point of delivery.

The Joint Council for Qualifications (JCQ) have produced a Materials Receipt Log for centres to use or adapt which is available on their website. From then on, materials must be transported immediately to the centre's secure storage. Centres must be able to demonstrate the secure movement and secure storage of question papers and confidential materials.

On receipt of any exam materials from City & Guilds it is important to check the content provided against the accompanying delivery note.

For Multiple-Choice exams, it is essential that an additional check is carried out to ensure that the 'exam date' and 'centre number' printed on the Invigilation Certificate for the multiple-choice exam (MC) and multiple-choice answer sheets (MA) match.

Any discrepancies / mismatches must be reported immediately using the contact details provided below:

01924 930 800 customersupport@cityandguilds.com Lines are open: Monday to Friday 08.00 to 18.00 GMT



### Non-receipt of examination materials

If you have not received the materials you were expecting (i.e., the materials for which you have received an order confirmation), please report this immediately using the contact details above.

Remember that the sealed examination bags must be stored securely until the day of the exam.

**Conducting Exams: Overview** 

Examinations must be conducted in accordance with the regulations documented within the Joint Council for Qualifications Instructions for Conducting Examinations (JCQ ICE). These instructions must be followed by all centre staff involved in examination administration; This includes:

- heads of centre
- SLT members
- exams officers/teams
- invigilators
- communication professionals, language modifiers, practical assistants, prompters, readers and scribes.

This document can be found at:

https://www.jcq.org.uk/exams-office/ice---instructions-for-conducting-examinations/

Centres must ensure the correct invigilation processes are adhered to and must immediately alert City & Guilds to any suspected malpractice within examinations.

Please refer to our guidance <u>Managing cases of suspected malpractice in examinations and assessments</u>.



**Conducting Exams: Rules & Regulations** 



#### **Dated, timetabled examinations**

City & Guilds' examinations for Technical Qualifications and T Levels are dated (timetabled) exams which must be conducted at the date and time which appears on the exam timetable and on the exam paper. They will either be in the format of an exam paper, or an e-volve onscreen examination.

Despite the method of assessment, it is vital the usual JCQ regulations are adhered to, such as

- Maintaining the security of the exam by ensuring they start at the awarding body's published start times of 09.30 for morning examinations, and 13.30 for afternoon examinations. JCQ guidelines allow centres in the UK to vary their start times by 30 minutes earlier or later than the published start time without the need to complete any paperwork.
- Where this policy is followed, to avoid any possible breach of security, late arrival candidates or early departing candidates must be supervised as if the awarding body's published start times had been in place.
- Candidates who have taken an exam earlier than the awarding body's published starting time must be kept under centre supervision (which the centre must arrange) **until one hour** after the published starting time for that examination. Centres must ensure question papers used by those candidates are kept in the centre's secure storage facility until one hour after the awarding body's published start time for that examination.
- Candidates who take an examination later than the awarding body's published starting time must be kept under centre supervision from 30 minutes after the published start time for that examination until they begin it.

All centre staff involved in the preparation/delivery of exams, including exams staff and invigilators must ensure that the administrative processes around examinations are supported effectively, and the instructions on the front of the exam script are followed.

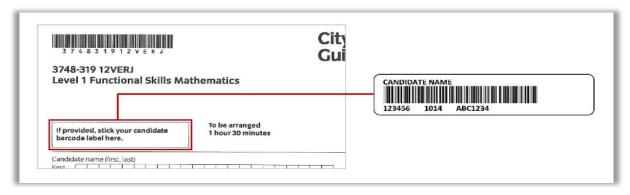
- Candidates must use a pen with black or dark blue ink only.
- The pre-printed barcodes on the front page of the examination paper must not be defaced as this may result in the paper being voided.
- Question papers for absent candidates must not be given to any other candidate.
- Invigilators **must** ensure that the correct examination paper is given out to the right candidate.
- For written exams, candidates must write their responses on the answer booklet
- For multiple-choice exams, please use the pink multiple-choice answer sheet only.
- Any answers written on the wrong document (ie. the source documents or multiple-choice question papers) will **not** be marked.



#### Before the exam starts:

Place the candidate barcode sticker onto the front of the answer booklets.

Stick this carefully within the border of the candidate space on the front of the answer booklet as outlined in the image below:



- Answer booklets are scanned when they are received back at City & Guilds, so it is very important that the barcode is attached
  correctly onto the answer booklet. Please be aware that if the label is incorrect, applied in the wrong area, or if it is not straight, this
  will cause an error once scanned and this can delay the marking process.
- Hand out the scripts to the specified candidate named on the question papers. For multiple-choice examinations, the candidates'
  details will be pre-printed on the answer booklet (MA).
- Please take care to ensure that the correct candidate is using the correct matching answer booklet.
- **DO NOT** photocopy any packet labels or candidate labels.
- **DO NOT** put a label on a question paper which is not being used.
- DO NOT return unused question papers or scripts for candidates who were absent: these must be securely destroyed

#### **Conducting Exams: Very late arrivals**

- A candidate who arrives after the start of the examination may still be allowed to sit the examination; this is entirely at the discretion of the centre.
- A candidate will be considered very late if they arrive for the examination more than one hour after the awarding body's published starting time for an examination (i.e. after 10.30 for morning examinations and after 14.30 for afternoon examinations).
- A candidate who arrives very late and is permitted by the centre to sit the examination must still be allowed the full time for the examination.
- Where a candidate arrives very late for an examination, centres must send the script to City & Guilds in the normal way and then submit our "very late arrivals" form. You can find this on our website within the <u>Centre Document Library</u> or on our <u>Exams Support Hub</u>.





Invigilation certificates and exam stationery

### Invigilation certificates and exam stationery



#### Indicate candidate attendance:

The Invigilation Certificate (IC) or multiple-choice Invigilation Certificate (MC) is the exam attendance register. You must indicate to us whether every candidate is "present" or "absent" by marking this within the relevant column on the IC or MC.

For any candidate marked as "present" there must be an accompanying multiple-choice answer sheet (MA) or completed question paper (script).



#### Invigilator's signature:

All Invigilation Certificates (ICs) must be signed by the invigilator.



#### **Pre-printed data:**

Centres must not make any manual amendments or annotations on the pre-printed data on the Invigilation Certificates (IC/MC).

Any discrepancies between the materials you have expected and those you have received must be reported immediately to the City & Guilds Customer Support team: call 01924 930 800 or email <a href="mailto:customersupport@cityandguilds.com">customersupport@cityandguilds.com</a>

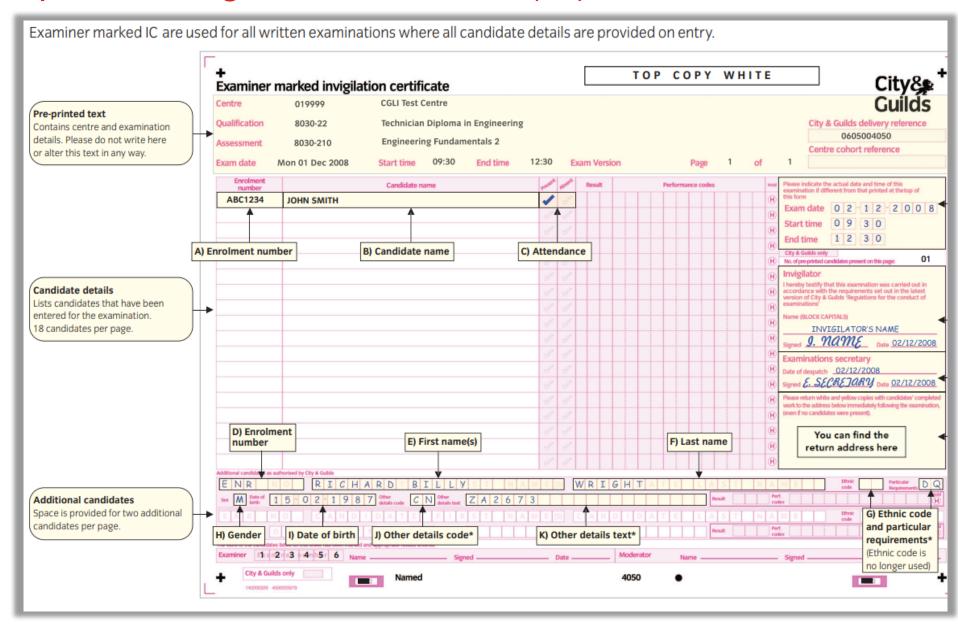


#### **Completion of forms:**

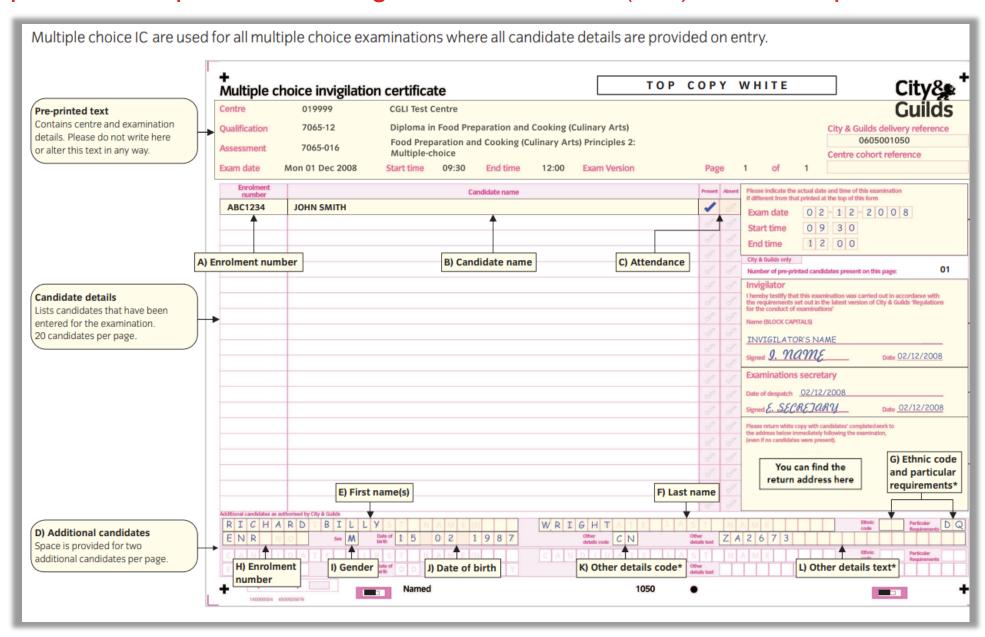
All forms must be completed in block capitals using **black** or dark **blue** ink; all data provided must be kept within the boxes on the Invigilation Certificates.

For reference, please see examples on the following pages.

# Example 1 – Invigilation Certificate (IC) for a written exam



### Example 2 – multiple-choice Invigilation Certificate (MC) for a multiple-choice exam

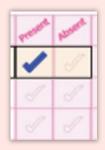


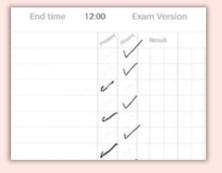
# Checklist for completing your Invigilation Certificate



#### Please remember to:

- ➤ Make sure the Invigilation Certificate is signed and dated by the invigilator
- Make sure only the pre-printed stationery which we provided, has been used
- ➤ Make sure the Invigilation Certificate (IC) is accurately completed, ensuring that the "present" / "absent" column has been completed by clearly marking the appropriate box. Ensure each candidate has a "present" / "absent" mark indicated by a tick:



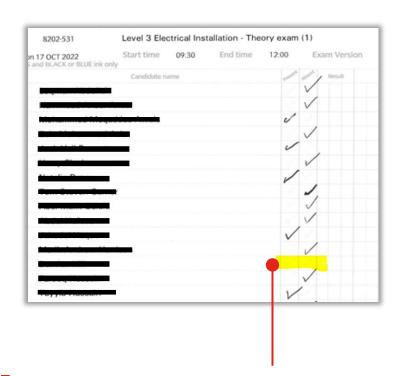




#### Please do not:

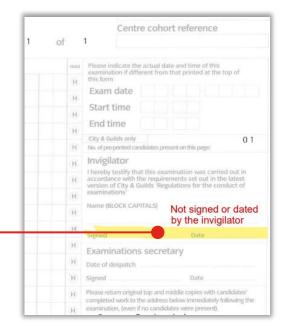
- > Cross out any of the pre-printed details on the Invigilation Certificate (IC/MC), as this will cause delays in processing the exam material.
- Use a red pen when completing the IC.
- > Substitute candidates under any circumstances (i.e., don't cross out the name of an absent candidate and enter the name of another candidate).
- Photocopy multiple-choice answer booklets (MAs).

# Examples of errors on an Invigilation Certificate



No invigilation signature or date

This must be completed on every IC



#### No confirmation of candidate attendance

No tick to confirm if this candidate was "present" or "absent".

This will delay the processing of these exam scripts.

### **Anomalies in confirming candidate attendance**

An extra tick has been provided here, but with no candidate name. This will need to be queried with the centre

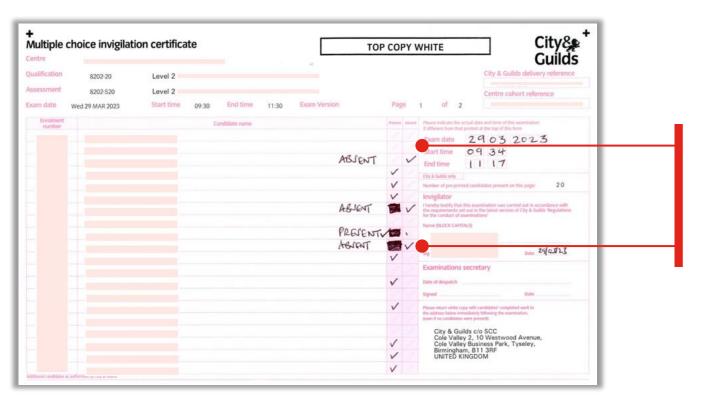




#### What not to do: inaccuracies on the Invigilation Certificate

The Invigilation Certificate (IC) is the exam attendance register.

- If this is not completed with accuracy, City & Guilds cannot determine if candidates were present or if a script is missing.
- In situations such as this, City & Guilds will need to contact the centre who will be asked to go back through their paperwork to confirm a candidate's attendance or absence.
- This will cause a delay to marking and the potentially a delay to the release of results for all candidates.



This centre has not ticked to indicate whether several of their candidates were present or absent.

Errors were also made on other candidate rows and the invigilator had to correct the location of the ticks.

These will not be picked up by our scanning systems and will require manual intervention.

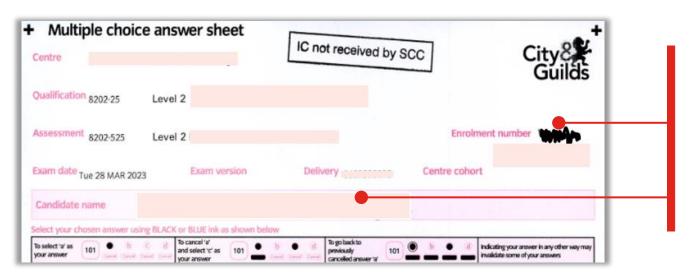


#### What not to do: repurpose an answer sheet for the use of another candidate

Multiple-choice answer sheets (MA) are pre-populated with individual candidate details as per the bookings made by a centre. If a candidate is absent, it is very important that you **do not** utilise their MA for a different candidate.

If you do not have an MA for any of your candidates, **do not** photocopy the existing MAs or utilise spare MAs. This will lead to:

- The release of a result against the wrong candidate (the candidate whose data is pre-printed on the MA will receive the result, not the candidate that was manually added). It could also mean that the result is not released at all, as the photocopied MA does not contain the relevant key information needed for City & Guilds to proceed with marking (such as learner enrolment numbers).
- A delay to results being released for the affected candidates and potentially the rest of your cohort. Corrections can only be made if / when we notice the errors.



This centre has crossed out the enrolment number of the original candidate and entered the details of a new candidate. [Note that we must anonymise this information and is therefore not fully visible]

This answer sheet for the 'additional' candidate will not be scanned into the marking system.

If the MA does successfully scan, their result will likely be released against the original candidate.



Please contact our Customer Support team if you believe you have not received the examination material you were expecting.

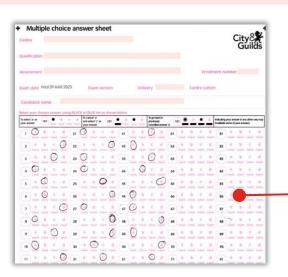


### What not to do: candidates failing to follow instructions on Multiple-Choice answer sheets

The Multiple-Choice answer sheets (MA) must be completed by filling the circle with black or blue ink – instructions are provided on the sheet for each candidate:



This is an example of good practice; (see diagram above) the A has been shaded correctly, and if the candidate needs to change their answer, they can shade in the 'cancel' box under the A and shade an alternative answer.





#### What not to do

Candidates have put rings or lines around answers rather than filling the circle as instructed on the MA.

Invigilators must make exam instructions clear to candidates to avoid such errors.



#### What not to do: Multiple-choice answers written within question booklets:

Only the multiple-choice answer sheets (MA) must be used to answer questions.

The examination invigilator must ensure candidates use the MA and **do not** enter answers into the question paper, otherwise:

- This will result in the candidate answers being lost as the multiple-choice question books are shredded upon receipt.
- This will cause a delay or lack of results being released for the affected candidates.



#### What not to do: affix the candidate barcode label in the wrong place:

Candidate barcode labels must be affixed to onto the front of the answer booklets within the designated space. If this is not correctly placed, this will lead to:

- · Delays in the exam being scanned into our system.
- · Delays to marking.
- Delays to results being released for the affected candidates and potentially for your entire cohort.



This candidate barcode label has been affixed to the wrong area of the script.

It should have been placed in the correctly designated space.

This will result in a delay when scanning into our systems and therefore a delay to marking.

After the exam: returning scripts

### Returning your scripts to City & Guilds



#### **Important:**

It is a centre's responsibility to ensure that all details required on examination documents are completed in full and that the information provided is correct. Incomplete or inaccurate data, or incorrectly completed forms, will inevitably cause a delay in processing and may affect the release of results. Please ensure examination scripts and other material are kept secure at all stages of the examination process.

- Once the exam has finished, please ensure all **present** candidates' exam scripts / and their Invigilation Certificates (IC) or **present** candidates multiple-choice answer Sheets (MAs) and their multiple-choice Invigilation Certificates (MC) are packaged together and placed inside the grey City & Guilds plastic envelope. It is important that you do not mix ICs and scripts from different examinations.
- For multiple-choice exams please ensure that all present candidates' responses are only on the pink multiple-choice answer sheet.

  Any candidates that use the question booklet by mistake will not have their work marked.
- The correct UK return label must be placed in the centre of the grey plastic envelope. Please ONLY return the grey envelope to the
  address provided and nowhere else.
- The grey plastic envelope must be sealed.
- The **centre number, assessment number and number of scripts** (of present candidates only) must be clearly written in the box on the top left. Please do not send back any unused / absent candidate question papers, answer booklets or source books you must destroy these securely.



Please note there is no pre-paid postage label supplied: it is the responsibility of the centre to pay and track delivery via a courier.

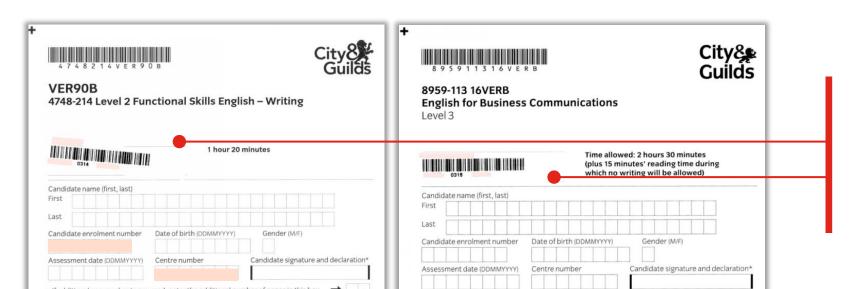


### What not to do: returning scripts blank

For Dated Entry examinations, centres **must not** return unused question papers or scripts to City & Guilds for candidates who were absent. These should be securely destroyed within the centre. [*Please be aware that this is different to the on-demand process for Functional Skills*].

If blank scripts are received:

- City & Guilds will need to contact the centre who will be asked to go back through their paperwork to confirm the candidate's attendance or absence, particularly if the Invigilation Certificate does not match what was returned.
- If an absent candidate's barcode is affixed to the blank script, the script may be processed, and the candidate may get a zero mark instead of being marked "absent". This will affect the number of resit attempts the candidate has available and will potentially impact a centre's ability to make bookings for the next series.
- There may be a delay to the release of results.



In this example, the centre has returned *blank scripts* but with barcodes affixed.

These will be automatically scanned in for marking but will require follow-up from City & Guilds, which will cause a delay to marking and the release of results.

### Returning your scripts to City & Guilds



#### Enter details onto the envelope

Write your centre number, assessment number, and number of candidate scripts you have enclosed within the grey plastic envelope

#### Affix the return sticker

Use the correct pre-printed **yellow** return sticker and stick it in the space, in the centre of the grey plastic envelope.

#### **Important**

All completed exam scripts must be returned to City & Guilds on the same day, after candidates have sat the examination.

Any centres whose scripts have not been received by City & Guilds after 5 working days (unless already discussed) will be subject to compliance review.

Please note: The yellow sticker is not a **pre-paid service**; you will still need to provide tracking via a courier company, when dispatching your exam scripts.

# Script Return Tracking Form



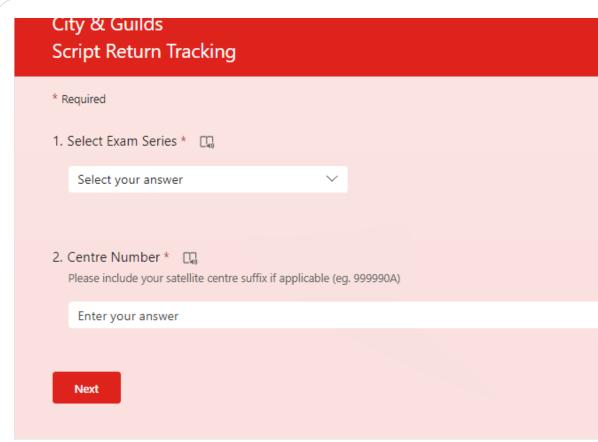
To help us ensure your candidate scripts are on their way to us, we have created an online form for you to provide us with your tracking details.

Once the exams have been packaged up, please use the new script return form to send us the details which we can monitor to ensure the scripts are received.

A link to this form will be sent out with exam materials. You will also receive an email containing the link.

Completing the form is simple:

- First of all, choose the exam series (e.g. Summer 2024)
- Enter your centre number



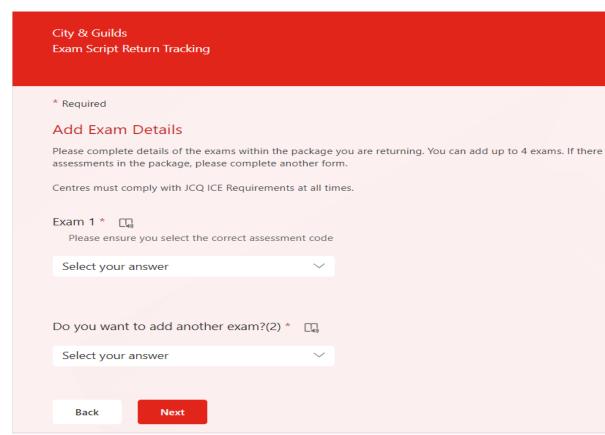


# Script Return Tracking Form



There's the chance that you might be returning more than one exam to us with your courier, so you can enter the details of up to four assessments

- Add the assessment number of the exam scripts you are sending
- Choose 'yes' or 'no' if you need to add more units

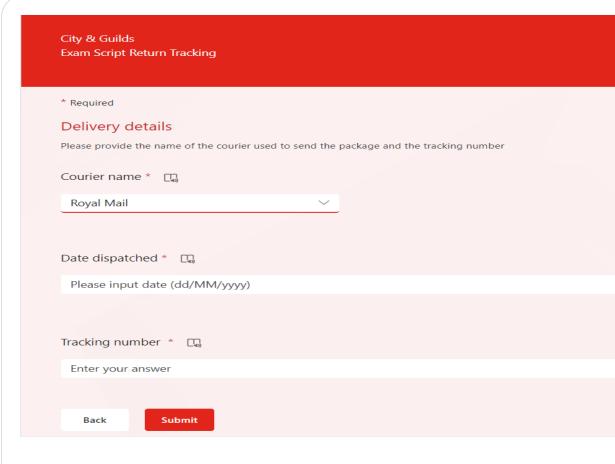




# Script Return Tracking Form



- Enter the tracking number
- Add the courier's name
- Provide the date on which you have dispatched the scripts back to us





#### Please do not return the examination material late

All completed exam scripts must be returned to City & Guilds on the same day, after candidates have sat the examination.

This will impact learners as marking will be delayed and there will likely be a delay to the release of results for your centre.

Remember that any centre whose scripts have not been received within 5 working days will be subject to compliance review. This could result in an unannounced exam audit being arranged to observe and advise on exam practices within the centre.



#### Please ensure scripts are returned to the correct address

The return addresses are on labels provided with the grey return bags. Addresses can also be found on the ICs. Please ensure your post room sends exam materials back to the correct address. If you do not have a return label you can manually add the address. You will find these on slide 25 of this guide.

If scripts are returned to the incorrect address, this will lead to:

- Late marking of the scripts, and therefore a delay to the release of results for your centre.
- Additional fees for postage which will be charged back to your centre.



#### Please always send scripts via tracked delivery

All examination material must be returned via courier with tracking. City & Guilds do not supply pre-paid postage labels: it is the responsibility of the centre to pay and track delivery via a courier.

- It is more likely for your examination material to be lost in transit when not tracked, and with no paper trail to locate them.
- If there is a tracking reference number, there is more likelihood of locating any lost scripts and this ensures the courier bears responsibility for finding the material.
- · City & Guilds cannot confirm receipt of exam material if it is not sent via tracked courier.
- If the examination material goes missing in transit, the impact will be a delay to marking and release of results.

### Examination materials return addresses

Please only return your examination stationery and material by using the pre-printed address on return labels.

The addresses are provided below for your reference.

The return address can also be found on the bottom right of the Invigilation Certificate.

### For multiple-choice exams:

SCC
Cole Valley 2
10 Westwood Avenue
Cole Valley Business Park
Tyseley
Birmingham
B11 3RF

#### For written exams:

Storetec Services Ltd
C/O: City & Guilds
Unit 4, Sidings Business Park
Freightliner Road
Hull
HU3 4XA

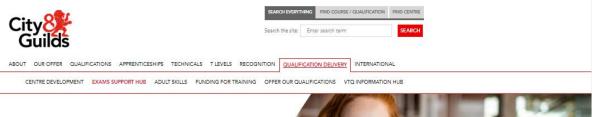


Please do not return exam stationery to any other address. If you are unsure, contact Customer Support

01924 930 800 customersupport@cityandguilds.com

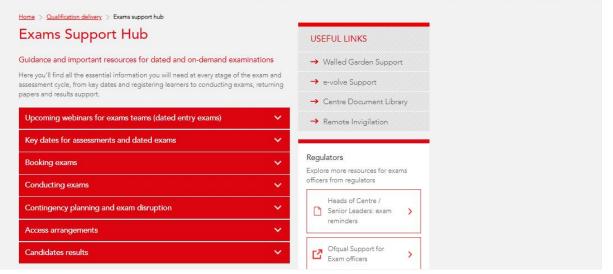
Lines are open: Monday to Friday 08.00 to 18.00 GMT

Resources available



### Exams Support





# Resources: Exams Support Hub

Guidance and material for Exams Offices can be found on our website within the Exams Support Hub.

You'll find all the essential information you will need at every stage of the exam and assessment cycle, from key dates and registering learners to conducting exams, returning papers and results support.

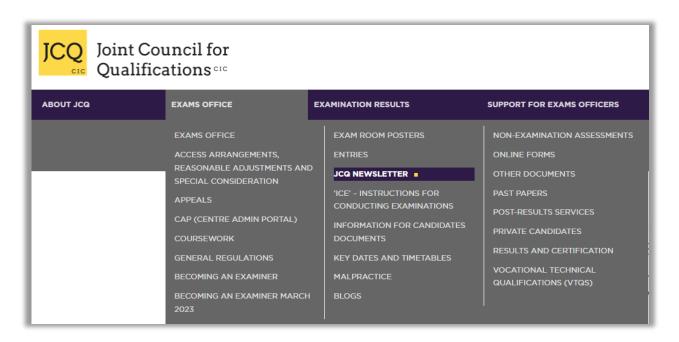
There are also links to further resources for exams officers from our regulators.

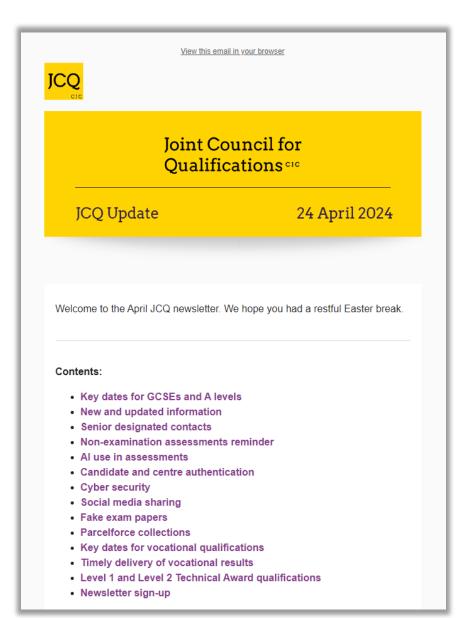
### JCQ e-Newsletters

Every month, JCQ publishes an e-Newsletter to subscribers, keeping them informed of key JCQ news and updates communicated on behalf of the exam boards.

Subscribing to these e-Newsletters is a great way to find out about the publication of JCQ documents that exam centres require for the administration of examinations and assessment and any changes made to awarding methods.

### https://www.jcq.org.uk/





## JCQ guidance for centres

#### Guidance for centres on cyber security

In November 2023, the JCQ released some guidance for centres on cyber security. This guidance includes some really important information on account management and cyber security best practice.

Guidance-for-centres-on-cyber-security\_23\_FINAL.pdf (jcq.org.uk)

#### **Guidance for centres on AI Use in Assessments**

In February 2024, the JCQ have updated their guidance for centres on AI use in Assessments: protecting the integrity of qualifications.

Please share this with the relevant SLT lead in your centre as this guidance is for Teachers/assessors.

Al-Use-in-Assessments Feb24\_v6.pdf (jcq.org.uk)



Guidance for centres on cyber security

Effective from November 2023



REVISIONONE

Al Use in Assessments:
Protecting the Integrity of Qualifications

Guidance for Teachers & Assessors

Published on: 26 April 2023 Revision one: 2 February 2024



# **Key reminders** for heads of centre and senior leaders responsible for exams in summer 2024

Heads of centre and senior leaders who have responsibility for exams play a vital role in ensuring exams and assessments run smoothly, enabling students to receive their results on time. As we head into the summer series, we wanted to help you by highlighting some of the key responsibilities for senior leaders in the coming months and how you can support your exams officer at this time.

We would also like to take this opportunity to thank you for all the work you do to protect the integrity of the qualifications system and to wish your students well in their upcoming exams and assessments.

### **JCQ** centre inspections



The JCQ Centre Inspection Service carries out inspections to support schools and colleges in delivering exams and to safeguard the integrity of the exam system.



To support your exams officer:

# JCQ: Key reminders for heads of centre

Guidance is now published and available on the JCQ website

JCQ website > Exams Office > General Regulations: Reminder for Senior Leaders

A link to this can also be found on the City & Guilds Exams Support Hub.

