

Tupton Hall School
REDHILL ACADEMY TRUST



Alternative Rooming Arrangements Policy (Exams)

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Centre name	Tupton Hall School
Centre number	23146
Date policy first created	04/10/2023
Current policy approved by	A Barnett
Current policy reviewed by	A Barnett
Date of review	25/09/2026
Date of next review	24/09/2027

Key staff involved in the policy

Role	Name
Head of centre	Mr A J Knowles
Senior leader(s)	Mrs C Burton; Mrs S Burton; Mrs R Holland; Mrs J Lammin; Mrs A Lindley; Mr S Roberts, Mr D Thompson, Mr M Edwards
Exams Manager	Miss Amy Roberts
SENCo (or equivalent role)	A Barnett
Other staff (if applicable)	

This policy is reviewed and updated annually to ensure that alternative rooming arrangements at Tupton Hall School are awarded and managed in accordance with current requirements and regulations and reflects centre practice.

References in this policy to AARA and ICE refer to the JCQ documents **Access Arrangements and Reasonable Adjustments** and **Instructions for conducting examinations**.

Introduction

Alternative rooming arrangements (for example, a room for a smaller group of candidates with similar needs) is an available access arrangement as defined in the JCQ regulations. This is an arrangement where a candidate with an established difficulty may be eligible to take their examinations in a smaller environment away from the main examination room.

Purpose of the policy

The purpose of this policy is to confirm the criteria when these arrangements may be considered and granted for a candidate at Tupton Hall School in compliance with the regulations.

1. Decisions on the awarding of the arrangement

At Tupton Hall School, decisions on the awarding of the arrangement are made by:

A Barnett , SENCO in conjunction with Mrs A Barnett/ Miss L Crofts , Centre Assessor

Decisions are based on:

- Whether the candidate has a substantial and long-term impairment which has an adverse effect (AARA 5.16)
- The candidate's normal way of working within the centre (AARA 5.16)
- Ensuring the proposed arrangement does not unfairly disadvantage or advantage the candidate (AARA 4.2.1)

(In accordance with the regulations: A centre must make decisions on appropriate access arrangements for their candidates. Although professionals from other organisations may give advice, they cannot make the decision for the centre. They will not have a working knowledge of an individual candidate's needs and how their difficulties impact in the classroom and/or in timed assessments. It is the responsibility of the SENCo (or equivalent role within the centre) to make appropriate and informed decisions based on the JCQ regulations.)

- Nervousness, low level anxiety or being worried about examinations is not sufficient grounds for separate invigilation within the centre

The use of an alternative room with one-to-one invigilation would apply where the candidate has a serious medical condition, such as frequent seizures, Tourette's or significant behavioural issues which would disturb other candidates in the examination room (AARA 5.16)

Additional information:

If a candidate is anxious about going into the exam room options will be given around where they would like to sit such as at the back of the room.

The Gym is classed as an alternative room/ smaller room, and will be used in the first instance for the candidates that are wanting a smaller room.

Computer rooms will be used for these students that require the use of a laptop.

Admin Office- will be used for students that have education at home and struggle to attend school.

2. Criteria for the awarding of the arrangement

Alternative rooming arrangements will be considered where the arrangement would prevent a candidate from being placed at a substantial disadvantage and where the following conditions are met:

- The candidate has an established difficulty as defined in section 5.16 of the JCQ's **Access Arrangements and Reasonable Adjustments** document (ICE 14.18)
- The candidate's disability is established within the centre and known to relevant staff or a senior member of staff with pastoral responsibilities (AARA 5.16)
- Alternative rooming arrangements reflects the candidate's normal and current way of working in internal tests and mock examinations (AARA 5.16)
- Where a candidate sits their examinations in a smaller environment away from the main examination room, the

regulations and guidance within the JCQ document **Instructions for conducting examinations** will be adhered to, particularly in relation to accommodation and invigilation arrangements (ICE 14.18)

Additional information:

For any student that requires alternative arrangements due to grounds which the SENCO feel appropriate.

For students who are anxious/ nervous about going into the exam room- they will be offered different seating within the main exam rooms and be given the option of entering first or last. This will start from the Yr 10 mocks so they are used to the arrangements that they are given.

3. Other rooming arrangements

At Tupton Hall School arrangements for seating candidates in rooms separate to the main cohort may be put in place in other circumstances. As and when applicable, these circumstances include:

Candidates who have approved or emergency access arrangements which may include the use of a reader/scribe/ word processor.

Changes effective from 1 September 2026

In terms of JCQ regulations (effective from 1 September 2026), no changes are applicable to this policy.

Amended wording (as made in AARA 5.16 update March 2026) to state that 'The use of an alternative room with one-to-one invigilation would apply where the candidate has a serious medical condition, such as frequent seizures, Tourette's or significant behavioural issues which would disturb other candidates in the examination room'.

Centre-specific changes

For students who are anxious/ nervous about going into the exam room- they will be offered different seating within the main exam rooms and be given the option of entering first or last. This will start from the Yr 10 mocks so they are use to the arrangements that they are given.