Exam Access Arrangements at St Anne's School

Access Arrangements allow candidates/learners with special educational or additional needs, disabilities or temporary injuries to access assessments without changing the demands of the assessment.

Reasonable Adjustments

The Equality Act 2010 requires an Awarding Body to make reasonable adjustments where a disabled person would be at a substantial disadvantage in undertaking an assessment. An adjustment may not be considered reasonable if it involves unreasonable costs, timeframes or affects the security or integrity of the assessment.

Access Arrangements are those arrangements put in place for internal tests and public examinations (such as GCSEs or Functional Skills) to remove potential barriers and allow pupils to demonstrate what they are able to do.

Who may qualify for Access Arrangements

The system is highly regulated and the correct procedures need to be followed.

Access Arrangements can only be put in place where a pupil has a history of need and the school can demonstrate that it is their normal way of working in class. The pupil is then tested in accordance with the Joint Council for Qualifications (JCQ) regulations. These tests may include, but are not limited to, reading, writing, spelling, numeracy, working memory and speed of processing, in line with referrals made by subject teachers. Access arrangements cannot be applied for before a pupil is in Year 9.

Kim Smith (SENCo and Inclusion Manager) is our qualified specialist assessor.

Access Arrangements can include:

- Supervised rest breaks;
- 25% extra time;
- Scribe or use of a computer;
- Reader/Computer Reader or reading pen;
- Separate accommodation;
- Enlarged papers.