



Friday 02 October 2020

**Important Information: for Candidates – Social Media - Malpractice
Guidelines when referring to examinations/assessments through the internet**

Dear Student,

On behalf of the Joint Council for Qualifications and the examining boards AQA, CCEA, Pearson, OCR and WJEC, I am required to bring the above information to your attention.

We all like to share our experiences when taking examinations. However, it is important to consider what you say. Your comments may lead to an investigation for malpractice and result in the application of a penalty.

Awarding bodies monitor social media and websites. They do not wish to see candidates jeopardise their marks or grades as there are significant consequences for anyone caught breaching the rules for examinations, work or coursework.

The rules are set by the Joint Council for Qualifications (JCQ) on behalf of awarding bodies and can be found at: <https://www.jcq.org.uk/exams-office/malpractice/> Statements or activities that will lead to malpractice include:

- Copying/allowing work to be copied-posting written work on social networking sites before exam/assessment
- Collusion: working collaboratively with other candidates beyond what is permitted;
- Allowing others to help produce your work or helping others with theirs;
- Being in possession of confidential material in advance of the examination;
- Exchanging, obtaining, receiving or passing information by any means of communication;
- Passing on rumours of exam content from another candidate.

This list is not exhaustive. If you are found guilty of breaching any of these rules you could find yourself facing;

- A warning;
- Loss of marks for a section, component or unit;
- Disqualification from a unit, all units or qualifications or
- A ban from sitting exams for a set period.

Familiarise yourself with the rules: <http://www.jcq.org.uk/exams-office/information-for-candidates-documents>

Yours sincerely

Mr R J Allen
Examinations Officer
Guiseley School 37613

Fieldhead Road, Guiseley, Leeds, LS20 8DT 01943 872315 guiseleyschool.org.uk info@guiseleyschool.org.uk
Headteacher: Mr Paul Clayton



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