



MAIDEN ERLEGH
CHILTERN EDGE

Candidate Absence Policy

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Centre name	Maiden Erlegh Chiltern Edge
Centre number	62443
Date policy first created	23/01/2024
Current policy approved by	Emma Bliss
Current policy reviewed by	Hannah Reilly & Emma Bliss
Date of review	13/01/2026
Date of next review	28/02/2027

Key staff involved in the policy

Role	Name
Head of centre	Emma Bliss
Senior leader(s)	Sarah Cheeseman Judy Hills Roddy Clark Sara Elliss
Exams officer	Hannah Reilly
Other staff (if applicable)	Ashley Mount - HoY

This policy is reviewed and updated annually to ensure that candidate absence from examinations at Maiden Erlegh Chiltern Edge is managed in accordance with current requirements and regulations.

References in this policy to ICE and SC refer to the JCQ documents **Instructions for conducting examinations** and **A guide to the special consideration process**.

Purpose of the policy

The purpose of this policy is to confirm the arrangements for candidates who are absent from an examination at Maiden Erlegh Chiltern Edge.

An absent candidate may subsequently arrive once the exam is underway, becoming a late or very late arrival, at which point Maiden Erlegh Chiltern Edge reserves the right to exercise discretion whether to allow a candidate who arrives after the start of the examination to enter the examination room and sit the examination. (See **Candidate Late Arrival Policy**)

Based upon the circumstances for the absence, and subject to the required conditions being met, an application for special consideration may also be made to the relevant awarding body.

1. Identifying and dealing with candidate absence

A candidate will be considered absent from an examination if:

- they are not sat at their desk when the exam has begun.

Once a candidate is identified as absent from an examination, the following action will be taken:

- The candidate will be contacted as to their whereabouts and as far as possible arrangements made to ensure their immediate arrival

If a candidate fails to sit an examination, the following action is taken:

- A confirmed candidate absence is clearly recorded on the attendance register which is sent to the awarding body/examiner
- The candidate absence is noted on the seating plan by circling the candidate details. Once the absence is confirmed, an A can also be placed next to the candidate name or if they arrive late then an L can be placed next to the candidate name.

2. Roles and responsibilities

Overview

It is the responsibility of the following member(s) of staff to deal with candidate absence once it has been identified:

- The HoC, HoY or EO will ensure the candidate is contacted immediately

It is the responsibility of the following member(s) of staff to deal with candidates who are persistently absent from examinations:

- HoC

The role of invigilators

Invigilators will:

- Be informed of the process for dealing with absent candidates through training
- Ensure that absent candidates are clearly indicated on the attendance register (ICE 22.4)

Additional responsibilities:

Not applicable

The role of candidates

Candidates will be:

- Re-charged any relevant entry fees for unauthorised absence from examinations

Additional responsibilities:

Not applicable

3. Special consideration

At Maiden Erlegh Chiltern Edge if a candidate is absent from a timetabled written examination for an acceptable reason, the candidate may be eligible for special consideration. This is where an adjustment may be made to the candidate's grade by the awarding body, providing the following conditions are met:

- The examination is in the candidate's terminal exam series (SC 4.2)
- The candidate has completed or will be able to complete the required percentage of the assessment to meet the minimum requirements for enhanced grading in cases of acceptable absence (SC 4.5)
- The application for special consideration can be supported by the centre with appropriate evidence authorised by a member of the senior leadership team (SC 6)

It is the responsibility of the following member(s) of staff to deal with special consideration requests and applications:

- The EO, supported by HoC.

Changes 2025/2026

(Changed) Under heading **Special Consideration**:

Changed bullet point: The application for special consideration can be supported by appropriate evidence signed by a member of the senior leadership team (SC 6) To: The application for special consideration can be supported by the centre with appropriate evidence authorised by a member of the senior leadership team (SC 6)

Centre-specific changes

Not applicable