



Langley Park School for Boys

Emergency Evacuation Policy: Examinations 2024/25

This policy is reviewed annually to ensure compliance with current regulations

Approved/reviewed by	
P Sarson/P Appel	
Date of next review	October 2025

Key staff involved in the emergency evacuation policy/procedure

Role	Name(s)
Head of Centre	S Munday
Exams Officer	P Appel
Duty Head Teacher (Senior Leader in charge of exams)	P Sarson
SENCo (or equivalent role)	L Game

Purpose of the policy

This policy details how Langley Park School for Boys (LPSB) deals with an emergency evacuation of the exam room(s) by defining staff roles and responsibilities and confirming the emergency evacuation procedure.

When is an emergency evacuation required?

An emergency evacuation is required where it is unsafe for candidates to remain in the exam room. This might include a fire in the exam room, the fire alarm sounding to warn of fire, bomb alert or other serious threat.

In exceptional situations, where candidates might be severely disadvantaged or distressed by remaining in the exam room, the emergency evacuation procedure may also need to be followed. This might include situations where there is severe disruption in the exam room, serious illness of a candidate or invigilator or similarly serious incidents.

As each incident may be different, advice will be sought from the relevant awarding body as soon as it is safe to do so. (ICE 25.6)

Where candidates are unable to return to the building to complete the examination, the relevant awarding body will be contacted immediately for advice.

Emergency evacuation of an exam room

Roles and responsibilities:

Head of Centre

- Ensures the emergency evacuation policy for exams is fit for purpose and complies with relevant health and safety regulation.
- Ensures any instructions from relevant local or national agencies are referenced and followed where applicable.
- Ensures any breach of question paper security or malpractice is reported to the awarding body immediately (ICE 25.5)

Senior leader

- Where responsible for the centre-wide emergency evacuation procedure, ensures all staff and appointed fire marshals are aware of the policy and procedures to be followed when an emergency evacuation of an exam room is required.

Special educational needs coordinator (SENCo) or equivalent role

- Ensures appropriate arrangements are in place for the emergency evacuation of a disabled candidate from an exam room where different procedures or assistance may need to be provided for the candidate.
- Ensures the candidate is informed prior to taking their exams of what will happen in the event of an emergency evacuation.

Exams officer

- Ensures invigilators are trained in emergency evacuation procedures and how an incident and actions taken must be recorded.
- Ensures candidates are briefed at the start of every exam via the invigilator announcement, on what will happen in the event of an emergency in the exam room.

- Provides invigilators with a copy of the emergency evacuation procedure for every exam room.
- Provides a standard invigilator announcement for each exam room which includes appropriate instructions for candidates about emergency procedures and what will happen if the fire alarm sounds.
- Provides an exam room incident log in each exam room.
- Liaises with the SENCo (or equivalent role) and other relevant staff prior to each exam where different procedures or assistance may need to be provided for a disabled candidate.
- Briefs invigilators prior to each exam where different procedures or assistance may need to be provided for a disabled candidate.
- Ensures appropriate follow-up is undertaken after an emergency evacuation reporting the incident to the awarding body and the actions taken.
- Ensures a full report of the incident is produced and retained on file if required by an awarding body (ICE 25.4)
- Ensures an online application for special consideration is submitted to the relevant awarding body where candidates have been disadvantaged (ICE 25.7)

Invigilators

- By attending training and/or update sessions, ensure they understand what to do in the event of an emergency in the exam room.
- Follow the actions required in the emergency evacuation procedure issued to them for every exam room.
- Confirm with the exams officer, where different procedures or assistance may need to be provided for a disabled candidate they are invigilating.
- Record details on the exam room incident log to support follow-up reporting to the awarding body by the exams officer (see below).

Other relevant centre staff

- Support the senior leader, SENCo (or equivalent role), exams officer and invigilators in ensuring the safe emergency evacuation of exam rooms.

Recording details

As soon as practically possible and safe to do so, details should be recorded. Details must include:

- the actual time of the start of the interruption.
- the actions taken.
- the actual time the exam(s) resumed.
- the actual finishing time(s) of the resumed exam(s).

Further details could include:

- report on candidate behaviour throughout the interruption/evacuation.
- a judgement on the impact on candidates after the interruption/evacuation.

Emergency Evacuation Procedure

Invigilators are trained in this procedure and understand the actions they must take in the event of a fire alarm or a bomb alert or other emergency that leads to an evacuation of the exam room.

Emergency evacuation procedure
Actions to be taken (as detailed in current JCQ Instructions for conducting examinations section 25, Emergencies)
Stop the candidates from writing and make note of the time.
Collect the attendance register (in order to ensure all candidates are present).
Evacuate the examination room in line with the instructions given by the appropriate authority.
Advise candidates to leave all question papers and scripts in the examination room. Candidates must be advised to close their answer booklet.
Ensure candidates leave the room in silence.
Ensure the candidates are supervised as closely as possible while they are out of the examination room so that there is no discussion about the examination.
Ensure the candidates are socially distanced whilst evacuated (during the event of a pandemic where national measures have been implicated by the government).
Make a note of the time recommenced and the duration of the interruption.
Allow the candidates the remainder of the working time set for the examination once it resumes.
If there are only a few candidates, consider the possibility of taking the candidates (with question papers and scripts) to another place to finish the examination.
Make a full report of the incident and of the action taken, and (to be retained on file if required by an awarding body).
Additional centre-specific actions to be taken
The exam room must be evacuated by the nearest available fire exit.
Candidates given instructions on what to do, how to leave the exam room and how to conduct themselves as per the Invigilator Emergency Evacuation Announcement (overleaf).
Candidates must be escorted to the examinations fire assembly point on the path outside of the sports hall, or if the emergency is in the sports hall on to the rugby pitch furthest away from the sports hall.
Candidates must not be allowed to return to the exams room until instructed to do so by a member of the emergency services, a member of SLT or the exams officer.
All information regarding the evacuation must be recorded on the exam log.

Invigilator Emergency Evacuation Announcement

- Please close your answer booklets and remain silent.
- Leave all question papers and scripts on your desk.
- We are about to evacuate the building, you need to stay with me at all times.
- During the evacuation you must not talk about the exam as you are still under exam conditions.
- We will now leave the room in silence, please follow me.

Candidates must be escorted to the examinations fire assembly point on the path outside of the sports hall, or if the emergency is in the sports hall, on to the rugby pitch furthest away from the sports hall.

You must stay with the candidates at all times during an evacuation.

Only return to the exam room with the candidates when instructed to do so by a member of the emergency services, a member of SLT or the exams officer.