

**Emergency evacuation policy (exams)**

2024/2025

This policy is reviewed annually to ensure compliance with current regulations

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| --- |
| Approved/reviewed by |
|  |
| Date of next review |  |

Key staff involved in the emergency evacuation policy/procedure

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| --- | --- |
| **Role** | **Name(s)** |
| Head of centre | **V Whitcombe** |
| Exams officer | **P Cleary** |
| SLT member(s) | **T Hughes, T Watkinson, L Cassels, S Reilly** |
| SENCo | **P Gardiner** |

Purpose of the policy

This policy details how Castle Manor Academy 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)

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)**

* 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 (*Candidate exam handbook*), prior to exams taking place, 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 and other relevant staff prior to each exam where a 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, 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

**CASTLE MANOR ACADEMY**

**EMERGENCY FIRE EVACUATION**

**STAFF RESPONSIBILITIES**:

In the event of a fire evacuation during an exam the procedures are as follows:

Everyone must stop writing and close their exam answer booklet

Make a note of the time on the whiteboard

Bring the seating plans with you, switch the radio that is in your room on and bring with you. You must leave everything else, all exam papers in the exam rooms on desks

You must make your way out of the building via your nearest exit – all students must remain in silence, there must be no communication with anybody

Lead all students and other invigilators to the tennis courts

Once on the tennis courts a role call will be made by Pauline Cleary – who will then inform attendance

The students will stay silent at all times

Once alarm has been rectified all students are to be lead back into the exam rooms

Exam will recommence once all students are settled