

Information for candidates – Guidelines when referring to exams/assessments through the internet.

This document has been written to help you. Please read it carefully.

JCQ GUIDELINES

We all like to share our experiences when taking exams. 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 exams/controlled assessment or coursework.

The rules are set by the Joint Council for Qualifications on behalf of all the Awarding Bodies and can be found at <http://www.jcq.org.uk/exams-office/malpractice>

Examples of statements or activities that will lead to a malpractice investigation include:

- Copying or allowing work to be copied – i.e. posting written work on social networking sites prior to an 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 on information by any means of communication (even if just attempting to);
- Passing on rumours of exam content from another candidate.

This list is not exhaustive. Other instances of candidate malpractice may be considered by an Awarding Body.

If you are found guilty of breaching any of these rules you could find yourself facing:

- A warning;
- The 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 of time.