The Bridge Trust
Fen Rivers

Candidate Late Arrival Policy 2026-2027

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Candidate Late Arrival Policy

Centre name	Fen Rivers
Centre number	18504
Date policy first created	21/10/2024
Current policy approved by	Amanda Fewkes
Current policy reviewed by	Amanda Fewkes
Date of review	02/10/2026
Date of next review	30/09/2027

Key staff involved in the policy

Role	**Name**
Head of centre	Amanda Fewkes
Senior leader(s)	James Thompson Lindsay Dymond Rachel Good
Exams Manager	Rachel Good
Other staff (if applicable)	

This policy is reviewed and updated annually to ensure that candidates who arrive late to examinations at Fen Rivers are managed in accordance with current requirements and regulations and reflects centre practice.

References in this policy to GR and ICE refer to the JCQ documents **General Regulations for Approved Centres** and **Instructions for conducting examinations**.

Purpose of the policy

The purpose of this policy is to confirm the arrangements for candidates who arrive late for an examination at Fen Rivers.

A candidate will be considered late if they arrive:

- after the start of the examination and (for an examination which lasts an hour or more) up to 10.00am for a morning examination or up to 2.30pm for an afternoon examination

A candidate will be considered very late if they arrive:

- more than one hour after the awarding body's published starting time for an examination which lasts one hour or more, i.e. after 10.00am for a morning examination or after 2.30pm for an afternoon examination
- after the awarding body's published finishing time for an examination that lasts less than one hour (ICE 21.3)

This policy confirms that Fen Rivers reserves the right to exercise discretion whether to allow a candidate who arrives after the start of the examination to sit the examination, and confirms:

- the correct procedures are followed when dealing with a candidate who arrives late to an examination
- appropriate arrangements are in place for the management of late arrivals in order to maintain the security and integrity of the examination

1. Candidates who arrive late

The following procedures are applied at Fen Rivers in relation to candidates who arrive late to examinations:

- A candidate who arrives after the start of the examination may be allowed to sit the examination (ICE 21.1)
- A candidate who arrives late, and is permitted to sit the examination, will be allowed the full time for the examination (ICE 21.2)
- A candidate who arrives within one hour of the awarding body's published starting time for an examination which lasts an hour or more, i.e. a candidate arriving up to 10.00am for a morning examination or up to 2.30pm for an afternoon examination **will** be permitted by the centre to sit the examination
- A candidate who arrives after 10.00am for a morning examination will be considered very late (ICE 21.3) and **will** be permitted by the centre to sit the examination
- A candidate who arrives after 2.30pm for an afternoon examination will be considered very late (ICE 21.3) and **will** be permitted by the centre to sit the examination
- A candidate who arrives after the awarding body's published finishing time for an examination that lasts less than one hour will be considered very late (ICE 21.3) and **will** be permitted by the centre to sit the examination
- A candidate who arrives very late will be warned that the awarding body may not accept their script (ICE 21.4)
- A candidate who arrives in the afternoon for a examination that had been re-arranged for a morning session, may be allowed to take the examination at the published time as long as the candidate has not had any contact with candidates who sat the examination earlier (ICE 21.5)

  The awarding body will be informed of the situation and will decide whether to accept the script (ICE 21.6)
- In all cases the centre will submit declarations for the very late arrival of candidates for examinations, in accordance with the current JCQ document **Instructions for conducting examinations** (GR 5.9)

Other centre specific procedures:

Not applicable.

2. Roles and responsibilities

The role of the exams office

- Inform invigilators of the policy/process for dealing with candidates who arrive late/very late through training
- Provide an exam room incident log for invigilators to record relevant information relating to candidates who arrive late/very late
- Warn a candidate who arrives very late that the awarding body may not accept their script (ICE 21.4)
- Send the script of a candidate who arrives late/very late to the awarding body/examiner in the normal way (ICE 21.4)

Submit online, using the Centre Admin Portal (CAP), Form JCQ/VLA - Report on candidate admitted very late to examination room - within seven days of the examination having taken place, providing the following details:

- the time the candidate came under centre staff supervision
- the reason the candidate arrived late, including any details of special arrangements made for the candidate to reach the centre
- the actual starting and finishing times of the examination
- the time the candidate started the examination
- the time the candidate finished the examination
- any assurances that the candidate did not access and was not made aware of the paper's content prior to sitting the examination (ICE 21.4)

Additional responsibilities:

Not applicable.

The role of invigilators

- Ensure candidates who arrive late/very late, and are permitted to sit the examination, **are given** (without disturbing other candidates) all pre-examination information and warnings **before** they start the examination and are allowed the **full time** for the examination (ICE 21.2)
- Ensure relevant information is recorded on the exam room incident log relating to candidates who arrive late/very late
- Allow a candidate who arrived late/very late, and is allowed the full working time to do the examination, to continue after the normal finishing time, instructing them to stop working after the full working time allowed has passed (ICE 26.2)

Additional responsibilities:

Not applicable.

Changes effective from 1 September 2026

(Updated) Bullet points updated to reflect the change in wording and requirements in ICE 21.1-2.

Centre-specific changes

No centre specific changes identified.