



"Let us remember we are in the presence of God"

Food and Drink Policy (Exams)

St Margaret Ward Catholic Academy

Food and Drink Policy (Exams)

Centre name	St Margaret Ward Catholic Academy
Centre number	30560
Date policy first created	12/09/2023
Current policy approved by	Paul Johnson
Current policy reviewed by	Sarah Skinner
Date of review	15/10/2025
Date of next review	01/10/2026

Key staff involved in the policy

Role	Name
Head of centre	Mr Dominic McKenna
Senior leader(s)	Mr P Johnson, Mr M Dodd, Mrs A Poole, Mrs R Munden, Mr S Jones, Mrs S Bennion, Mrs K McGough
Exams officer	Sarah Skinner
Other staff (if applicable)	

This policy is reviewed and updated annually to ensure that food and drink in the examination room at St Margaret Ward Catholic Academy is managed in accordance with current requirements and regulations.

References in this policy to ICE refer to the JCQ publication **Instructions for conducting examinations**.

Purpose of the policy

This policy confirms that St Margaret Ward Catholic Academy reserves the right to exercise discretion whether to allow food and drink in the examination room, and confirms:

- the correct procedures are followed regarding food and drink in the examination room
- appropriate arrangements are in place for the management of food and drink in the examination room

1. Food and drink in the examination room

- All students are allowed water in the exam room.
Food is only allowed if approved by the Exams Officer/Head of Centre - usually for medical support reasons

To enable invigilators to check these items quickly and efficiently:

drink bottles must be transparent with all labels removed which would include reusable plastic bottles

The following arrangements are applied at St Margaret Ward Catholic Academy:

Additional centre-specific arrangements:

None

2. Roles and responsibilities

The role of the exams office/officer

- Through briefings, ensure candidates are aware of the regulations, and centre-specific arrangements, relating to food and drink in the examination room
- Ensure invigilators are trained and aware of the regulations/centre-specific arrangements relating to food and drink in the examination room
- Escalate any issue or breach of centre-specific arrangements to the relevant senior leader for the application of internal sanction(s)
- Escalate any breach of JCQ regulations immediately to the head of centre (a breach of the regulations constitutes suspected or actual malpractice)

Additional responsibilities:

None

The role of the invigilator

- Be vigilant in the examination room and remain aware of incidents or emerging situations, looking out for malpractice (ICE 20.2)
- Record what has happened and actions taken using an incident log in relation to any breach of regulations/centre-specific arrangements regarding food and drink in the examination room (ICE 20.2)

Additional responsibilities:

None

The role of the head of centre

- Report to the awarding body immediately all cases of alleged, suspected or actual malpractice in connection with the examination (ICE 24.3)

Additional responsibilities:

None

Changes 2025/2026

(Updated) Reference to ICE 18.2 updated to 18.4

Centre-specific changes

None