

# PANGBOURNE

## The use of a word processor in public examinations

JCQ states that *'a word processor cannot simply be granted to a candidate because he/she prefers to type rather than write or can work faster on a keyboard, or because he/she uses a laptop at home'*.

The regulations state that centres are allowed to provide a PC with the spelling and grammar check facility/predictive text disabled to a candidate, provided **the use of the PC reflects:**

- the candidate's normal way of working within the centre (the student has used and practised this concession in exams), and
- is appropriate to the candidate's needs (ie, the candidate has a disability and thus requires the use of a PC as detailed below).

Candidates may be eligible for a PC in exams if they have:

- a learning difficulty which has a substantial and long term adverse effect on their ability to write legibly,
- poor handwriting which would otherwise require a transcript,
- planning and organisational problems resulting from a learning difficulty when writing by hand (ie, a candidate with an impairment such as dyspraxia may struggle to organise his/her ideas when writing by hand and struggles to logically order his/her responses),
- a medical condition,
- a physical disability, and / or
- a sensory impairment.

DHA  
September 2020

