

Covid – 19

NISQ – Working Together

Coronavirus (COVID-19) has created a real and evolving challenge to education, including the vocational education sector. NISQ is still working as normal and providing support to their Approved Centres and learners, this is delivered through a blend of Covid-19 restricted, socially distanced face to face and electronic remote meetings.

Approved Centres and Learners can contact NISQ using:

- admin@nisq.uk
- 02891 871329

Adaptions

In response to the ever changing COVID-19 landscape NISQ has produced guidance on adaptions that provide Approved Centres the flexibility to deliver and assess regulated qualifications without disadvantaging learners or causing adverse effect.

An **Adaption** can be considered as any change to the delivery and assessment process presently in place including changes to design, setting, delivery or marking of an assessment. NISQ already provides a certain amount of flexibility built into their qualification assessment conditions, although not classed as adaptions they can be utilised to mitigate against logistical issues caused by a certain situation.

The adaptions are designed to afford Approved Centres the flexibility to administer assessments within current covid-19 national guidelines for Northern Ireland, although these could be impacted by UK wide restrictions being implemented, NISQ will advise Approved Centres should this happen to safeguard learners and their results.

NISQ Approved Centres

Should ensure their processes are Covid compliant, safe for learners and staff. NISQ will continue to provide its External Centre Verification service, under the current covid-19 socially distancing rules, this includes approval for centres, Approved Centre verification services and for invigilated examinations.

Should centres have any queries regarding an adaption or adaption approach being appropriate they should contact the NISQ Qualification Director before delivering assessments. The guidance relates to qualifications regulated by CCEA Regulations within Northern Ireland. NISQ Approved Centres have been sent guidance in relation to qualification assessment adaption (NISQ GL30) including a copy of a NISQ 102 Applying an Adaption application form.

Learners and Adaptions

learners will be updated via the NISQ web site should any assessment/qualifications adaptions be introduced. Approved Centres with registered learners will ensure they are kept informed of any changes including the introduction of an adaption. Approved Centres will ensure Learners are given the appropriate time to plan for an assessment that has been adapted, NISQ and its Approved Centres will provide support for learners during this time, to ensure no learners are disadvantaged.