



# Exams at Maple Grove

# Why do we do exams at Maple Grove?



BUILDS SELF  
CONFIDENCE



SENSE OF  
ACHIEVEMENT

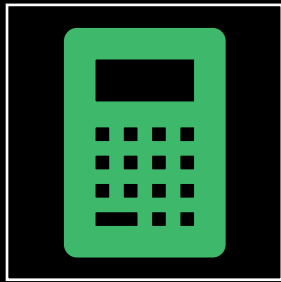


TIME MANAGEMENT



PREPARES THEM FOR  
THEIR NEXT STEPS

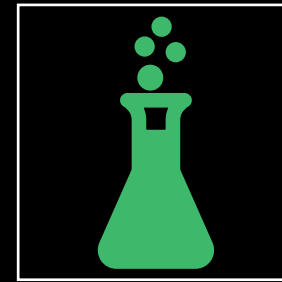
# What exams can pupils' sit as Maple Grove?



**NCFE Entry** Level 1, 2 and 3 in English and Maths



**NCFE Level 1** and Level 2 in English and Maths



**AQA Externally Set Assignment** Science



**NCFE**

**Awarding Body**

# Who marks the exams?

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**NCFE: Entry** Level 1, 2 and 3 – Internally assessed and quality assured

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**NCFE: Level 1 and 2** – Externally set and assessed

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**AQA: Externally Set Assignments** – Internally assessed and quality assured

# Internally assessed process for NCFE:

01

Teacher  
marking

02

Internally  
quality  
assured: Nic  
Sawyer (**IQA**)

03

Externally  
assured: NCFE  
External Quality  
Assurer

# Externally set exams for NCFE:



Pupils complete the exam and they are sent to NCFE to be marked.



This can take up to 32 working days for the results to be returned to school.

# Speaking, listening and communicating: NCFE



MARKED BY  
TEACHER



INTERNALLY  
QUALITY  
ASSURED



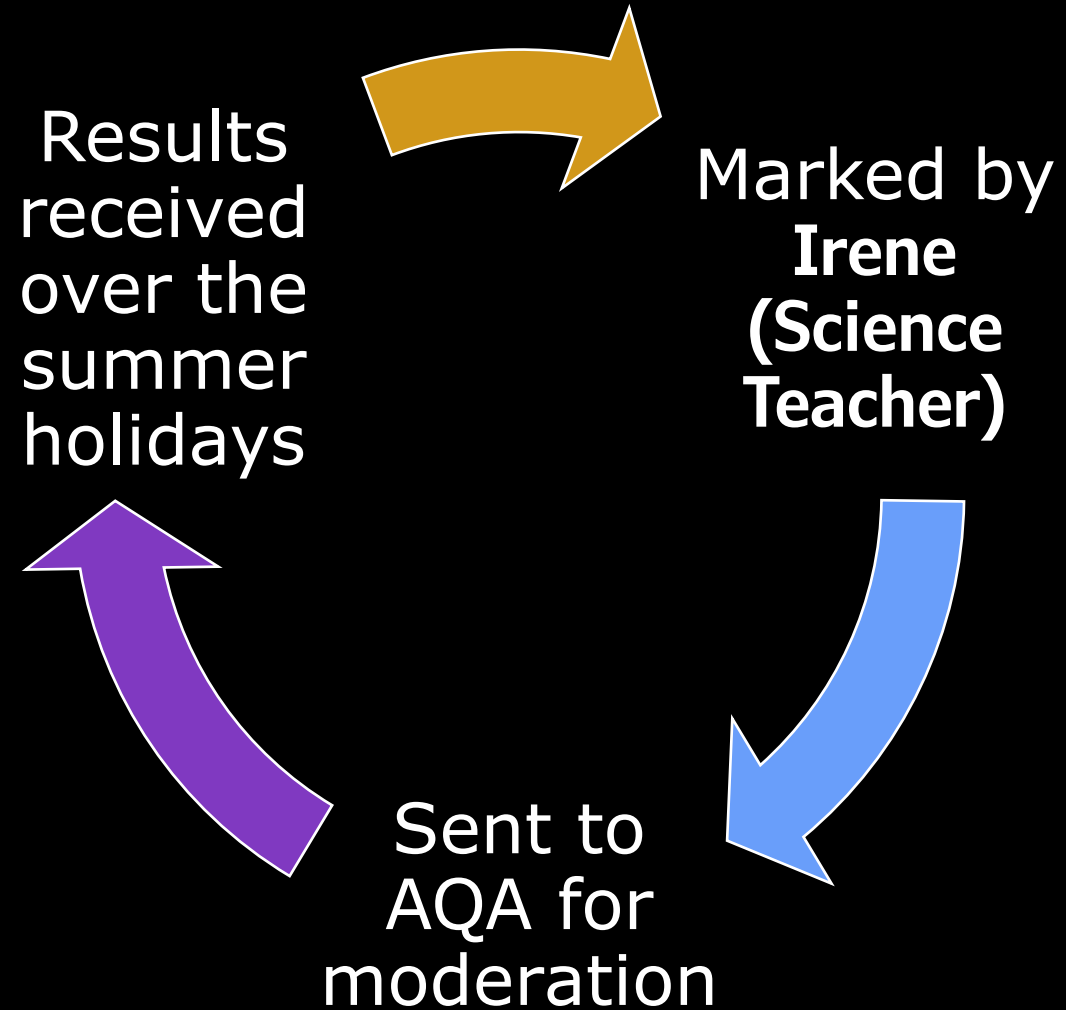
EXTERNALLY  
QUALITY  
ASSURED



FOR ALL LEVELS  
ENTRY 1 TO  
LEVEL 2



# Entry Level Certificate Science



# Access Arrangements

A white, torn-paper-like decorative element is positioned at the bottom of the slide, extending from the left edge and curving upwards towards the right. It has a rough, irregular edge, resembling a piece of paper that has been torn or cut out of a black background.

"Access arrangements, which allow learners with specific needs, such as special educational needs, disabilities, or temporary injuries, to access the assessment and show what they know and can do without changing the demands of the assessment. The intention behind an access arrangement is to meet the needs of an individual learner without affecting the integrity of the assessment."

"Reasonable adjustments, which NCFE is required to make where a learner, who is disabled as defined by the Equality Act 2010, would be at a substantial disadvantage in comparison to someone who is not disabled. NCFE is required to take all reasonable steps to overcome that disadvantage."

# Is there a difference between the two?

## **Access arrangements**

The official exam term used by exam boards.

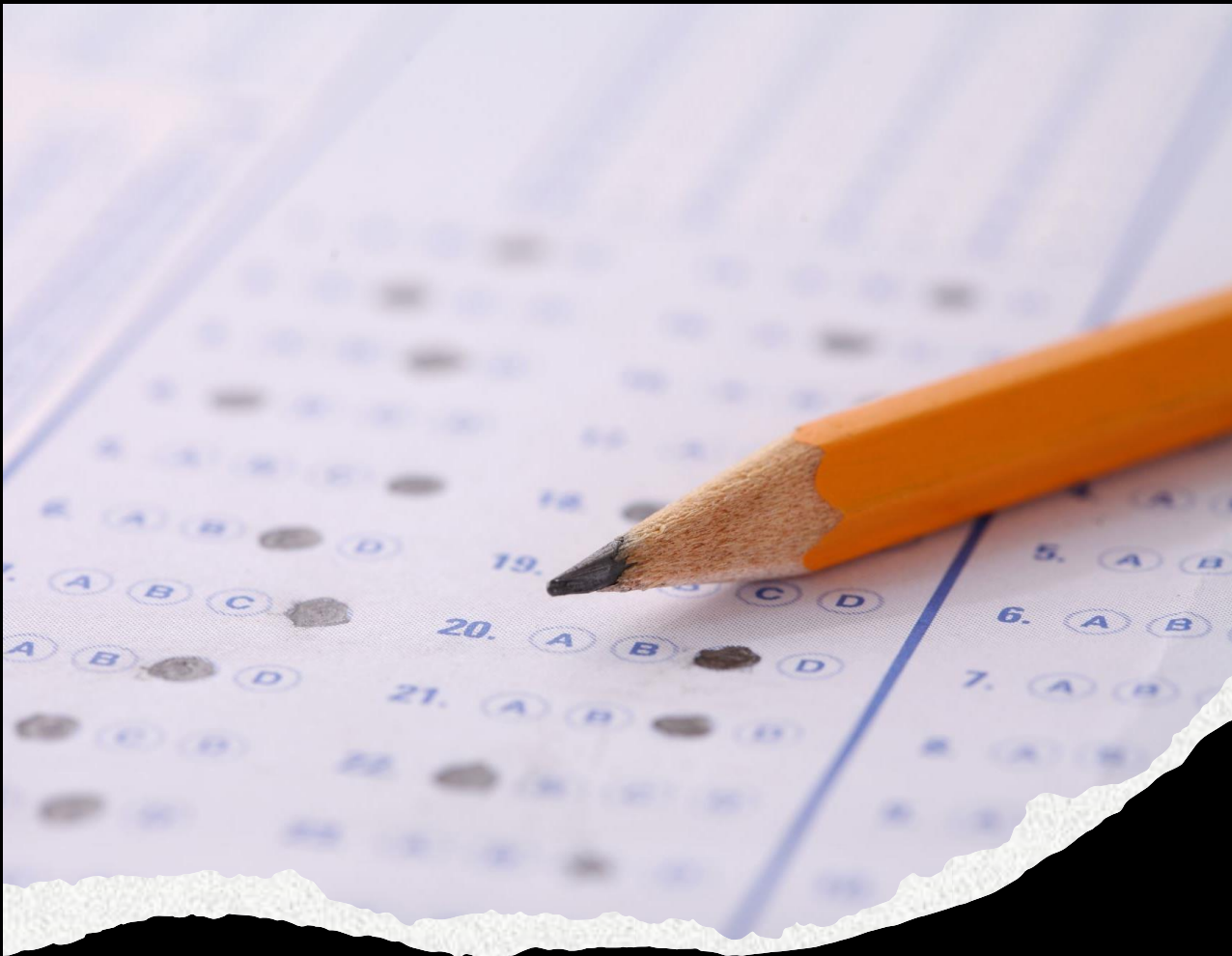
Refers to specific, approved supports allowed during an exam.

Must follow strict rules and evidence

## **Reasonable adjustments (in exams):**

The legal principle behind access arrangements.

Comes from equality legislation – Equality Act 2010.



**“Normal  
way of  
working”**

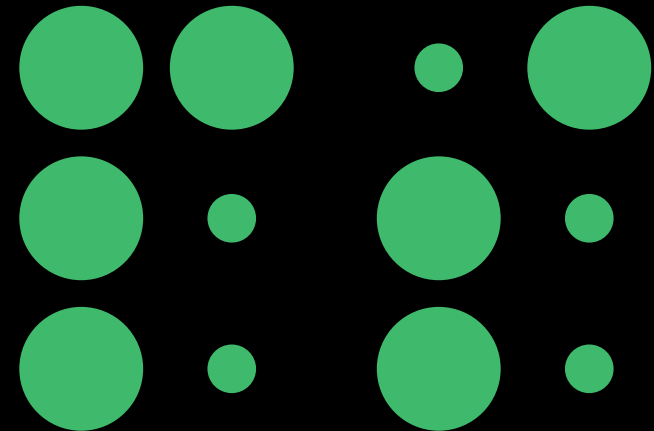


**“Any access arrangements or reasonable adjustments to assessment must not give the learner an unfair advantage nor should it disadvantage the learner”**

**“Centres should not assume that the same access arrangements or reasonable adjustments will be required for all assessments. Different qualifications and different methods of assessment can make different demands on the learner. Learners should be consulted throughout the process”**



**“NCFE staff cannot determine whether a learner has a disability or a learning difficulty. The learner must have had appropriate opportunities to practice using the access arrangements before his / her first assessment. This is particularly important where a computer reader, modified enlarged papers, a scribe, speech recognition technology or a word processor will be used in assessments.”**



- supervised rest breaks (controlled assessments only)
  - extra time
- a computer reader or a reader
- to read aloud or an examination reading pen
- a scribe
- a word processor
- a prompter
- a practical assistant
- coloured overlays
  - coloured / enlarged assessment materials •
- modified language assessment materials
- Braille papers, modified enlarged and / or modified language assessment materials

**Access  
arrangements  
available for  
learners with  
disabilities and  
learning  
difficulties**



**A learner cannot  
have a reader in a  
reading exam.**



# When can you have a scribe?

- Maths
- SLC
- Reading
- Not for Writing or Spelling



# Coloured paper

Examples of coloured paper available for modified papers.

PALE IVORY
PALE YELLOW
PALE BEIGE
NEON YELLOW
DEEP YELLOW
MED DEEP GOLD
MID ORANGE
PALE PINK
NEON PINK
PALE BLUE
PALE ICY BLUE
DEEP TURQUOISE
PALE GREEN
PASTEL GREEN
MID GREY



# Maple Grove School

Access Arrangement  
Trackers

# Equivalents

## **Level 1**

- A level 1 qualification is like having GCSE grade equivalents at grades D-G or or 3-1.

And also:

- Functional Skills level 1

## **Level 2**

- A level 2 qualification is like having GCSE grade equivalents at grade A\*–C or 4-9.

And also:

- Functional Skills level 2

# How are pupils prepared for exams?



Take the negativity away from exam language



Mock exams

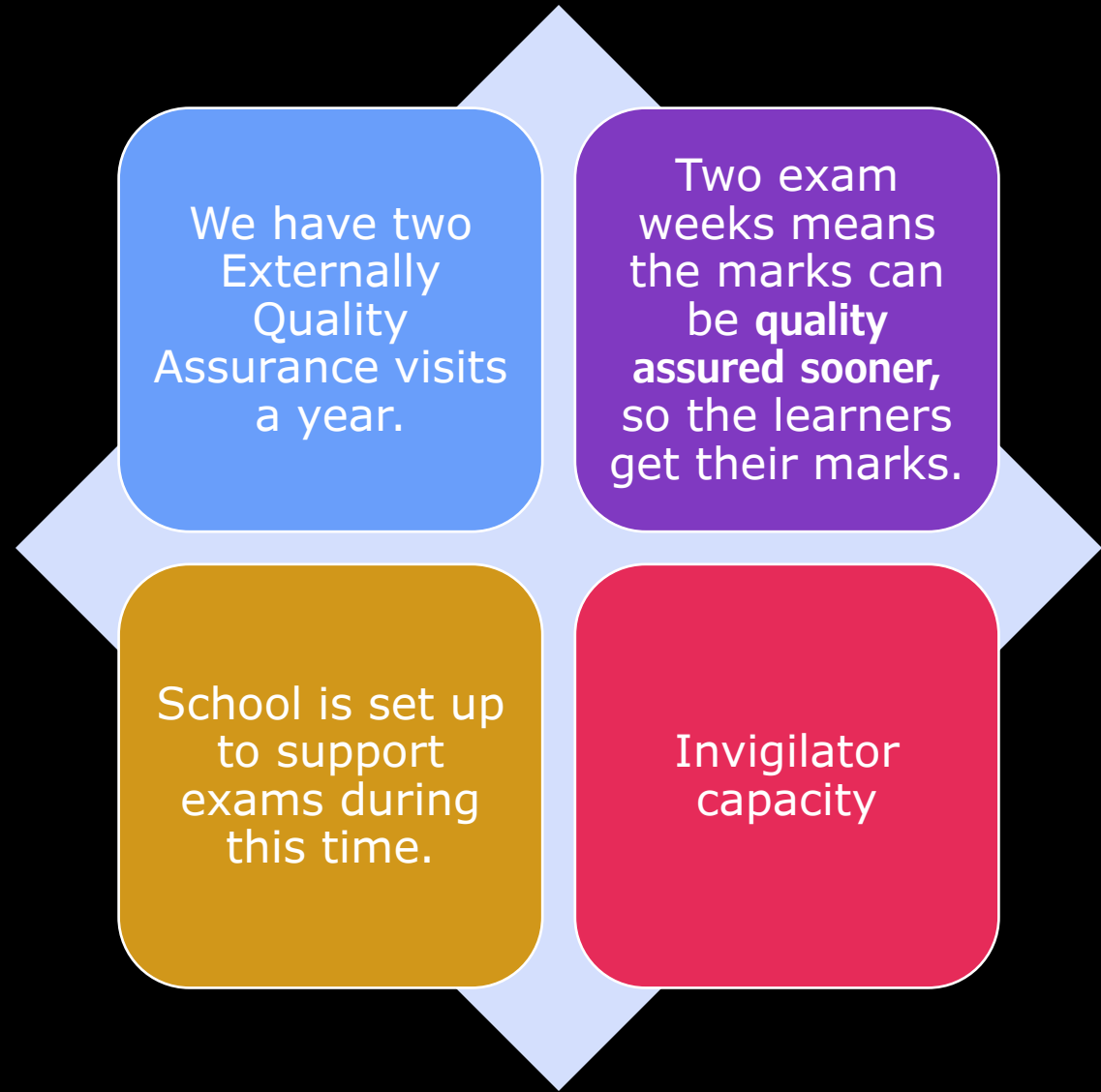


Social stories



Exam preparation questions in class

# Why do we have exam weeks?



**Why can't I  
request for  
my child to  
sit an exam  
when they  
want to?**

- Preparation of the exam materials.
- Applying for access/reasonable adjustments.
- Staff capacity to invigilate.
- Preparation time for the learner.
- Marking of the exam. All internal exams need to be marked within 2 weeks and internally quality assured by Nic.
- Exam officer has to be present to sign in and out the exams.
- Does not prepare them for next steps.



<u>Type of modification required</u>	<u>Timescales</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Enlarged papers</li> <li>❖ Coloured papers</li> </ul>	<b>15 working days' notice</b> (prior to the published date of assessment or start of assessment window)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Braille papers</li> <li>❖ Tactile diagrams</li> <li>❖ Modified language papers</li> </ul>	<b>30 working days' notice</b> (prior to the published date of assessment or start of assessment window)

<b>Enlarged (Unmodified)</b>	Standard assessment paper enlarged from A4 to A3; enlarging entire paper, retaining the original layout
<b>Modified</b>	Standard assessment paper options: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A4 18 pt bold</li> <li>• A4 24 pt bold</li> <li>• A3 24 pt bold</li> <li>• A3 36 pt bold</li> </ul>



# Certification

**Level 1 and 2**

**Once they have been externally marked by NCFE we can claim their certificates.**

## **Entry Levels**

**After External Quality Assurance visit – twice a year.**



# Level 1 and Level 2

Marking report to  
support next steps.





# The importance of attendance



Who takes  
exams at  
Maple Grove?



**Next  
steps....**

# NEURO ENGAGE



## Entry Requirements



There are no formal entry requirements, although users are expected to be interested in the subject area and have a current Individual Development Plan or Education, Health and Care Plan which outlines a complex social communication difficulty with a diagnosis of Autism.

# Applying for Colleges

- Parents will apply and can request support from the Local Authority.
- If parents don't want support from the local authority, they need to inform them.
- Goes to Panel to see if they can meet need.
- School can support, if requested, throughout this process.





# Holistic Development



**Communication  
and Interaction**



**Emotional  
understanding and  
self-awareness**



**Social  
Understanding  
and Relationships**



**Learning and  
engagement**



**Sensory  
processing**



**Healthy  
living**



**Interests, routines  
and processing**



**Independence  
and community  
participation**

**Educational  
Health Care  
Plan**

**Individual  
Development  
Plan**



**Ensure pupils are ready for  
their next steps in all areas.**



**Any other  
questions**

