

## School Exams

---

# October/November 2020 exams series – FAQs

23 September 2020

## **Governmental lockdown/isolation/curfew**

**Q1: What will happen to October/November 2020 exams series in case a full country lockdown is announced?**

The British Council will follow local health authority and government guidance.

We will:

- confirm to schools and private candidates
- follow up with Examining Boards on available support options to candidates and communicate response to schools and private candidates

**Q2: What will happen if the area of my residence is isolated during the examination session and I am unable to access my exam venue?**

In case of a City/Area isolation, the British Council will follow local health authority and government guidance.

- British Council will confirm to schools and candidates as soon as we are notified by the authorities.
- The British Council will follow up with the Examining Boards on available support options to candidates who have not been able to sit for their exams and communicate response to schools and private candidates

**Q3: What will happen if the area of my exam venue is isolated during the examination session and I am unable to access my exam venue?**

In case of area isolation, the British Council will follow local health authority and government guidance.

- The British Council will relocate candidates to an alternative exam venue
- In case relocation is not possible due to a governmental restriction, exams will be suspended in this exam venue for the isolation period
- The British Council will follow up with the Examining Boards on available support options to candidates who have not been able to sit for their exams and communicate response to schools and candidates

## **Suspected cases**

**Q4: What will happen in case a candidate temperature was in excess of 37.5 degrees Celsius when candidate arrives at examination venue?**

The venue staff will make (2 -3) attempts of temperature checking to confirm final temperature – candidates will be guided to the designated area before re-checking the temperature

If the temperature is still in excess of 37.5 degrees:

- Candidate will not be allowed to enter the examination room and will be advised to return home and self-isolate or seek medical help
- Details of candidates will be logged

- The candidate will be asked to email the School Coordinator to follow up on test administration process. If you are registered as a private candidate email the British Council (information@ae.britishcouncil.org).
- School coordinator / British Council Exams Officer will follow to report Special Consideration Form to the Examining Board for affected candidates who were not admitted to exam venue. For further information on Special Considerations, refer to Refunds and Special Consideration related questions
- Candidate will be asked to take PCR test and report to British Council Exams team in order to sit for remaining exams. For further information on PCR test, refer to PCR related questions

**Q5: What will happen If a candidate/staff showed Covid-19 symptoms or fell ill during the test?**

- Exam venue staff will follow procedures in incident/emergency management plan
- Suspected case will be asked to take PCR test and report to British Council Exams team. For further information on PCR test, refer to PCR related questions
- Affected candidates will not sit for the exams until release of PCR result.
- Affected staff will not be assigned any duties until release of PCR result.
- Special consideration form will be submitted for the candidate/s for affected exams until release of PCR result. For further information on Special Considerations, refer to Refunds and Special Consideration related questions

**Q6: What will happen if a candidate/venue staff member is tested positive for Covid-19?**

If someone has been identified as confirmed case of Covid-19 (candidate or staff), the case will be immediately reported to the local health authorities (DHA/HAAD). The patient will be followed up for further medical requirements by the local health authority. The procedures applicable to the venue will be implemented in line with the government guidance and direction. Communication about procedures to follow will be shared with all candidates and staff attending the session.

**Q7: What will happen in case of negative PCR result?**

Candidate will be allowed to resume their examination and staff will be reassigned to normal duties at exam venues, subject to no demonstrated symptoms of sickness.

## **Exam venue closure**

**Q8: What will happen in case of venue closure due to positive covid-19 test within the candidates/venue staff?**

In line with the government direction, the following may be considered:

- We will contact all candidates and venue staff attending the session to be tested for Covid-19. In case of negative testing; the British Council will consider the possibility of relocating non affected candidates/venue staff to an alternative exam venue
- In case relocation is not possible, due to government restriction, exams will be suspended in the exam venue for the closure period directed by the Government

- The British Council will follow up with the Examining Boards on available support options to candidates who have not been able to sit for their exams and communicate response to schools and candidates

**Q9: What are the consequences if the school/venue fail to meet hygiene regulations and candidates are endangered?**

- British Council to follow up with the school for immediate remedial action and file report
- If the issue is repeated or school/venue cannot comply, British Council to initiate relocation of the exam venue

## **PCR test**

**Q10: Who shall the PCR test be sent to?**

Candidates should send the PCR test to their school's coordinator and should bring it with them on the exam day

**Q11: If a suspected case was tested negative but temperature is still in excess of 37.5 degrees Celsius upon arrival to exam venue, will they be admitted to the next exam?**

The venue staff will make (2 -3) attempts of temperature checking to confirm final temperature – candidates will be guided to the designated area before re-checking the temperature

If the temperature is still in excess of 37.5 degrees:

- Candidate will not be allowed to enter the premises and will be advised to return home and self-isolate or seek medical help
- Details of candidates will be logged
- The candidate will be asked to email the school's coordinator to follow up on test administration process. If you are registered as a private candidate email the British Council ([information@ae.britishcouncil.org](mailto:information@ae.britishcouncil.org)).
- School's coordinator / British Council Exams Officer will follow to report Special Consideration Form to the Examining Board for affected candidates who were not admitted to test venue. For further information on Special Considerations, refer to Refunds and Special Consideration related questions
- Candidate will be asked to take PCR test and report to British Council Exams team in order to sit for remaining exams. For further information on PCR test, refer to PCR related questions

**Q12: Are we allowing medical certificates from Private doctors?**

No, only negative PCR tests will be accepted for high temperature.

## **Refunds and Special considerations**

**Q13: Are refunds applicable for candidates who miss their tests due to high temperature?**

Special consideration process will be followed for candidates missing their exams due to high temperature

---

**Q14: Are we allowing any special health conditions to be exempted?**

Special consideration process will be followed for candidates missing their exams due to high temperature

**Q15: Who fills in special consideration form?**

Special consideration form is part of the administrative processes which should be completed by the school's coordinator / British Council Exams Officer

**Q16: When will the reply on special consideration form be received by boards? What could be the scenarios?**

Special consideration is a post-exam adjustment made to a candidate's mark, by an Examining Board, to make allowances for some adverse circumstances.

For more details on special considerations, please see the following links:

- Cambridge Assessment International Education:  
<https://www.cambridgeinternational.org/exam-administration/cambridge-exams-officers-guide/phase-5-exam-day/special-consideration/>

- Pearson Edexcel:  
<https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/support/support-topics/exams/special-requirements/special-consideration.html>

**Alhosn app****Q17: What is the Alhosn app?**

Alhosn is the official UAE app for contact tracing and health testing related to COVID-19. It provides you with access to test results and notifies you if you have contacted confirmed cases of COVID-19. Using a health colour coding system, Alhosn will help identify and allow those free from COVID-19 to go to public spaces and workplaces. By using the app, you can help stop the spread of COVID-19 and keep your family, friends, and colleagues safe.

**Q18: Is it mandatory for exam candidates to download Alhosn app?**

The Alhosn app is mandatory for all exam candidates in Abu Dhabi. The app has to be shown on the candidate mobile phone to enter the exam venue.

More details on the Alhosn app can be found here:  
<https://www.alhosnapp.ae/en/faqs/general/#faq-grp1-1383>