

Food and Drink Policy (Exams)

Hele's School

Food and Drink Policy (Exams)

Centre name	Hele's School
Centre number	54435
Date policy first created	20/09/2023
Current policy approved by	Ms Emma Clapham
Current policy reviewed by	Kristina Packer - Exams Officer
Date of review	11/10/2025
Date of next review	20/10/2026

Key staff involved in the policy

Role	Name
Head of centre	Ms Emma Clapham
Senior leader(s)	Ms Emma Clapham - SLT Lead to Exams
Exams officer	Kristina Packer
Other staff (if applicable)	Craig Maw - Deputy Exams Officer

This policy is reviewed and updated annually to ensure that food and drink in the examination room at Hele's School 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 Hele's School 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

- Food and drink is allowed in the examination room at the discretion of the head of centre (ICE 18.4)

To enable invigilators to check these items quickly and efficiently:

- food brought into the examination room by the candidate must be free of packaging and in a transparent container
- drink bottles must be transparent with all labels removed, which would include transparent, reusable plastic bottles (ICE 18.4)

The following arrangements are applied at Hele's School:

Food and drink is allowed in the examination room only where:

Food is free from packaging and in a transparent container.

All labels are removed from drink containers and drink bottles are transparent.

Additional centre-specific arrangements:

Candidates are responsible for bringing in their own drinks. The centre only permits water.

Prior to the exam, candidates are reminded to remove any labels, and Invigilators will do a physical wall around to ensure this has been done.

Candidates are discouraged from bringing any food into the examination room. Those that do, (for medical reasons) have an approved arrangement with the Exams Officer.

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:

Invigilators will remove water containers which are not label free and not transparent.

If the container contains anything other than water, that will also be removed, unless there is a prior agreement.

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:

In exceptional circumstances allow the candidate to refill their water bottle during the exam.

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:

Not Applicable

Changes 2025/2026

(Updated) Reference to ICE 18.2 updated to 18.4

Centre-specific changes

Upon review, no centre-specific changes