

Exam Office Conference

Frequently Asked Questions

Seating Arrangements

Q: Are we going to make Seating easier?

A: Yes, there is a lot to consider simplifying and improving on the current seating with plenty of discovery work and conversations with Exam Officers to guide this. Current thoughts include:

- Colour coding
- Cloning of seating plans
- Fixed Seats for students in a series

Q: Are we going to readdress labels for seating?

A: Absolutely, there will be a rework of the label production so that this is compliant with the JCQ I.C.E documents.

Q: Will we be addressing the printing / sizing issues currently?

A: Yes, with the new solution we aim for the printing to be more user friendly and versatile than that of the current seating organiser.

Invigilation

Q: Can the invigilators have access to the Exams timetable to update their availability?

A: Following a number of discussions surrounding availability requests the clear directive is to request this based around the exams timetable as opposed to Mon-Fri -AM/PM. As such they will have the dates that exams are being run and the chance to mark themselves as available.

Q: Will there be an invigilator individual timetable?

A: Absolutely, once the invigilation has been assigned for the season, it is intended this will feed into the invigilator's details in a timetable format. We will then be looking at the methods to send / print this.

General Functionality

Q: Can we build domestic / mock exams in the new solution?

A: There will be a reimagining of the domestic exam process in the new solution. As currently the requirement is to build a "basedata tree" to be able to do this which is not necessary. As such the next generation should be quicker and simpler to implement.

Q: Can we set our own Internal Deadlines?

A: The feature to set your own internal deadlines for a qualification's entry is absolutely something we will be looking at to assist with the capturing of entries.

Q: Can ESS Exams share data with main SIMS surrounding Access Arrangements?

A: When we look at Access arrangements there will be a whole piece of investigation and work to look at and analyse how the data is stored, recorded and utilised between SEN and Exams.

Accessibility

Q: With the new system being cloud based, what is the contingency plan for when there is internet outage?

A: With the technology of today internet access is much more readily available. In the instance an Exam centre were to experience internet failure, other sources ie to tether to a mobile device should be sufficient to re-connect and perform admirably.

Q: Will the next generation be able to link with Student App?

A: The next generation of Exams is being built as a decoupled service that will be able to connect in with SIMS / Unit-E and the other services via an API.

Future Engagement

Q: How do I get involved in the pilot?

A: Currently I am working with an initial list of 130+ stakeholders that have been feeding into the project and will look to engage smaller centres within this group for the pilot.

Q: Will you use Exams Officers to test?

A: Absolutely, given the customer driven approach and sharing the proof of concept with Exams Officers along the way this is helping us refine our thinking. Continued work with Exam officers will ensure we are developing and delivering the right solution.

Q: How can I get involved with future developments?

A: As I mentioned when I was at the conference the next generation of Exams is being built with the user at the front. As such there is a focus on working co-creatively with Exam officers. Further details are available in the O365 form link at the end of the presentation slides and the bottom of this document.

As mentioned at the conference please find below an Office 365 to fill if you are interested in further engagement with the ESS Exams project. The data collected will be for the purpose of engagement in the ESS Exams project only.

Further Engagement:

<https://tinyurl.com/CapitaESSExams>