



**Confederation
of School Trusts**

Consultation response

Proposed changes to the assessment of mathematics, physics and combined science GCSEs in 2025, 2026 and 2027

Response of the Confederation of School Trusts

The Confederation of School Trusts (CST) is the national organisation and sector body for academy and multi-academy trusts in England. Representing over 1100 trusts, we are in turn responsible for more than 75% of the sector and the education of over 3.5 million children and young people. This places CST in a strong position to consider this issue from the viewpoint of the system's leaders in self-governing organisations.

In 2023, [CST agreed with the proposal](#) to extend the inclusion of formulae sheets in mathematics, physics and applied sciences exam rooms for the benefit of minimising educational disadvantage incurred by Covid-19. CST supports the continuation of this provision for the years 2025, 2026 and 2027. Although the continuation of the arrangement in 2024 was to minimise covid-19 disadvantage, CST believes this change has now become embedded in practice and it should continue as proposed. The curriculum and assessment review will provide another opportunity for such arrangements to be considered in the round and therefore this arrangement should be kept in place until this outcome is established.

We are encouraged by Ofqual's assessment that the continuation of this provision in 2024 did not create any significant assessment issues and see no reason why this would not be the case for the years 2025, 2026 and 2027.

The voice of school trusts

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About the Confederation of School Trusts

The Confederation of School Trusts is the sector body and national organisation for school trusts, with more than three million children educated in our member schools and academy trusts. We help shape the education policy agenda by speaking on their behalf, bringing together frontline education experts from across the country. We work to drive real, strategic, change for education on the big issues that matter most.