****

Criteria for the award and allocation of word processors for examinations

Candidates with access to word processors at St Patrick’s are allowed to do so in order to remove barriers for disabled\* candidates which prevent them from being placed at a substantial disadvantage as a consequence of persistent and significant difficulties. The use of word processors is only permitted whilst ensuring that the integrity of the assessment is maintained, at the same time as providing access to assessments for a disabled candidate. The use of a word processor is not granted where it will compromise the assessment objectives of the specification in question. Candidates may not require the use of a word processor in each specification. As subjects and their methods of assessments may vary, leading to different demands of our candidates, the need for the use of a word processor is considered on a subject-by-subject basis. The use of a word processor must be agreed/processed before the start of the course. Candidates are made aware that they will have the use of a word processor for examinations and assessments. The use of a word processor for candidates is only granted if it reflects the support given to the candidate as their 'normal way of working', which is defined as support: in the classroom; or working in small groups for reading and/or writing; or literacy support lessons; or literacy intervention strategies; and/or in internal school tests and mock examinations. \*The Equality Act 2010 defines disability as ‘limitations going beyond the normal differences in ability which may exist among people’.

Claire Gurnell

Head of Centre

20/07/21