



Derby City Council



Transition2 English & maths exemption policy

Version: 1.1

Review requirements: Every 3 years or following significant policy or legislative change

Date of next review: September 2027

Approval Body: Transition2 Senior Leadership Team

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Exemptions to the condition of funding for learners at Transition2

As per the national condition of funding guidance, Transition2 will ensure that English and maths is embedded and progress evidenced within a learner's tailored vocational learning programme. This may include:

- recognition of travel times during travel training,
- weights and shape at the gym,
- measuring quantities of ingredients in the Glow & Grow café,
- sawing and fixing measurements of wood at the Glow & Grow workshop.

For learners who are yet to achieve a level 2 English and maths qualification, Transition2 will support learners to work towards these qualifications. This is outlined below.

Supporting students with special educational needs and/ or disabilities (SEND) and those with EHC plans

According to the Department for Education, all students should be supported and given the opportunity to study English and maths wherever possible, given the benefits this brings. The DfE expects institutions to use the options available for SEND students to tailor programmes to enable each student to improve in maths and/or English to the best of their ability. Institutions should recognise and record students' progress and achievement.

When a student with SEND does **not** hold a GCSE grade 9 to 4 or equivalent qualification in maths and/or English, it is important they have every opportunity that



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others do to study and progress towards a level 2 English and/or maths qualification. There are a wide range of approved qualifications under the condition of funding that should enable this in most cases, from entry level upwards. Institutions should make every effort to enable students with SEND to study towards these valuable qualifications.

To allow more students with EHC plans to continue to receive support for maths and English under the condition of funding, there is a flexibility for institutions to deliver the minimum hours of teaching to them in an alternative format whilst remaining compliant with the condition of funding – for example, small group or embedded learning. This includes students with EHC plans on Supported Internships, who may struggle with the mode of delivery due to the unique format of the SI study programme. In line with the study programme guidance, institutions are encouraged to provide face to face support for students wherever possible.

Exemptions

There are exemptions to the condition of funding:

- students with SEND and an EHC plan, who are assessed as **not** able to study towards either GCSE, Functional Skills level 2 or stepping stone qualifications
- students with overseas qualifications that are established as equivalent to GCSE grade 4 or above
- students who have already achieved level 2 standard in English and/or maths

Students exempted for either of the above reasons do not count towards an institution's use of the tolerance.

Exemption for students with an EHC plan

There are a small number of SEND students with an EHC plan who are not able to study towards any qualifications. These students can be exempted from studying qualifications, but institutions should still include literacy and numeracy in their programme at an appropriate level and mode of delivery.

Institutions must consider all exemptions on a case-by-case basis. There is no blanket exemption for all students with EHC plans at an institution. Assessments for



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exemptions must be authorised by an appropriate professional in the institution, such as the head of SEND or student support. The assessment should be structured and documented. The DfE does not expect to give further detailed advice on the format or on who should carry out the assessment. This is for institutions to decide. The DfE will monitor exemptions from the data that institutions submit rather than on an individual basis.

Institutions should keep evidence that justifies their decision that a student is exempt. This information must be available to auditors appointed to test the use of DfE funding and to Ofsted inspectors.

Transition2 staff will apply for an exemption by completing an exemption form with the learner, their parents/carers, and the feeder school to triangulate evidence supporting the exemption if there is a consensus within the learner's circle of support to do so. Examples of why an exemption might be requested:

- learner has resat English and/or maths exams on several occasions with no progression/change in academic level
- learner displays significant dysregulation during English and/or maths classroom lessons

Exemption decisions are countersigned and moderated by SLT. Transition2 learners who are not exempt from CoF will take part in weekly English and maths sessions at an appropriate level, informed by their BKSB assessments completed in the Autumn term. Progress will be measured against individual English and maths learning plans, and learners will have the opportunity to sit examinations in May/June where appropriate.