



Can you help us shape the future of modified exam papers?

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Agenda

1. Objectives and Achievements.
2. Modified Exam Papers Research Findings.
3. Case studies.
4. Research involvement.



Objectives & Achievements

What would we like to find out?



- How are modified papers accessed and used at schools? How are students engaging with modified papers and assistive technologies (ATs) ?
- Encourage students to advocate for their needs and put their voices at the heart of research.

What changes have we already made?

Service improvement

- In 2022, Pearson launched bite-size [Exams Officer Training modules](#) (UK centres: GQ, BTEC/ International: Combined BTEC & GQ).
- [Updated Pearson Modified Formats Webpage.](#)



Modified Exam Papers Publications & Campaign

- In 2022, we published [Initial findings](#) from a pilot study.
- In 2023, we published [2 Case studies](#) focusing on the holistic assessment-taking experience of two vision-impaired students.
- Shared our research findings with over 17,000 school contacts via email across all subjects.
- Utilised multiple social media platforms, including LinkedIn, Twitter, and Qualification web pages, to create a Modified Paper Campaign.
- Communicated our research findings at International conferences, Ofqual seminars, and RNIB Exam Update Session 2023.

Modified Exam Paper Findings

1. Align students' daily practice with live assessments is crucial. Practicing past exam papers can reduce students' uncertainty and enhance their performance in high-stakes exams.

2. Sensory input, such as 3D shapes and screen readers, enables multi-sensory learning and supports students' diverse learning needs.

3. Some schools are unaware of the available resources, such as coloured diagrams, 3D shapes, and interactive PDFs, and how to utilize them effectively.

4. Surrounding services need to remain up-to-date, which includes training for exam officers and updating the webpage with essential information about modifications.

2022 Exam officer survey (134 responses)
2022-2023 Student survey (30 responses)

2022 Pilot study with VI focus (1 mainstream school)
2023 Phase 1 Interviews with blind and VI students (2 mainstream schools)

2023-2024 Phase 2 data collection with VI focus (LOOK UK Families)
2023 – 2024 Pilot study (4 schools) & main data collection focusing on Interactive PDF users (students with dyslexia, autism, color blindness) etc.)

A collection of case studies with the theme of encouraging students to advocate their access arrangement needs effectively (2 [published](#), 3 in preparation)

Case studies (in progress)

Co-constructing a series of case studies aimed at empowering students to advocate their accessibility needs effectively.

- A SEND student's specific challenges during the assessment-taking process.
- Pearson's recommendation: as an exam board, we are here to support our students.

Aim: Raise awareness, inspire a collective effort, and really drive changes to support an inclusive, accessible and empowering educational environment.



Note. The images used are generic and are not images of the actual candidates interviewed for the case studies.

How to get involved?

How can you help us?

We want to hear more from students who have used modified exam papers to help us understand what more we can do to make these papers more inclusive and accessible.

From Feb to April 2024:

- We'd like to invite Year 10-13 students who have used modified exam papers and your parent to have an informal and short talk with us.

Why help us?

If you are interested in participating in student and parent interviews or you'd like to find out more about this research, please contact us at:

 Researchuk@pearson.com

- Get your voice heard and be your own advocate.
- As a thank you, we'll be giving away £20 Amazon vouchers to your children via their parents.



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