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**Alternative assessment methods**

Although we all agree that the health of everyone is the main concern, we do appreciate that for some candidates and Centres, there may be a need, or desire, to continue with qualification achievement and delivery.

We are sure you will have your own plans in place and many centres already use alternative methods but we thought it worthwhile reminding you that where assessments are booked to take place there is a lot of technology that can be used to help reduce the need for physical visits or meetings.

The range of methods include the use of audio, Skype, WhatsApp, Facetime etc  to record Question & Answer sessions or Professional Discussions and using remote video evidence of practical activities. We do have written guidance on the use of remote video; this is a medium that has been used successfully in the past.

In addition to this do not overlook the opportunity for candidates to submit some photographic/video evidence and detailed personal statements on the work carried out, you can then use the above methods to ask the relevant underpinning knowledge questions.

Another useful source of supporting evidence are meaningful witness testimonies from Supervisors etc. To give these true value they should be on specific tasks carried out by the candidate rather than generic statements, again the use of technology will help to ensure the authenticity of these.

Accessing candidate evidence by the EQA is something we will leave you to discuss with your EQA as we know there are many variations including e-portfolio, scan and email, upload to GQA online etc. as many Centres are moving away from traditional, hard copy portfolios.

Obviously we all have to adapt working practices to minimise disruption but of course the validity and integrity of the qualifications have to be monitored and maintained.

If you want to discuss anything in relation to assessment practices do not hesitate to contact me or your EQA.

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