

Circular S/IF/26/19

April 2019

To: The Principals of Post-primary Schools and Directors of Further and Higher Education Colleges

For circulation to: The Examinations Officer

Confidentiality of Science Practical Skills Assessments

CCEA wish to remind Heads of Centres that they must ensure that candidates are aware of what constitutes malpractice and have had the opportunity to read the relevant Joint Council for Qualifications (JCQ) guidance, including: *information for candidates documents* at www.jcq.org.uk and at the following link:

<https://www.jcq.org.uk/exams-office/information-for-candidates-documents/information-for-candidates---social-media-2018-2019>

Science teachers should also ensure they have informed candidates that all Science Practical Skills Assessments are carried out under strict conditions as defined within the specifications and in the 'Instructions and Guidance to Teachers' which states: *Teachers must advise candidates that they must not discuss the Practical Skills Assessment (including discussion or posts on social media) with other candidates after completion. To do so will constitute candidate malpractice and will be the subject of an investigation.*

CCEA have also created a series of documents, one of which is specifically for candidate guidance on how they can avoid malpractice. They can be accessed at the link below.

http://ccea.org.uk/qualifications/adminhelp/compliance_and_malpractice

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