

Exams and Overheating

As spring and summer approach many parents begin to worry about their child overheating in school, college or university and not focusing or concentrating properly, especially when it comes to the exam period.



Obviously children are not allowed to have a fan in the exam room as this may be a distraction to other children, making it near impossible for children with ED to complete their exam papers to their maximum ability.

We have a Health Care Plan which explains fully the difficulties children with ED have and how they are affected by overheating. Producing a document such as this to the school will enable them to fully appreciate the difficulties with overheating and how it affects the child's ability to focus and concentrate.

An exam room full of children on a warm day is very worrying. Provision should be put in place whereby the child with ED can take their exam in a different room where a fan can be used. During exam time it is possible for the school to have an invigilator on standby; if the child has begun the exam along with all their peers and discover they are struggling due to the heat, the clock can be stopped, the child taken to a different room and the clock restarted. This has happened for both my children several times over the years.

Looking to the future, if your child is heading off to university or higher education in September it is time to begin thinking of all the equipment they may need, such as air-conditioning, humidifier, fan, etc. You may like to apply for a Disability Student Allowance (DSA) which will help towards the purchase of such equipment. DSAs are grants to help meet the extra course costs students can face as a direct result of a disability, ongoing health condition, mental health condition or specific learning difficulty.

If you would like to discuss this further, request a Health Care Plan or more information about DSAs please contact me diana@ectodermaldysplasia.org or call 01242 261332