Candidates for all MRCGP examinations are expected to behave in a professional manner throughout all their dealings with College personnel and any external agencies which deliver examinations on its behalf. This includes behaviour in all their contact with examination and test centre staff before, during and after the examination as well as in their contact with invigilators, examiners, role-players and other candidates.

Candidates should note that by applying to sit an examination they are deemed to have understood and agreed to abide by all the relevant Regulations including this Code.

All allegations of misconduct will be dealt with in accordance with the MRCGP Regulations.

**Applied Knowledge Test (AKT)**

- Candidates are asked to familiarise themselves and to comply with the rules of conduct specified by Pearson VUE at their test centres and should abide by the instructions and advice given by invigilators and other Pearson VUE staff.

Candidates are strictly forbidden to:

- attempt to provide information about the content of the AKT to candidates attending later sessions.

- attempt to solicit information about the content of the AKT from candidates attending earlier sessions.

- bring any unauthorised material or electronic devices into the test area, or otherwise arrange access during the course of an assessment. These might include manuscripts, notes, textbooks or study guides, dictionaries, recording equipment, personal organisers, computing equipment, calculators, personal stereos, mobile phones, cameras, watches, Bluetooth or other similar electronic or communication devices. All of the above, as well as bags, coats, food and drink and any non-essential medicines must be left in the lockers provided for you at each test centre. Mobile phones must be left in the lockers and switched off at all times.

- communicate with anyone, except the invigilators, by any means, during the AKT. This will include the periods during which the test is conducted and when entering or leaving the test area. In the event of a temporary evacuation, e.g. due to a fire alarm, candidates should not communicate anything about the AKT with anyone, other than invigilators or Pearson Vue staff.

- copy from other candidates sitting the AKT.
• remove any material whatsoever by any means from the test area. This includes notes or copies made of any material during the course of the test.

• disclose, disseminate or publish any material from the test, the copyright for which is held by the RCGP.

Candidates are advised that they must not record or discuss specific details of individual questions with anyone, including their colleagues, Trainer (Educational Supervisor) or other Deanery Educator.

Candidates should note that Pearson VUE use CCTV cameras to ensure that there are no violations of test security at any of their test centres.

In order to ensure the security of the examination, candidates sitting during the afternoon session are required to arrive and register at the examination/test centre before the candidates sitting in the morning session have completed their examination.

Clinical Skills Assessment (CSA)

Candidates should abide by the instructions and advice given by marshals and administrative staff involved in the assessment.

Candidates are strictly forbidden to:

• attempt to provide information about the content of the CSA to candidates attending later sessions.

• attempt to solicit information about the content of the CSA from candidates attending earlier sessions.

• bring any unauthorised material or electronic devices onto the test circuit, or otherwise arrange access during the course of an assessment. These might include manuscripts, notes, textbooks or study guides, dictionaries, recording equipment, personal organisers, computing equipment, calculators, personal stereos, mobile phones, cameras, watches, Bluetooth or other similar electronic or communication devices. Candidates are required to surrender their mobile phones, watches and other electronic devices when they arrive. They will be returned at the conclusion of the examination and must be switched off at all times. Other items, bags, coats and any non-essential medicines must be left in the locker provided at the test centre. The only personal items permitted on the test circuit are the following items of diagnostic equipment: British National Formulary, stethoscope, ophthalmoscope, auroscope, thermometer, patella hammer, tape measure and a peak flow meter with disposable mouthpieces. Candidates should not bring sphygmomanometers or oxygen saturation monitors.

• communicate with anyone, except role players, marshals and administrative staff, by any means, during the CSA. This will include the periods during which the assessment is conducted and when entering or leaving the test centre. In the event of a temporary evacuation, e.g. due to a fire alarm, candidates should not communicate anything about the CSA with anyone, other than marshals or administrative staff.
• remove any material whatsoever by any means from the test centre. This includes notes or copies made of any material during the course of the assessment.

• disclose, disseminate or publish any material from the assessment, the copyright for which is held by the RCGP.

Candidates are advised that they must not record or discuss specific details of individual cases with anyone, including their colleagues, Trainer (Educational Supervisor) or other Deanery Educator.

Candidates should note that there are video cameras throughout the test circuits for quality control and security purposes. Violations of test security may also be recorded and used as evidence in any subsequent action.

In order to ensure the security of the examination, candidates sitting during the afternoon session are required to arrive and register at the examination/test centre before the candidates sitting in the morning session have completed their examination.

**Possible penalties for misconduct during AKT or CSA**

Penalties for those failing to comply with the guidance given above, or behaving in an unprofessional or disruptive manner, will depend on the nature of the offence and may include:

- Withholding or annulling results for a particular assessment
- Withholding or annulling results for all assessments attempted
- Being barred from taking an assessment or assessments for a specified or indefinite period
- Referral to the General Medical Council

In certain circumstances it may be appropriate to inform the police.

All cases of misconduct will be referred to the Postgraduate Dean, Head of School/Director of General Practice Education in the candidate’s Deanery.

In all but the most minor cases, alleged misconduct will be considered by a misconduct panel. Penalties will also be determined by a misconduct panel.