



## Use of cookies by QAA websites

Cookies are small text files that are placed on your computer by websites that you visit. They are widely used in order to make websites work, remember your individual settings and preferences, and to measure how you use websites to ensure they meet your needs.

We do not use cookies to identify individuals or collate personal data. We only use cookies to make our sites work better for you.

Most web browsers allow some control of cookies through the browser settings, and you are able to manage and delete cookies from specific websites.

To find out more about cookies, including how to see what cookies have been set by the websites you visit, and how to manage and delete them, visit [All About Cookies](#).

The table below explains the cookies we use on each website and why:

[www.qaa.ac.uk](http://www.qaa.ac.uk)  
[www.qaa.ac.uk/scotland](http://www.qaa.ac.uk/scotland)  
[www.accesstohe.ac.uk](http://www.accesstohe.ac.uk)  
[www.enhancementthemes.ac.uk](http://www.enhancementthemes.ac.uk)  
[www.membershipresources.qaa.ac.uk](http://www.membershipresources.qaa.ac.uk)  
[www.step.ac.uk](http://www.step.ac.uk)  
[www.qaa.ac.uk/nmc](http://www.qaa.ac.uk/nmc)  
[ava.accesstohe.ac.uk](http://ava.accesstohe.ac.uk)

Cookie	Name	Purpose	More information
Google Analytics	_ga _gat_UA<siteID> _gid	<p>These cookies are used to collect information about how visitors use our site. This information is used to improve QAA's sites and to ensure they meet your needs.</p> <p>All data is collected in an anonymous form and includes information such as the number of visitors to our websites and the pages they visit while they're on our sites.</p>	<p><a href="#">Overview of privacy at Google</a></p> <p><a href="#">Opt-out of Google Analytics</a></p>
QAA	cookieWarningDisabled	We use this cookie to track your acceptance of cookie usage on our website.	

Cookie	Name	Purpose	More information
Cookie acceptance	acceptcookies	On first visiting our website, you will see a message at the top of your screen explaining that we use cookies. If you click to accept and hide the message, a cookie is stored so that you will not see the message appear again when you visit the website. Set to expire after 100 years.	
Google Analytics	_ga _gid	<p>These cookies are used to collect information about how visitors use our site. This information is used to improve QAA's sites and to ensure they meet your needs.</p> <p>All data is collected in an anonymous form and includes information such as the number of visitors to our websites and the pages they visit while they're on our sites.</p>	<p><a href="#">Overview of privacy at Google</a></p> <p><a href="#">Opt out of Google Analytics</a></p>
Google cookies	GAPS khcookie NIDS PREF VISITOR_INFO1_LIVE YSC	We use the YouTube video player and Google Maps functionality on our website. These are cookies set by Google to store your user preferences.	<a href="#">Overview of privacy at Google</a>
Session cookie	f	Stores the font size, if you have selected one of the options provided in the accessibility menu. Set to expire after 20 minutes.	All About Cookies: <a href="#">What is a session cookie used for?</a>
Session cookie	homepage_imageno	This cookie refreshes the image that appears in the top right-hand corner of the Access to HE homepage. It is purely for design purposes. Set to expire after 40 minutes.	All About Cookies: <a href="#">What is a session cookie used for?</a>
Session cookie	accessibility	Stores the contrast setting you have selected while using the website. Set to expire after 20 minutes.	All About Cookies: <a href="#">What is a session cookie used for?</a>
Session cookie	LoggedIn	Stores your email address if you are logged in to the AVA area, so that it displays in the main navigation throughout your visit. Set to expire after 30 minutes or cleared when you log out.	All About Cookies: <a href="#">What is a session cookie used for?</a>

Standard ASP.NET cookie	ASPXAUTH	Created and set when you log in to the AVA area. Expires when the browser closes.	All About Cookies: <a href="#">What is a session cookie used for?</a>
Standard ASP.NET cookie	ASP.NET_SessionId	Created when session state is used. Expires when the browser closes.	All About Cookies: <a href="#">What is a session cookie used for?</a>
Session cookie	ASPSESSIONID	Session cookies store information about particular choices you have made during your visit to the website - for example your preferred language choice if you have selected a Welsh language page.  These cookies expire when you close your browser.	All About Cookies: <a href="#">What is a session cookie used for?</a>
Microsoft Clarity	_clck _clsk _clarity	These cookies are used for analytics to improve website usability and identify user experience issues. Microsoft Clarity collects session recordings, heatmaps, and analytics data about how users interact with the website.	<a href="#">Microsoft Privacy Statement</a>

[reviewextranet.qaa.ac.uk](http://reviewextranet.qaa.ac.uk)

Cookie	Name	Purpose	More information
Session cookie	WSS_KeepSessionAuthenticated	Session cookies store information about particular choices you have made during your visit to the website. This cookie keeps you authenticated - or logged in - throughout your visit to the site so that you only have to log in once.  This cookie expires when you close your browser.	All About Cookies: <a href="#">What is a session cookie used for?</a>
Standard ASP.NET cookie	ASP.NET_SessionId	Created when session state is used. Expires when the browser closes.	All About Cookies: <a href="#">What is a session cookie used for?</a>

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