

Research and Innovation

AQA is the largest provider of national school examinations and assessments in the UK.

From shaping fair assessment design to exploring the opportunities presented by innovations in digital technologies, our researchers make a key contribution to AQA's charitable objective of advancing education. See overleaf for a taste of what colleagues will be presenting at AEA-Europe 2023.

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AQA
Questions matter



Alex Scharaschkin

Measuring educational constructs qualitatively
Presentation

Alex outlines a qualitative mathematical approach to educational measurement. He explores the idea of locating a learner in a logical space based on the attributes they demonstrate associated with a given attainment level.



Cesare Aloisi

Read Messick! Developing ethical AI will require assessment literacy
Poster

Cesare highlights the under-explored research area of how AI systems are trained and evaluated. He argues that 'validity' issues in AI development could lead to assessment validity concerns in a high-stakes context.



Katy Finch

The future of accessibility in assessment: practitioners' views on current and future access arrangements in England
Presentation

Katy and Phoebe discuss their research into exam accessibility, including the impact of social, emotional and mental health conditions, parental influence, and potential benefits and challenges of on-screen exams.



Phoebe Surridge

Exploring the social and cultural factors that impact on student attainment
Poster

Phoebe considers possible reasons for the differential outcomes of students from different backgrounds. She offers some insights into approaches that may help address the social and cultural challenges identified.



Jeanne Marie Ryan

Piloting on-screen exams: a shift in mode and a shift in culture
Presentation

Jeanne discusses the findings from AQA's large-scale digital assessment pilots, exploring teacher and student perspectives on how a transition to on-screen exams could impact their daily pedagogical practice.



Claire Tupling

Speak properly! Understanding the role of auto-generated captioning technologies in the marginalisation of disabled speech
Poster

Claire explores the problematic ways AI converts stammered speech into text and considers the use of more equitable forms of speech recognition technology.



David West

To err is human: how AI might contribute to trust and accountability
Presentation

David draws on research to highlight AI's potential to act as an effective quality control for human marking and explains how this could improve item and mark scheme design.