



# **Examinations Policy & Procedures 2025-2026**

Policy Name:  
Examinations Policy & Procedure

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## Key staff involved in the exams policy

Role	Name(s)
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## Contents

<b>Key staff involved in the exams policy</b> .....	<b>2</b>
<b>Purpose of the policy</b> .....	<b>6</b>
<b>Roles and responsibilities overview</b> .....	<b>6</b>
Head of centre .....	7
Recruitment, selection, training and support.....	7
External and internal governance arrangements .....	8
Escalation Process .....	8
Delivery of qualifications .....	8
Public liability .....	8
Security of assessment materials .....	8
Malpractice .....	9
Policies/procedures .....	9
Malpractice policy.....	9
Exam contingency plan .....	9
Lockdown Policy (Exams).....	9
Internal appeals procedures .....	9
Equalities policy .....	10
Complaints and appeals procedure.....	10
Child protection/safeguarding policy .....	10
Whistleblowing policy .....	10
Data protection policy .....	10
Access arrangements policy .....	10
Conflicts of Interest policy.....	10
National Centre Number Register .....	11
Centre inspections .....	11
Exams officer .....	11
Senior leaders (SLT) .....	12

Special educational needs co-ordinator (SENCo/Deputy SENCo) .....	12
Curriculum Team Leaders (CTL) .....	13
Teaching staff .....	13
Invigilators.....	13
Reception staff .....	13
Site staff.....	13
Candidates.....	13
<b>The exam cycle .....</b>	<b>13</b>
Planning: roles and responsibilities .....	13
Information sharing .....	13
Information gathering .....	14
Access arrangements.....	14
Word processor policy (exams).....	15
Separate invigilation policy .....	15
Internal assessment and endorsements.....	15
Non-examination assessment policy .....	16
Invigilation.....	16
<b>Entries: roles and responsibilities .....</b>	<b>17</b>
Estimated entries .....	17
Estimated entries collection and submission procedure.....	17
Final entries .....	17
Final entries collection and submission procedure.....	18
Entry fees.....	18
Late entries .....	18
Re-sit entries.....	18
Private candidates.....	18
Candidate statements of entry .....	18
Pre-exams: roles and responsibilities.....	19
Access arrangements and reasonable adjustments .....	19
Briefing candidates.....	19
Access to scripts, reviews of results and appeals procedures.....	19
Dispatch of exam scripts.....	20
Estimated grades .....	20
Internal assessment and endorsements.....	20
Invigilation.....	21
JCQ inspection visit.....	21
Seating and identifying candidates in exam rooms .....	21
Candidate Identification Procedure .....	22
Security of exam materials .....	22

Timetabling and rooming .....	23
Overnight supervision arrangements policy .....	23
Alternative site arrangements .....	24
Centre consortium arrangements.....	24
Transferred candidate arrangements .....	24
Internal exams .....	24
<b>Exam time: roles and responsibilities.....</b>	<b>24</b>
Access arrangements.....	24
Candidate absence .....	25
Candidate absence policy.....	25
Candidate late arrival.....	25
Conducting exams.....	26
Dispatch of exam scripts.....	26
Exam papers and materials .....	26
Exam rooms.....	26
Head of centre .....	26
Food and drink in exam rooms .....	26
Policy on candidates leaving the exam room temporarily.....	27
Exams officer .....	27
Senior leaders.....	27
Emergency evacuation policy (Exams) .....	27
Site staff.....	27
Invigilators.....	27
Candidates.....	27
Irregularities .....	28
Managing behaviour in exam rooms procedure.....	28
Senior leaders.....	28
Exams officer .....	28
Invigilators.....	28
Special consideration .....	28
Senior leaders.....	28
Exams officer .....	28
Special consideration policy .....	28
Candidates.....	28
Unauthorised items .....	29
Arrangements for unauthorised items taken into the exam room .....	29
Invigilators.....	29
Internal exams .....	29
Exams officer .....	29

Invigilators.....	29
<b>Results and post-results: roles and responsibilities .....</b>	<b>30</b>
Internal assessment .....	30
Curriculum Team Leaders .....	30
Managing results day(s) .....	30
Senior leaders.....	30
Exams officer .....	30
Results day programme .....	30
Site staff.....	30
Accessing results .....	30
Head of centre .....	30
Exams officer .....	30
Post-results services .....	31
Head of centre .....	31
Exams officer .....	31
Teaching staff .....	31
Candidates.....	31
Analysis of results .....	31
Certificates.....	31
Issue of certificates procedure .....	31
Candidates.....	31
Retention of certificates policy .....	32
<b>Exams review: roles and responsibilities .....</b>	<b>32</b>
Exams officer .....	32
Senior leaders.....	32
<b>Retention of records: roles and responsibilities.....</b>	<b>32</b>
Exams officer .....	32
Exams archiving policy .....	32
BTEC registration and certification policy .....	32
<b>Appendices.....</b>	<b>33</b>

## Purpose of the policy

The centre is committed to ensuring that the exams management and administration process is run effectively and efficiently and in compliance with JCQ regulations and AO requirements. This exam policy will ensure that:

- all aspects of the centre's exam process is documented, supporting the exams contingency plan, and other relevant exams-related policies, procedures and plans are signposted to
- the workforce is well informed and supported
- all centre staff involved in the exams process clearly understand their roles and responsibilities
- all exams and assessments are conducted according to JCQ and awarding body regulations, guidance and instructions, thus maintaining the integrity and security of the exam/assessment system at all times
- exam candidates understand the exams process and what is expected of them

This policy is reviewed annually to ensure ways of working in the centre are accurately reflected and that exams and assessments are conducted to current JCQ (and awarding body) regulations, instructions and guidance.

This policy will be communicated to all relevant centre staff.

The exams policy can be found on the school's website:

[www.qphs.co.uk /about us/policies and documents](http://www.qphs.co.uk/about-us/policies-and-documents)

## Roles and responsibilities overview

**The head of centre** is the individual who is accountable to the awarding bodies for ensuring that the centre is always compliant with the published JCQ regulations and awarding body requirements to ensure the security and integrity of the examinations/assessments. This individual must have the authority to deploy the necessary resources to ensure that the centre is always compliant in meeting those published JCQ regulations and awarding body requirements.

Heads of centre must ensure that senior leadership teams and exam office personnel familiarise themselves with the entire contents of JCQ *General Regulations for Approved Centres* booklet. In particular, heads of centre must familiarise themselves with sections 5.1, 5.3 and 5.4.

Heads of centre must ensure that relevant members of staff respond promptly to requests for information from awarding bodies relating to the administration and conducting of examinations/assessments (GR 1).

**The examinations officer** is the person appointed by the head of centre to act on behalf of, and be the main point of contact for, the centre in matters relating to the general administration of awarding body examinations and assessments.

**The head of centre may not appoint themselves as the examinations officer.** A head of centre and an examinations officer are two distinct and separate roles. (GR 2)

The head of centre and/or examinations officer may operate across more than one centre. In such cases the head of centre must ensure there is suitable senior leadership team support in place, so they can meet their obligations across all centres for which they are responsible. The head of centre must ensure that these arrangements are covered by their examination contingency plan. ([GR, section 2](#))

### Head of centre responsibilities

The head of centre is the individual who is accountable to the awarding bodies for ensuring that the centre is always compliant with the published JCQ regulations and awarding body requirements to ensure the security and the integrity of the examinations/assessments. It is the responsibility of the head of centre to ensure that all staff comply with the instructions in the Instructions for Conducting Examinations booklet. Failure to do so may constitute malpractice as defined in the JCQ publication *Suspected Malpractice: Policies and Procedures*. <https://www.jcq.org.uk/exams-office/malpractice>

## Head of centre

- Understands the contents, refers to and directs relevant centre staff to annually updated JCQ publications including:
  - General regulations for approved centres (GR)
  - Instructions for conducting examinations (ICE)
  - Access Arrangements and Reasonable Adjustments (AA)
  - Suspected Malpractice – Policies and Procedures (SM)
  - Instructions for conducting non-examination assessments (NEA) (and the instructions for conducting coursework)
  - A guide to the special consideration process (SC)
- Ensures the centre has appropriate accommodation to support the size of the cohorts being taught including appropriate accommodation for candidates requiring access arrangements for exams and assessments
- Where/if using a third party to deliver any part of a qualification (including its assessments) at the centre:
  - maintains oversight of, and responsibility for, the delivery of the qualification in accordance with JCQ regulations and awarding body requirements
  - has in place a written agreement with the third party to ensure there is a shared understanding of the arrangement and will manage the risk of failure by the third party to deliver the expected service
  - ensures that a copy of the written agreement is available for inspection if requested by the awarding body
- Ensures that relevant members of staff respond promptly to actions raised by the JCQ Centre Inspection Service, understanding that failure to do so could result in penalties (see National Centre Number Register and other information requirements section)
- Ensures that the centre promptly reports any incidents to the relevant awarding body/bodies which might compromise any aspect of assessment delivery, such as a cyber-attack
- Ensures other relevant centre staff where they may be involved in the receipt and dispatch of confidential exam materials are briefed on the requirements for maintaining the integrity and confidentiality of the exam materials
- Ensures members of centre staff do not forward emails and letters from awarding body or JCQ personnel without prior consent to third parties or upload such correspondence onto social media sites and applications
- Ensures members of centre staff do not advise parents/candidates to contact awarding bodies/JCQ directly nor provide them with addresses/email addresses of awarding body examining/assessment personnel or JCQ personnel

## Recruitment, selection, training and support

- Retains a workforce of an appropriate size and competence, including sufficient managerial and other resource, to undertake the delivery of the qualification as required by an awarding body. This includes taking reasonable steps to ensure occupational competence where this is required for the assessment of specific qualifications
- Provides fully qualified teachers to mark non-examination assessments, and/or fully qualified assessors for the verification of centre-assessed components
- Enables the relevant senior leader(s), the examinations officer (EO) and the SENCo/Deputy SENCo to receive appropriate training and support in order to facilitate the effective delivery of examinations and assessments within the centre, and ensure compliance with the published JCQ regulations
- Appoints a SENCo/Deputy SENCo who will determine appropriate arrangements for candidates with learning difficulties and disabilities
- Ensures that the SENCo has sufficient time to both manage the access arrangements process within the centre and familiarise him/herself with the JCQ publication *Access Arrangements and Reasonable Adjustments*
- Ensures that the examinations officer has sufficient time to perform their role and familiarise themselves with relevant awarding body and JCQ documentation.

- Ensures that the examinations officer is line managed and actively supported by a member of the senior leadership team who has a good working knowledge of the examination system

### **External and internal governance arrangements**

- Has in place a written escalation process should the head of centre, or a member of the senior leadership team with oversight of examination administration, be absent

### **Escalation Process**

The escalation process is included in Appendix 11 at the end of this document.

- Has in place a member of the senior leadership team who will provide effective support and supervision of the examinations officer to ensure that the integrity and security of examinations and assessments is maintained throughout an examination series
- Ensures centre staff undertake key tasks within the exams process and meet internal deadlines set by the EO
- Can confirm to an awarding body the external governance arrangements so that the awarding body has confidence in the integrity of centre activities such as the delivery of qualifications and the conducting of examinations and assessments
- Makes sure that a teacher, a teaching assistant, a tutor or a senior member of centre staff who teaches the subject being examined, or a Learning Support Assistant who has supported one or more candidates, is not an invigilator during the examination

### **Delivery of qualifications**

- Delivers qualifications, as required by the awarding body, in accordance with relevant equality legislation. This includes but is not limited to ensuring that qualifications are made available to all candidates capable of undertaking them and seeking reasonable adjustments for disabled candidates
- Enables candidates to receive sufficient and up to date laboratory experience, or relevant training where required by the subject concerned

### **Public liability**

- Complies with local health and safety rules which are in place and that the centre is adequately covered for public liability claims

### **Security of assessment materials**

- Takes all reasonable steps to maintain the integrity of the examinations/assessments, including the security of all assessment materials, by ensuring:
  - the location of the centre's secure storage facility in a secure room solely assigned to examinations for the purpose of administering secure examination materials
  - the secure room only contains exam-related material
  - there are between two and six keyholders only, each keyholder must fully understand their responsibilities as a key holder to the secure storage facility
  - access to the secure room and secure storage facility is restricted to the authorised two to six keyholders (the exams officer must be one of the keyholders) and staff approved by the head of centre are accompanied by a keyholder at all times
  - appropriate arrangements are in place to ensure that confidential materials are only handed over to authorised members of centre staff
  - appropriate arrangements are in place for handling secure electronic materials
  - the relevant awarding body is immediately informed if the security of question papers or confidential supporting instructions is put at risk
  - that when it is permitted to remove question papers from secure storage, and to avoid potential breaches of security, arrangements are in place to carefully check that the check and record that the correct question paper packets are opened (If it is ever subsequently

identified following this check that the wrong question paper packet has been opened, it will be resealed and the incident reported to the relevant awarding body's Malpractice Investigation Team immediately)

- Makes arrangements to receive, check and store question papers and examination material safely and securely at all times and for as long as required in accordance with the current JCQ publication *Instructions for conducting examinations*
- Makes arrangements to receive and issue material received from the awarding bodies to staff and candidates, and notify them of any advice and instructions relevant to the examinations and assessments
- Allows candidates access to relevant pre-release materials on, or as soon as possible after, the date specified by the awarding bodies

### **Malpractice**

- Through taking an ethical approach and working proactively to avoid malpractice among students and staff takes all reasonable steps to prevent the occurrence of any malpractice (which includes maladministration) before, during the course of and after examinations have taken place
- Ensures any person involved in administering, teaching or completing examinations/assessments is advised that where malpractice is suspected, or alleged, personal data about them will be provided to the awarding body (or bodies) whose examinations/assessments are involved. Personal data about them may also be shared with other awarding bodies, the qualifications regulator or professional bodies in accordance with the JCQ publication *Suspected malpractice – Policies and procedures*.
- Ensures irregularities are investigated and informs the awarding bodies of any cases of alleged, suspected or actual incidents of malpractice or maladministration, involving a candidate or a member of staff, by completing the appropriate documentation.
- As required by an awarding body, ensures evidence of any instances of alleged or suspected malpractice (which includes maladministration) is gathered in accordance with the JCQ publication *Suspected Malpractice - Policies and Procedures* and provides such information and advice as the awarding body may reasonably require.

### **Policies/procedures**

#### **Malpractice policy**

The exams contingency plan is included in Appendix 14 at the end of this document.

#### **Exam contingency plan**

The exams contingency plan is included in Appendix 1 at the end of this document.

#### **Lockdown Policy (Exams)**

The exams lockdown policy is included in Appendix 12 at the end of this document.

- Ensures required internal appeals procedures are in place and drawn to the attention of candidates and (where relevant) their parents/carers

#### **Internal appeals procedures**

The internal appeals procedures is included in Appendix 2 at the end of this document.

- Ensures the centre's equalities policy demonstrating the centre's compliance with relevant legislation is in place and details the processes followed in respect of identifying the need for, requesting and implementing access arrangements

### **Equalities policy**

The school's equalities policy is located on the school's website.

- Ensures a *complaints policy* covering general complaints regarding the centre's delivery or administration of a qualification is in place and drawn to the attention of candidates and their parents/carers

### **Complaints and appeals procedure**

The exam complaints and appeals policy is located in Appendix 3 to this document.

- Ensures the centre has a child protection/safeguarding policy in place, including Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) clearance, which satisfies current legislative requirements

### **Child protection/safeguarding policy**

The school's safeguarding policy is located on the school's website.

- Ensures the centre has a whistleblowing policy in place

### **Whistleblowing policy**

The exam whistleblowing policy is located in Appendix 13 to this document.

- Ensures the centre has a data protection policy in place that complies with General Data Protection Regulation and Data Protection Act 2018 regulations

### **Data protection policy**

The school's data protection policy is located on the school's website.

- Ensures the centre has documented processes in place relating to access arrangements and reasonable adjustments

### **Access arrangements policy**

Access arrangements policy is located in the policies folder in the staff shared area.

### **Conflicts of Interest policy**

The conflict of interest policy is included in Appendix 13 at the end of this document.

- Ensures the relevant awarding bodies are informed before the published deadline for entries for each examination series of any potential conflict of interest where
  - ◆ a member of centre staff is taking a qualification at the centre which includes internally assessed components/units and taken at the centre as a last resort where unable to find an alternative centre
  - ◆ a candidate is being taught and prepared for a qualification which includes internally assessed components/units by a member of centre staff with a personal connection to the candidate.
- Maintains clear records that confirm the measures taken/protocols in place to mitigate any potential risk to the integrity of the qualifications affected by the above and where

- ◆ a member of the office staff has a close relationship to a candidate being entered for exams and assessment at the centre or at another centre
- ◆ a member of staff is taking a qualification at the centre which does not include internally assessed components/units (taken at the centre as a last resort where unable to find an alternative centre)
- a member of centre staff is taking a qualification at another centre
- Ensures the relevant awarding bodies are informed of any declaration/conflict of interest where a candidate is being taught, prepared, entered or sitting exams where a relevant member of centre staff has a personal connection to the candidate, whether at this centre or another examination centre.
- Ensures other relevant centre staff where they may be involved in the receipt and dispatch of confidential exam materials are briefed on the requirements for maintaining the integrity and confidentiality of the exam materials
- Ensures members of centre staff do not forward e-mails and letters from awarding body or JCQ personnel without prior consent to third parties or upload such correspondence onto social media sites and applications
- Ensures members of centre staff do not advise parents/candidates to contact awarding bodies/JCQ directly nor provide them with addresses/email addresses of awarding body examining/assessment personnel or JCQ personnel

### **National Centre Number Register**

- Provides contact details and an address to which all correspondence in connection with the administration of examinations and assessments can be directed which must be the registered address of the centre
- Ensures the National Centre Number Register annual update is responded to by the end of October every year
- Takes responsibility for confirming, on an annual basis, that they are both aware of and adhering to the latest version of the JCQ's regulations. This confirmation is managed as part of the National Centre Number Register (NCNR) annual update by completion of the Head of Centre Declaration
- Understands that this responsibility cannot be delegated to a member of the senior leadership team or the examinations officer, and acknowledges that failure to respond to the NCNR annual update, and/or the head of centre's declaration, will result in:
  - the centre status being suspended
  - the centre not being able to submit examination entries
  - the centre not receiving or being able to access question papers and ultimately, awarding bodies could withdraw their approval of the centre.

### **Centre inspections**

- Co-operates with the JCQ Centre Inspection Service, an awarding body or a regulatory authority when subject to an inspection, an investigation or an unannounced visit, and takes all reasonable steps to comply with all requests for information or documentation made by an awarding body or regulatory authority as soon as is practical
- Allows all venues used for examinations and assessments, paperwork and secure storage facilities to be open to inspection
- Understands the JCQ Centre Inspector will identify themselves with a photo ID card and must be accompanied throughout their tour of the premises, including inspection of the centre's secure storage facility

#### **Exams officer**

- Understands the contents of annually updated JCQ publications including:
  - General regulations for approved centres
  - Instructions for conducting examinations
  - Suspected Malpractice – Policies and Procedures

- Post-results services (PRS)
- A guide to the special consideration process
- Completes/submits the National Centre Number Register annual update (administered on behalf of the JCQ member awarding bodies by OCR <https://ocr.org.uk/administration/ncn-annual-update/>) by the end of October every year
  - Confirms the details or informs the awarding bodies of any changes to the centre's contact details through the National Centre Number Register
  - Informs the National Centre Number Register Team **immediately** (e-mail address – [ncn@ocr.org.uk](mailto:ncn@ocr.org.uk)) if any changes occur after the National Centre Number Register annual update has taken place
  - (Where it may be applicable) Informs the National Centre Number Register Team no later than 6 weeks prior to moving to a new address or a re-location of the secure storage facility
  - Informs the National Centre Number Register Team immediately of any other changes in circumstances that could affect the centre's status
- Is familiar with the contents of annually updated information from awarding bodies on administrative procedures, key tasks, key dates and deadlines
- Ensures key tasks are undertaken and key dates and deadlines met
- Recruits, trains and deploys a team of internal/external invigilators; appoints lead invigilators, as required and keeps a record of the content of training provided to invigilators for the required period
- Works with the SENCo to ensure invigilators supervising access arrangements and those acting as facilitator supporting access arrangement candidates fully understand the respective role and what is and what is not permissible in the exam room.
- Supports the head of centre in ensuring that awarding bodies are informed of any conflict of interest declared by centre of staff and in maintaining records that confirm the measures taken/protocols in place to mitigate any potential risk to the integrity of the qualifications affected before the published deadline for entries for each examination series
- Briefs other relevant centre staff where they may be involved in the receipt and dispatch of confidential exam materials on the requirements for maintaining the integrity and confidentiality of the exam materials

### **Senior leaders (SLT)**

Are familiar with the contents, refer to and direct relevant centre staff to annually updated JCQ publications including:

- General regulations for approved centres
- Instructions for conducting examinations
- Access Arrangements and Reasonable Adjustments
- Suspected Malpractice – Policies and Procedures
- Instructions for conducting non-examination assessments (and the instructions for conducting coursework)
- A guide to the special consideration process

### **Special educational needs co-ordinator (SENCo/Deputy SENCo)**

- Understands the contents, refers to and directs relevant centre staff to annually updated JCQ publications including:
  - Access Arrangements and Reasonable Adjustments
- Leads on the access arrangements and reasonable adjustments process (referred to in this policy as 'access arrangements')
- If not the qualified access arrangements assessor, works with the person appointed, on all matters relating to assessing candidates and ensures the correct procedures are followed
- Presents when requested by a JCQ Centre Inspector, evidence of the assessor's qualification

## **Curriculum Team Leaders (CTL)**

- Ensures teaching staff undertake key tasks, as detailed in this policy, within the exams process (exam cycle) and meet internal deadlines set by the EO and SENCo/Deputy SENCo.
- Ensures teaching staff keep themselves updated with awarding body subject and teacher-specific information to confirm effective delivery of qualifications
- Ensures teaching staff attend relevant awarding body training and update events

## **Teaching staff**

- Undertake key tasks, as detailed in this policy, within the exams process and meet internal deadlines set by the EO and SENCo/Deputy SENCo
- Keep updated with awarding body subject and teacher-specific information to confirm effective delivery of qualifications
- Attend relevant awarding body training and update events

## **Invigilators**

- Attend/undertake training, update, briefing and review sessions as required
- Provide information as requested on their availability to invigilate
- Sign a confidentiality and security agreement and confirm whether they have any current maladministration/malpractice sanctions applied to them

## **Reception staff**

- Support the EO in the receipt and dispatch of confidential exam materials and follow the requirements for maintaining the integrity and confidentiality of the exam materials

## **Site staff**

- Support the EO in relevant matters relating to exam rooms and resources and the security of exam parcels.

## **Candidates**

Where applicable in this policy, the term 'candidates' refers to candidates and/or their parents/carers.

## **The exam cycle**

The exams management and administration process that needs to be undertaken for each exam series is often referred to as the exam cycle and relevant tasks required within this grouped into the following stages:

- planning
- entries
- pre-exams
- exam time
- results and post-results

This policy identifies roles and responsibilities of centre staff within this cycle.

## **Planning: roles and responsibilities**

### **Information sharing**

#### **Head of centre**

- Directs relevant centre staff to annually updated JCQ publications including GR, ICE, AA, SMEA and NEA (and the instructions for conducting coursework)

#### **Exams officer**

- Signposts relevant centre staff to JCQ publications and awarding body documentation relating to the exams process that has been updated
- Signposts relevant centre staff to JCQ information that should be provided to candidates
- As the centre administrator, approves relevant access rights for centre staff to access awarding body secure extranet sites

## Information gathering

### Exams officer

- Undertakes an annual information gathering exercise in preparation for each new academic year to ensure data about all qualifications being delivered is up to date and correct
- Collates all information gathered into one central point of reference
- Research awarding body guidance to identify administrative processes, key tasks, key dates and deadlines for all relevant qualifications
- Produces an annual exams plan of key tasks and key dates to ensure all external deadlines can be effectively met; informs key centre staff of internal deadlines
- Collects information on internal exams to enable preparation for and conduct of these trial examinations

### Curriculum Team Leaders

- Responds (or ensures teaching staff respond) to requests from the EO on information gathering
- Meets the internal deadline for the return of information
- Informs the EO of any changes to information in a timely manner minimising the risk of late or other penalty fees being incurred by an awarding body
- Notes the internal deadlines in the annual exams plan and directs teaching staff to meet these

## Access arrangements

### Head of centre

- Ensures there is appropriate accommodation for candidates requiring access arrangements in the centre for all examinations and assessments
- Ensures a written process is in place to not only check the qualification(s) of the appointed assessor(s) but that the correct procedures are followed as in Chapter 7 of the JCQ publication Access Arrangements and Reasonable Adjustments
- Ensures the SENCo/Deputy SENCo is fully supported in effectively implementing access arrangements and reasonable adjustments once approved

### SENCo/Deputy SENCo

- Assesses candidates (or works with the appropriately qualified assessor as appointed by the head of centre) to identify access arrangements/reasonable adjustments requirements
- Gathers evidence to support the need for access arrangements for a candidate
- Liaises with teaching staff to gather evidence of normal way of working of an affected candidate
- Determines candidate eligibility for arrangements or adjustments that are centre-delegated
- Gathers signed personal data consent, privacy notice and data protection confirmation from candidates where required
- Applies for approval through *Access arrangements online* (AAO) via the Centre Admin Portal (CAP), where required or through the awarding body where qualifications sit outside the scope of AAO
- Keeps relevant paperwork and evidence on file for JCQ inspection purposes (if documentation kept electronically, alternative format must be available in case of IT failure at the time of a JCQ inspection).
- Employs good practice in relation to the Equality Act 2010
- Liaises with the EO regarding exam time arrangements for access arrangement candidates

- Ensures staff appointed to facilitate access arrangements for candidates are thoroughly trained and understand the rules of the particular arrangement(s) and keeps a record of the content of training provided to facilitators for the required period
- Works with EO to ensure invigilators/facilitators fully understand the respective role and what is and what is not permissible in the exam room
- Provides and annually reviews a centre policy on the use of word processors in exams and assessments

### **Word processor policy (exams)**

The word processor policy is included in Appendix 4 at the end of this document.

- Ensures criteria for candidates granted alternative rooming arrangements within the centre is clear, meets JCQ regulations and best meets the needs of individual candidates and remaining candidates in main exam rooms

### **Separate invigilation policy**

In the case of separate invigilation, the candidate's difficulties are established within the centre and known to the SENCo/Deputy SENCo or a senior member of staff with pastoral responsibilities. They must ensure that the proposed access arrangement does not disadvantage or advantage the candidate.

Separate invigilation reflects the candidate's normal way of working in internal school tests and mock examinations as a consequence of a long term medical condition or long term social, mental or emotional needs. Where candidates are subject to separate invigilation the regulations and guidance within the JCQ publication Access Arrangements and Reasonable Adjustments must be adhered to.

#### **Senior Leaders, Curriculum Team Leaders, Teaching staff**

- Support the SENCo/Deputy SENCo in determining and implementing appropriate access arrangements/reasonable adjustments
- Produce a word processor policy, specific to the centre, which details the criteria the centre uses to award and allocate word processors for examinations

### **Internal assessment and endorsements**

#### **Head of centre**

#### **Controlled assessments, coursework and non-examination assessments**

- Ensures appropriate controls are in place which allow accurate data to be submitted to the awarding bodies, e.g. internally assessed marks
- Ensures arrangements are in place to co-ordinate and standardise all marking of centre- assessed components and ensures that candidates' centre-assessed work is produced, authenticated and marked, or assessed and quality assured in accordance with the awarding bodies' instructions (including where relevant, private candidates)
- Ensures that teaching staff, in accordance with awarding bodies' instructions, return all subject-specific forms by the required date
- Provides fully qualified teachers to mark non-examination assessments, and/or fully qualified assessors for the verification of centre-assessed components
- Ensures an **internal appeals procedure** relating to internal assessment decisions is in place for a candidate to appeal against and request a review of the centre's marking (see Roles and responsibilities overview)

- Ensures a **non-examination assessment policy** is in place for GCE and GCSE qualifications which include components of non-examination assessment (For CCEA GCSE centres this would be a controlled assessment policy)

## **Non-examination assessment policy**

The non-examination policy is included in Appendix 5 at the end of this document.

- Ensures any irregularities relating to the production of work by candidates are investigated and dealt with internally if discovered prior to a candidate signing the authentication statement (where required) or reported to the awarding body if a candidate has signed the authentication statement

### **Senior leaders**

- Ensure teaching staff have the necessary and appropriate knowledge, understanding, skills, and training to set tasks, conduct task taking, and to assess, mark and authenticate candidates' work (including where relevant, private candidates)
- Ensure appropriate internal moderation, standardisation and verification processes are in place

### **Curriculum Team Leaders**

- Ensure teaching staff delivering AQA Applied General qualifications, OCR Cambridge Nationals, Entry Level Certificate or Project qualifications follow JCQ Instructions for conducting coursework and the specification provided by the awarding body
- Ensure teaching staff delivering GCE & GCSE specifications (which include components of non-examination assessment) follow JCQ Instructions for conducting non-examination assessments and the specification provided by the awarding body
- For other qualifications, ensures teaching staff follow appropriate instructions issued by the awarding body
- Ensures teaching staff inform candidates of their centre assessed marks as a candidate may request a review of the centre's marking before marks are submitted to the awarding body

### **Teaching staff**

- Ensure appropriate instructions for conducting internal assessment are followed
- Ensure candidates are aware of JCQ and awarding body information for candidates on producing work that is internally assessed (coursework, non-examination assessments, social media) prior to assessments taking place
- Ensure candidates are informed of their centre assessed marks as a candidate may request a review of the centre's marking before marks are submitted to the awarding body

### **Exams officer**

- Identifies relevant key dates and administrative processes that need to be followed in relation to internal assessment
- Signposts teaching staff to relevant JCQ *information for candidates* documents that are annually updated

## **Invigilation**

### **Head of centre**

- Ensures relevant support is provided to the EO in recruiting, training and deploying a team of invigilators
- Ensures, if contracting supply staff to act as invigilators that such persons are competent and fully trained, understanding what is and what is not permissible

- Determines if additional invigilators will be deployed in timed Art exams in addition to the subject teacher to ensure the supervision of candidates is maintained at all times

#### **Exams officer**

- Recruits additional invigilators where required to effectively cover all exam periods/series' throughout the academic year
- Collects information on new recruits to identify if they have invigilated previously and if any current maladministration/malpractice sanctions are applied to them
- Provides thorough training for new invigilators on the instructions for conducting exams and an update for the existing invigilation team so that they are aware of any changes.
- Ensures invigilators supervising access arrangement candidates understand their role (and the role of a facilitator who may be supporting a candidate) and the rules and regulations of the access arrangement(s)
- Ensures invigilators are briefed on the access arrangement candidates in their exam room and made aware of the access arrangement(s) awarded (ensuring that these candidates are identified on the seating plan) and confirms invigilators understand what is and what is not permissible
- Collects evaluation of training to inform future events

### **Entries: roles and responsibilities**

#### **Estimated entries**

##### **Exams officer**

- Requests estimated or early entry information, where this may be required by awarding bodies, from CTLs in a timely manner to ensure awarding body external deadlines for submission can be met

#### **Estimated entries collection and submission procedure**

EO asks Curriculum Team Leaders for information as and when necessary.

- Makes candidates aware of the JCQ Information for candidates – Privacy Notice at the start of a vocational qualification or when entries are being processed for a general qualification

##### **Curriculum Team Leaders**

- Provides information requested by the EO to the internal deadline
- Informs the EO immediately of any subsequent changes to information

#### **Final entries**

##### **Head of centre**

- Ensures appropriate controls are in place which allow accurate data to be submitted to the awarding bodies, e.g. entries.

##### **Exams officer**

- Requests final entry information from CTLs in a timely manner to ensure awarding body external deadlines for submission can be met
- Informs CTLs of subsequent deadlines for making changes to final entry information without charge
- Confirms with CTLs final entry information that has been submitted to awarding bodies
- Ensures as far as possible that entry processes minimise the risk of entries or registrations being missed reducing the potential for late or other penalty fees being charged by awarding bodies

- Observes each awarding body's terms and conditions for the entry and withdrawal of candidates for their examinations and assessments, and observes any regulatory requirements for the qualification

## **Final entries collection and submission procedure**

Final entries are printed off and given to CTLs to check, make amendments, sign and return to EO by the specified date.

### **Curriculum Team Leaders**

- Provides information requested by the EO to the internal deadline
- Informs the EO immediately, or at the very least prior to the deadlines, of any subsequent changes to final entry information, which includes
  - changes to candidate personal details
  - amendments to existing entries
  - withdrawals of existing entries
- Checks final entry submission information provided by the EO and confirms information is correct

## **Entry fees**

Entry fees are payable from the exam budget, all invoices are checked by the EO and signed off by SLT. Departments may be charged late or higher late fees incurred for avoidable entries made after the deadline. Resit fees are paid by students and only refunded if withdrawn by the published deadline.

## **Late entries**

### **Exams officer**

- Has clear entry procedures in place to minimise the risk of late entries
- Charges any late or other penalty fees to departmental budgets if applicable

### **Curriculum Team Leaders**

- Minimise the risk of late entries by
  - following procedures identified by the EO in relation to making final entries on time
  - meeting internal deadlines identified by the EO for making final entries

## **Re-sit entries**

CTLs need to notify EO of any potential resits. EO to notify deadline date of resit entries and of payments where applicable.

## **Private candidates**

The school generally does not accept private candidates but exceptions can be made at the Head of Centre's or Exam Officer's discretion, in particular for students who attended the school previously. The Exams Officer will ensure all relevant details of the private candidate have been obtained and whether the specification allows private candidates. Candidates will be charged for their exam entries with the addition of a £3 administration fee per examination. The fees must be paid before the awarding bodies deadlines, otherwise a late fee will be charged. Any access arrangement and reasonable adjustments required by a private candidate will be referred to the SENCo/Deputy SENCo.

## **Candidate statements of entry**

### **Exams officer**

- Provides candidates with statements of entry for checking

### **Teaching staff**

- Ensure candidates check statements of entry and notify EO of any errors or omissions

### **Candidates**

- Confirm entry information is correct or notify the EO of any discrepancies

## **Pre-exams: roles and responsibilities**

### **Access arrangements and reasonable adjustments**

#### **SENCo/Deputy SENCo**

- Ensures appropriate arrangements, adjustments and adaptations are in place to facilitate access to exams/assessments for candidates where they are disabled within the meaning of the Equality Act (unless a temporary emergency arrangement is required at the time of an exam)
- Ensures a candidate is involved in any decisions about arrangements, adjustments and /or adaptations that may be put in place for him/her
- Ensures exam information (JCQ information for candidates documents, individual exam timetable etc.) is adapted where this may be required for a disabled candidate to access it
- Allocates appropriately trained centre staff to facilitate access arrangements for candidates in exams and assessments (ensuring that the facilitator appointed meets JCQ requirements and fully understands the rule of the access arrangement)
- Where relevant, ensures the necessary and appropriate steps are undertaken to gather an appropriate picture of need and demonstrate normal way of working for a private candidate (including distance learners and home educated candidates) and that the candidate is assessed by the centre's appointed assessor

### **Briefing candidates**

#### **Exams officer**

- Issues individual exam timetable information to candidates and informs candidates of any designated contingency sessions awarding bodies may identify in the event of national or significant local disruption to exams
- Prior to exams issues relevant JCQ information for candidates documents
- Where relevant, issues relevant awarding body information to candidates
- Issues centre exam information to candidates including information on:
  - exam timetable clashes
  - arriving late for an exam
  - absence or illness during exams
  - what equipment is/is not provided by the centre
  - food and drink in exam rooms
  - unauthorised items in exam rooms
  - when and how results will be issued and the staff that will be available
  - the post-results services and how the centre deals with requests from candidates
  - when and how certificates will be issued

### **Access to scripts, reviews of results and appeals procedures**

Candidates are informed before they sit their exams of

- when, where and with whom they will have the opportunity to discuss their results
- the post-results services that will be made available to them by awarding bodies
- how they request a service
- the deadlines that have to be met
- the fees that will be charged
- how they are informed of the outcome of their request
- the internal appeals procedure to manage disputes when a candidate disagrees with a centre decision not to support a review of results or an appeal

## **Dispatch of exam scripts**

### **Exams officer**

- Identifies and confirms arrangements for the dispatch of candidate exam scripts with the DfE 'yellow label service' or the awarding body where qualifications sit outside the scope of the service

## **Estimated grades**

### **Curriculum Team Leaders**

- Ensures teaching staff provide estimated grade information to the EO by the internal deadline (where this still may be required by the awarding body)

### **Exams officer**

- Submits estimated grade information to awarding bodies to meet the external deadline (where this may still be required by the awarding body)
- Keeps a record to track what has been sent

## **Internal assessment and endorsements**

### **Head of centre**

- Ensures procedures are in place for candidates to appeal internal assessment decisions and make requests for reviews of marking

### **SENCo/Deputy SENCo**

- Liaises with teaching staff to implement appropriate access arrangements for candidates undertaking internal assessments and practical endorsements

### **Teaching staff**

- Support the SENCo/Deputy SENCo in implementing appropriate access arrangements for candidates undertaking internal assessments and practical endorsements
- Assess and authenticate candidates' work
- Assess endorsed components
- Ensure candidates are informed of centre assessed marks prior to marks being submitted to awarding bodies

### **Curriculum Team Leaders**

- Ensure teaching staff assess and authenticate candidates' work to the awarding body requirements
- Ensure teaching staff assess endorsed components according to awarding body requirements
- Ensure teaching staff provide marks for internally assessed components and grades for endorsements of qualifications to the EO to the internal deadline
- Ensures teaching staff provide required samples of work for moderation and sample recordings for monitoring to the EO to the internal deadline

### **Exams officer**

- Submits marks, endorsement grades and samples to awarding bodies/moderators/monitors to meet the external deadline
- Keeps a record to track what has been sent
- Logs moderated samples returned to the centre

- Ensures teaching staff are aware of the requirements in terms of retention and subsequent disposal of candidates' work
- 

### **Candidates**

- Authenticate their work as required by the awarding body

## **Invigilation**

### **Exams officer**

- Trains new invigilators on appointment and updates experienced invigilators and provides them with a copy of the annually updated ICE document and informs them of any changes to regulations or centre-specific processes.
- Deploys invigilators effectively to exam rooms throughout an exam series (including the provision of a roving invigilator where a candidate and invigilator [acting as a practical assistant, reader or scribe] are accommodated on a 1:1 basis to enter the room at regular intervals in order to observe the conducting of the exam, ensuring all relevant rules are being adhered to and supporting the practical assistant/reader and/or scribe in maintaining the integrity of the exam)
- Allocates invigilators to exam rooms (or where supervising candidates due to a timetable clash) according to the required ratios
- Liaises with the SENCo/Deputy SENCo regarding the facilitation and invigilation of access arrangement candidates

### **SEnCo/Deputy SEnCo**

- Liaises with the EO regarding facilitation and invigilation of access arrangement candidates

### **Invigilators**

- Provide information as requested on their availability to invigilate throughout an exam series

## **JCQ inspection visit**

### **Exams officer or Senior leader**

- Will accompany the Inspector throughout a visit

### **SEnCo/Deputy SEnCo or relevant Senior leader (in the absence of the SENCo/Deputy SENCo)**

- Will meet with the inspector when requested to provide documentary evidence regarding access arrangement candidates and address any questions, the inspector may raise
- Ensures that information is readily available for inspection at the venue where the candidate is taking the exam(s)

## **Seating and identifying candidates in exam rooms**

### **Exams officer**

- Ensures a procedure is in place to verify candidate identity including private candidates

## Candidate Identification Procedure

At the start of each examination a senior member of staff, Key Stage Leader or Curriculum Team Leader will help identify candidates and make sure they are sat at the correct desk. Each desk has a name card. In addition there will be a booklet of a copy of all candidates' names and photographs in the invigilators' box. Any private/external or a transferred candidate who is not known to the school or college must show photographic documentary evidence to prove that he/she is the same person who entered/registered for the examination/assessment, e.g. passport or photographic driving licence. EO to carry out these checks. Where it is impossible to identify a candidate due to the wearing of religious clothing, such as a veil, the candidate should be approached by a member of staff of the same gender and taken to a private room where they should be politely asked to remove the religious clothing for identification purposes. Centres must inform candidates in advance of this procedure and well before their first examination.

Invigilators must be informed of those candidates with access arrangements and which particular arrangement has been awarded.

- Ensures invigilators are aware of the procedure
- Provides seating plans for exam rooms according to JCQ and awarding body requirements (and ensures candidates with access arrangements are identified on the seating plan and invigilators are aware of the access arrangement awarded)

### Invigilators

- Follow the procedure for verifying candidate identity provided by the EO
- Seat candidates in exam rooms as instructed by the EO/on the seating plan

## Security of exam materials

### Exams officer

- Confirms appropriate arrangements are in place to ensure that confidential materials are only handed over to those authorised by the head of centre
- Ensures access to the secure room is restricted and staff named and approved by the head of centre are accompanied by a keyholder at all times. There must be between two and six keyholders only (the exams officer must be one of the keyholders), each keyholder must fully understand their responsibilities as a key holder to the secure storage facility
- Has a process in place to demonstrate the receipt, secure movement and secure storage of confidential exam materials within the centre
- Ensures a log is kept at the initial point of delivery recording confidential materials received and signed for by authorised staff within the centre and that appropriate arrangements are in place for confidential materials to be immediately transferred to the secure storage facility until they can be removed from the dispatch packaging and checked in the secure room before being returned to the secure storage facility in timetable order
- Carefully checks question paper packets when they are removed from the dispatch packing and keeps a log of the check
- Ensures the secure storage facility contains only current and live confidential material (ensuring that past examination question papers, internal tests and mock examinations are not kept in the centre's secure storage facility)
- Ensures that examination stationery, e.g. answer booklets and formula booklets are stored in the secure room (attempting to store this material in the secure storage facility, when sufficient space allows)
- Ensures the integrity and security of any electronic question paper is maintained during the downloading, printing and collating process (ensuring printing is carried out in a secure environment to prevent unauthorised personnel accessing live assessment materials and ensuring only authorised members of centre staff have access to electronic question papers). At least two and no more than six members of centre staff should be authorised to handle secure

electronic materials, one of whom must be the exams officer. Other members of centre staff may assist with printing and collation provided they are under supervision.

#### **Reception staff**

- Follow the process to log confidential materials delivered to/received by the centre to the point materials are issued to authorised staff for transferral the secure storage facility

#### **Teaching staff**

- Adhere to the process to record the secure movement of confidential materials taken from or returned to secure storage throughout the time the material is confidential

### **Timetabling and rooming**

#### **Exams officer**

- Produces a master centre exam timetable for each exam series
- Identifies and resolves candidate exam timetable clashes according to the regulations (only applying overnight supervision arrangements as a last resort, once all other options have been exhausted and according to the centre's policy).

### **Overnight supervision arrangements policy**

Overnight supervision arrangements should only be applied as a last resort and once all other options have been fully explored and discussed with the candidate, their parents and the Head of Centre. If overnight supervision does take place then JCQ regulations must be followed and the candidate, their parents, persons supervising must be made aware of these regulations. Appropriate arrangements must be put in place to ensure that the candidate does not have advance warning of the content of the examination which has been deferred to the following morning. This means the candidate must not meet or communicate with anyone who may have knowledge of the content of that examination. Also the candidate must not use any form of electronic communication/storage device e.g. telephone (mobile or landline), email, internet, social media. The candidate should also not have access to any television or radio as they could report key reports of the day's examinations.

The JCQ Overnight Supervision and Overnight Supervision Declaration forms must be completed before the overnight supervision is to commence. The JCQ Overnight Supervision form is completed online using the Centre Admin Portal (CAP). The JCQ Overnight Supervision Declaration form is downloaded from the Centre Admin Portal (CAP) for signing by the candidate, the supervisor and the head of centre.

- Identifies exam rooms and specialist equipment requirements
- Allocates invigilators to exam rooms (or where supervising candidates due to an exam timetable clash) according to required ratios
- Liaises with site staff to ensure exam rooms are set up according to JCQ and awarding body requirements
- Liaises with the SENCo/Deputy SENCo regarding rooming of access arrangement candidates

#### **SEnCo/Deputy SEnCo**

- Liaises with the EO regarding rooming of access arrangement candidates
- Liaises with other relevant centre staff to ensure appropriate arrangements, adjustments and adaptations are in place to facilitate access for disabled candidates to exams

#### **Site staff**

- Liaise with the EO to ensure exam rooms are set up according to JCQ and awarding body requirements

## Alternative site arrangements

### Exams officer

- Ensures question papers will only be taken to an alternative site where the published criteria for an alternative site arrangement has been met
- Will inform the JCQ Centre Inspection Service by submitting a JCQ *Alternative Site arrangement* notification through CAP (or through the awarding body where a qualification may sit outside the scope of CAP) of any alternative sites that will be used to conduct timetabled examination components of the qualifications listed in the JCQ regulations

## Centre consortium arrangements

### Exams officer

- Processes applications for *Centre Consortium arrangements* through CAP to the awarding body deadline (or through the awarding body where a qualification may sit outside the scope of CAP)

### Curriculum Team Leaders

- Informs the EO of any joint teaching arrangements in place and where the centre is acting as the consortium co-ordinator

## Transferred candidate arrangements

### Exams officer

- Liaises with the host or entering centre, as required
- Processes requests for *Transferred Candidate arrangements* through CAP to the awarding body deadline (or through the awarding body where a qualification may sit outside the scope of CAP)
- Where relevant (for an internal candidate) informs the candidate of the arrangements that have been made for their transferred candidate arrangements

## Internal exams

### Exams officer

- Prepares for the conduct of internal exams under external conditions
- Provides a centre exam timetable of subjects and rooms
- Provides seating plans for exam rooms
- Requests internal exam papers from teaching staff
- Arranges invigilation

### SENCo/Deputy SENCo

- Liaises with teaching staff to make appropriate arrangements for access arrangement candidates

### Teaching staff

- Provide exam papers and materials to the EO
- Support the SENCo/Deputy SENCo in making appropriate arrangements for access arrangement candidates

## Exam time: roles and responsibilities

### Access arrangements

#### Exams officer

- Provides cover sheets for access arrangement candidates' scripts where required for particular arrangements
- Has a process in place to deal with emergency/temporary access arrangements as they arise at the time of exams

- Applies for approval through AAO where required or through the awarding body where qualifications sit outside the scope of AAO

## **Candidate absence**

### **Candidate absence policy**

Before the exam any known absences are reported to the EO by centre staff as soon as they are aware of the absence. EO to ask attendance officer or Sixth Form administrator or reception to make every effort to contact parents/carer of the missing candidate to establish whether candidate can make the examination before it is too late. Once the examination has started the attendance officer checks all exam rooms to pick up on any absences and makes contact with home.

If there is a medical reason for the absence then the school will require medical evidence or the completion of Form 14 (especially if special consideration is to be applied for).

Parents with students with persistent unauthorised absences may be sent a bill for missed examinations. Students will have been informed of the charging policy on their statements of exam entries.

### **Invigilators**

- Are informed of the policy/process for dealing with absent candidates through training
- Ensure that confirmed absent candidates are clearly marked as such on the attendance register and seating plan

### **Candidates**

- Are re-charged relevant entry fees for unauthorised absence from exams

### **Candidate behaviour**

See *Irregularities* below.

### **Candidate belongings**

See *Unauthorised items* below.

## **Candidate late arrival**

### **Exams officer**

- Ensures that candidates who arrive very late for an exam are reported to the awarding body through CAP to timescale
- Warns candidates that their script may not be accepted by the awarding body

### **Invigilators**

- Are informed of the policy/process for dealing with late/very late arrival candidates through training
- Ensure that relevant information is recorded on the exam room incident log

### **Candidate late arrival policy**

A candidate who arrives after the start of the examination may be allowed to enter the examination room and sit the examination and be given full amount of time. Latecomers are accompanied to the examination hall by the EO or SLT member in order to minimise disruption. The latecomer will be asked for a reason for their lateness and advised strongly to come in on time. Persistent lateness will be reported to SLT who will decide on a course of action.

Candidates who arrive one hour after the published time will be warned that their scripts may not be accepted by the awarding body. Awarding body to be informed of very late arrivals.

## Conducting exams

### Head of centre

- Ensures venues used for conducting exams meet the requirements of JCQ and awarding bodies

### Exams officer

- Ensures exams are conducted according to JCQ and awarding body instructions
- Uses an *exam day checklist* to ensure each exam session is fully prepared for, unplanned events can be dealt with and associated follow-up is completed

## Dispatch of exam scripts

### Exams officer

- Dispatches scripts as instructed by JCQ and awarding bodies
- Keeps appropriate records to track dispatch

## Exam papers and materials

### Exams officer

- Organises exam question papers and associated confidential resources in date order in the secure storage facility
- Attaches erratum notices received to relevant sealed exam question paper packets
- Collates attendance registers and examiner details in date order
- Regularly checks mail or email inbox for updates from awarding bodies
- In order to avoid potential breaches of security, ensures prior to question paper packets being opened that two members of centre staff check the day, date, time, subject, unit/component and tier of entry if appropriate, immediately before a question paper packet is opened
- Ensures this additional/second check (which takes place in the secure room if a question paper packet has to be split or in the designated exam room if not) is recorded.
- Where allowed by the awarding body, only releases exam papers and materials to teaching departments for teaching and learning purposes after the published finishing time of the exam, or until any timetable clash candidates have completed the exam

## Exam rooms

### Head of centre

- Ensures that on the day of the exam, internal tests, mock exams, revision or coaching sessions for the exam candidates will not be held in the designated exam room(s)
- Ensures that when a room is designated as an exam room, it is not used for any purpose other than conducting external exams
- Ensures only authorised centre staff (who have not taught the subject being examined) are present in exam rooms to perform permitted tasks
- Ensures the centre's policy relating to food and drink that may be allowed in exam rooms is clearly communicated to candidates
- Ensures the centre's policy on candidates leaving the exam room temporarily is clearly communicated to candidates

### Food and drink in exam rooms

The food and drink policy is included in Appendix 6 at the end of this document

## **Policy on candidates leaving the exam room temporarily**

If a candidate needs to leave the exam room temporarily, they must be accompanied by a member of centre staff. This must not be the candidate's subject teacher or a subject expert for the examination in question. If an invigilator accompanies the student they must ensure that the ratio of invigilators to candidates in the exam room does not fall below JCQ requirements. If that is the case the invigilator will summon assistance from the EO. Invigilators will make a note of the departure and return time and who they went with. If the candidate returns to the room and has been under exam conditions during their temporary absence they will be allowed the full amount of their remaining time where possible, with exception of short toilet breaks which will not be compensated for time lost.

### **Exams officer**

- Ensures exam rooms are set up and conducted as required in the regulations
- Provides invigilators with appropriate resources to effectively conduct exams
- Briefs invigilators on exams to be conducted on a session by session basis (including the arrangements in place for any transferred candidates and access arrangement candidates )
- Ensures sole invigilators have an appropriate means of summoning assistance (if this is a mobile phone, instructs the invigilator that this must be on silent mode)
- Ensures invigilators understand that they must be vigilant and remain aware of incidents or emerging situations, looking out for malpractice or candidates who may be in distress recording any incidents or issues on the exam room incident log
- Ensures invigilators understand how to deal with candidates who may need to leave the exam room temporarily and how this should be recorded on the exam incident log
- Provides authorised exam materials which candidates are not expected to provide themselves
- Ensures invigilators and candidates are aware of the emergency evacuation procedure
- Ensures invigilators are aware of arrangements in place for a candidate with a disability who may need assistance if an exam room is evacuated

### **Senior leaders**

- Ensure a documented emergency evacuation procedure for exam rooms is in place
- Ensure arrangements are in place for a candidate with a disability who may need assistance if an exam room is evacuated

### **Emergency evacuation policy (Exams)**

The emergency evacuation policy is included in Appendix 7 at the end of this document.

### **Site staff**

- Ensure exam rooms are available and set up as requested by the EO
- Ensure grounds or centre maintenance work does not disturb exam candidates in exam rooms
- Ensure fire alarm testing does not take place during exam sessions

### **Invigilators**

- Conduct exams in every exam room according to JCQ Instructions for conducting examinations and/or awarding body requirements and as instructed in training/update events and briefing sessions

### **Candidates**

- Are required to follow the instructions given to them in exam rooms by authorised centre staff and invigilators.
- Are required to remain in the exam room for the full duration of the exam

## Irregularities

### Head of centre

- Ensures (as required by an awarding body) any cases of alleged, suspected or actual incidents of malpractice or maladministration before, during or after examinations/assessments (by centre staff, candidates, invigilators) are investigated and reported to the awarding body, by completing the appropriate documentation

## Managing behaviour in exam rooms procedure

In external examinations any student causing disruption will be warned that they must cease the disruptive behaviour or they will be removed from the exam room. If the behaviour continues the candidate must be removed from the exams hall and accompanied to a member of SLT. If candidate is not complying seek assistance from EO. In internal examinations any disruptive behaviour will be reported to SLT who will decide on an appropriate course of action.

Any suspected cases of malpractice should be reported immediately to the EO. EO will contact SLT immediately.

Candidate should be warned that their behaviour will be reported to the awarding body who may decide to penalise them, which could include disqualification.

### Senior leaders

- Ensure support is provided for the EO and invigilators when dealing with disruptive candidates in exam rooms
- Ensure that internal disciplinary procedures relating to candidate behaviour are instigated, when appropriate

### Exams officer

- Provides an exam room incident log in all exam rooms for recording any incidents or irregularities
- Actions any required follow-up and reports to awarding bodies as soon as practically possible after the exam has taken place

### Invigilators

- Record any incidents or irregularities on the exam room incident log (for example, late/very late arrival, candidate or centre staff suspected malpractice, candidate illness, disruption or disturbance in the exam room, emergency evacuation)

## Special consideration

### Senior leaders

- Provide signed evidence to support eligible applications for special consideration

### Exams officer

- Processes eligible applications for special consideration to awarding bodies
- Gathers evidence which may need to be provided by other staff in centre or candidates
- Submits requests to awarding bodies to the external deadline

### Special consideration policy

The special consideration policy is included as an appendix at the end of this document.

### Candidates

- Provide appropriate evidence to support special consideration requests, where required

## **Unauthorised items**

Where there may be concerns that students have mobile phones, watches etc in their possession, the school may scan students entering the examination room with a metal detector.

### **Arrangements for unauthorised items taken into the exam room**

In the examination room candidates must not have access to items other than those stated in the instructions on the question paper, the stationery list or the specification for that subject. Any unauthorised items that have been taken into the examination room must be placed out of reach of the candidates (and not under their desks) before the examination starts. This would normally be at the front of the examination room or a similar arrangement that enables the invigilator to control access to the items. The invigilator, prior to the examination starting, must ensure that candidates do not have in their possession any mobile phones or watches or any other unauthorised items. Any phones or watches that are handed in before the exam starts must be put in a numbered zipped bag. The numbered ticket must be given to the candidate. These items must then be taken to the TALS office where they are to be kept securely and returned to their owner upon presentation of the numbered ticket. If a student loses their ticket the EO must be informed.

### **Invigilators**

- Are informed of the arrangements through training

## **Internal exams**

### **Exams officer**

- Briefs invigilators on conducting internal exams
- Returns candidate scripts to teaching staff for marking

### **Invigilators**

- Conduct internal exams as briefed by the EO

## Results and post-results: roles and responsibilities

### Internal assessment

#### Curriculum Team Leaders

- Ensures teaching staff keep candidates' work, whether part of the moderation sample or not, secure and for the required period stated by JCQ and awarding bodies
- Ensures work is returned to candidates or disposed of according to the requirements

### Managing results day(s)

#### Senior leaders

- Identify centre staff who will be involved in the main summer results day(s) and their role
- Ensures senior members of staff are accessible to candidates after the publication of results so that results may be discussed and decisions made on the submission of any requests for post-results services and ensures candidates are informed of the periods during which centre staff will be available so that they may plan accordingly

#### Exams officer

- Works with senior leaders to ensure procedures for managing the main summer results day(s) (a results day programme) are in place

#### Results day programme

Students are informed of the date and time results can be collected. If students are unable to attend in person they may leave a stamped self-addressed with the EO. Results will not be given out by telephone, by email or to a third party without previous written consent given to the EO. Students will be informed how to access to scripts and/or request a remark.

#### Site staff

- Ensure the centre is open and accessible to centre staff and candidates, as required for the collection of results

### Accessing results

#### Head of centre

- Ensures results are kept entirely confidential and restricted to key members of staff until the official dates and times of release of results to candidates
- Understands that it is not permitted to withhold provisional results from candidates under any circumstances

#### Exams officer

- Informs candidates in advance of when and how results will be released to them for each exam series
- Accesses results from awarding bodies under restricted release of results, where this is provided by the awarding body
- Resolves any missing or incomplete results with awarding bodies
- Issues statements of results to candidates on issue of results date
- Provides summaries of results for relevant centre staff on issue of results date

## Post-results services

### Head of centre

- Ensures an internal appeals procedure is available where candidates disagree with any centre decision not to support a clerical re-check, a review of marking, a review of moderation or an appeal
- Ensures that senior members of centre staff are available immediately after the publication of results
- Understands that if the centre has concerns about one of its component/subject cohorts, then requests for reviews of marking should be submitted for all candidates believed to be affected (candidate consent is required as marks and subject grades may be lowered, confirmed or raised).

### Exams officer

- Provides information to all candidates and staff on the services provided by awarding bodies and the fees charged (see also above *Briefing candidates* and *Access to scripts, enquiries about results and appeals procedures*)
- Publishes internal deadlines for requesting the services to ensure the external deadlines can be effectively met
- Provides a process to record requests for services to collect candidate informed consent (after the publication of results) and fees where relevant
- Submits requests to awarding bodies to meet the external deadline for the particular service
- Tracks requests to conclusion and informs candidates and relevant centre staff of outcomes
- Updates centre results information, where applicable

### Teaching staff

- Meet internal deadlines to request the services and gain relevant candidate informed consent
- Identify the budget to which fees should be charged

### Candidates

- Meet internal deadlines to request the services
- Provide informed consent and fees, where relevant

## Analysis of results

### SLT, Support Operations Manager, Exams Officer

Provides analysis of results to appropriate centre staff

- Provides results information to external organisations where required
- Undertakes the secondary school and college (key stage 4/16-18) performance tables June and September checking exercise

## Certificates

Certificates are provided to centres by awarding bodies after results have been confirmed.

### Issue of certificates procedure

Students are notified in various letters about when and how to collect certificates. Certificates should be collected in person and not by a third party unless written authorisation is given to the EO beforehand. This information is also on the school's website.

### Candidates

- May arrange for certificates to be collected on their behalf by providing the EO with written or email permission/authorisation; authorised persons must provide ID evidence on collection of certificates

### **Retention of certificates policy**

The school retains any uncollected examination certificates for a minimum of six years after the date of issue. After this time they are shredded by an external company.

## **Exams review: roles and responsibilities**

### **Exams officer**

- Provides SLT with an overview of the exam year, highlighting what went well and what could be developed/improved in terms of exams management and administrative processes within the stages of the exam cycle
- When necessary collects and evaluates feedback from staff, candidates and invigilators to inform an exams review

### **Senior leaders**

- Work with the EO to produce a plan to action any required improvements identified in the review

## **Retention of records: roles and responsibilities**

### **Exams officer**

- Keeps records as required by JCQ and awarding bodies for the required period
- Keeps records as required by the centre's records management policy
- Provides an exams archiving policy that identifies information held, retention period and method of disposal

### **Exams archiving policy**

The exams archiving policy is included in Appendix 9 at the end of this document.

### **BTEC registration and certification policy**

The BTEC registration and certification policy is included in Appendix 11 at the end of this document.

## Appendices

1	Exams Contingency Plan	<i>pg 33</i>
2	Internal Appeals Procedure	<i>pg 46</i>
3	Complaints and Appeals Procedure	<i>pg 58</i>
4	Word Processor Policy	<i>pg 64</i>
5	Non Examination Assessment Policy	<i>pg 70</i>
6	Food and Drink Policy	<i>pg 90</i>
7	Emergency Evacuation Policy	<i>pg 92</i>
8	Special Consideration Policy	<i>pg 96</i>
9	Exams Archiving Policy	<i>pg 103</i>
10	BTEC Registration and Certification Policy	<i>pg 109</i>
11	Escalation Process	<i>pg 110</i>
12	Lockdown Policy	<i>pg 114</i>
13	Whistleblowing Policy	<i>pg 119</i>