

This policy was reviewed in: **October 2023**
 This policy is due to be reviewed in: **October 2024**
 Appendix 1 added: **April 2024**

Key staff involved in the Examinations Policy

Role	Name(s)
Head of Centre	Helen Ness-Gifford, Headmistress
Examinations Officer Line Manager (Senior Leader)	Caroline Derbyshire, Deputy Head Academic
Examinations Officer	Shula Hodge
Head of Individual Learning	Lisa Britnell

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The purpose of the Examination Policy

The Centre is committed to ensuring that the examinations management and administration process is run effectively and efficiently and in compliance with the published JCQ regulations and awarding body requirements.

This examination policy will ensure that:

- all aspects of the Centre's examination process are documented, supporting the examinations contingency plan, and other relevant examinations-related policies, procedures and plans are signposted to
- the workforce is well informed and supported
- all Centre staff involved in the examinations process clearly understand their roles and responsibilities
- all examinations 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 Examinations 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 examinations and assessments are conducted to current JCQ (and awarding body) regulations, instructions and guidance.

This policy will be communicated to all relevant Centre staff.

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.

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.

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 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 JCQ regulations and awarding body requirements. Head of Centre must ensure that the Senior Leadership Team and the Examination Officer 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.

Head of Centre

- Understands the contents, comply with, refer 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 examinations and assessments
- and/or practical 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 the same penalties as listed in the previous bullet point
- 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 examination 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 and the Head of Individual Learning 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 lead teacher who will determine appropriate arrangements for candidates with learning difficulties and disabilities. This will be the Head of Individual Learning.
- Ensures that the Head of Individual Learning has sufficient time to both manage the access arrangements process within the Centre and familiarise themselves 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

- Has in place a member of the Senior Leadership Team who will provide support and guidance and supervision to the Examinations Officer and ensure that the integrity and security of examinations and assessments is maintained throughout an examination series

- Can confirm to an awarding body the external governance arrangements so that the awarding body has confidence in the integrity of the Centre activities such as the delivery of qualifications and the conducting of examinations and assessments
- Ensures Centre staff undertake key tasks within the examinations process and meet internal deadlines set by the Examinations Officer
- Makes sure that a teacher, 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 Examinations Officer must be a keyholder) 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 examination 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 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
- 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/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, are reported to the awarding body immediately
- Ensures risks to the exam process are assessed and appropriate risk management processes/contingency plans are in place (that allow the Senior Leadership Team to act immediately in the event of an emergency or staff absence)
- Ensures required internal appeals procedures are in place and drawn to the attention of candidates and (where relevant) their parents/carers
- 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
- Ensures a complaints and appeals procedure 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
- Ensures the Centre has a child protection/safeguarding policy in place, including Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) clearance, which satisfies current legislative requirements
- Ensures the Centre has a data protection policy in place that complies with General Data Protection Regulation and Data Protection Act 2018 regulations
- Ensures the Centre has documented processes in place relating to access arrangements and reasonable adjustments

Conflicts of interest

- 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 (taking 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 close relationship 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 examinations office staff has a close relationship to a candidate being entered for examinations and assessments at the Centre or at another Centre
 - a member of Centre staff is taking a qualification at the Centre which does not include internally assessed components/units (taking 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 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

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 him/herself with a photo ID card and **must** be accompanied throughout his/her tour of the premises, including inspection of the Centre's secure storage facility

Examinations 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 each 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) 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 six 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 Head of Individual Learning to ensure invigilators supervising access arrangement candidates and those acting as a 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 (where required) of any conflict of interest declared by members of Centre 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

- 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](#)
 - Ensure teaching staff undertake key tasks, as detailed in this policy, within the examinations process (exam cycle) and meet internal deadlines set by the Examinations Officer and Head of Individual Learning
 - Ensure teaching staff keep themselves updated with awarding body subject and teacher-specific information to confirm effective delivery of qualifications
 - Ensure teaching staff attend relevant awarding body training and update events

Head of Individual Learning

- 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

Teaching staff

- Undertake key tasks, as detailed in this policy, within the examinations process and meet internal deadlines set by the Examinations Officer and Head of Individual Learning
- 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 (on the current regulations), annual 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 Examinations Officer 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 Examinations Officer in relevant matters relating to exam rooms and resources

Candidates

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

The Examination Cycle

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

- planning
- entries
- pre-examinations
- 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, SM, NEA \(and the Instructions for conducting coursework\) and SC](#)

Examinations Officer

- Signposts relevant Centre staff to JCQ publications and awarding body documentation relating to the examinations process that have 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

Examinations 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
- Researches awarding body guidance to identify administrative processes, key tasks, key dates and deadlines for all relevant qualifications
- Produces an annual examinations 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 examinations to enable preparation for and conduct of (insert the titles these internal examinations are referred to in the Centre)
- Gathers signed **Personal data consent** forms from candidates where required and ensures Data protection confirmations are complete.
- 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 a file for each candidate for JCQ inspection purposes containing all the required documentation (if documentation is stored electronically, an e-folder must be created for each individual candidate. The candidate's e-folder must hold each of the required documents for inspection)

Senior Leaders

- Respond (or ensure teaching staff respond) to requests from the Examinations Officer on information gathering
- Meet the internal deadline for the return of information
- Inform the **EXAMINATIONS OFFICER** of any changes to information in a timely manner minimising the risk of late or other penalty fees being incurred by an awarding body
- Note the internal deadlines in the annual examinations 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 the JCQ publication [Access Arrangements and Reasonable Adjustments](#)
- Ensures the Head of Individual Learning is fully supported in effectively implementing access arrangements and reasonable adjustments once approved

Head of Individual Learning

- 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
- Keeps a file for each candidate for JCQ inspection purposes containing all the required documentation (if documentation is stored electronically, an e-folder must be created for each individual candidate. The candidate's e-folder must hold each of the required documents for inspection)
- Employs good practice in relation to the Equality Act 2010
- Liaises with the Examinations Officer regarding exam time arrangements for access arrangement candidates

- Ensures staff appointed to facilitate access arrangements for candidates are appropriately 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 the Examinations Officer to ensure invigilators and those acting as a facilitator fully understand the respective role and what is and what is not permissible in the exam room
- Liaises with the relevant member of the Senior Leadership Team on the Centre's policy on the use of word processors in examinations
- Ensures criteria for candidates granted **separate invigilation within the Centre** is clear, meets JCQ regulations and best meets the needs of individual candidates and remaining candidates in main exam rooms

Senior Leaders / Teaching staff

- Support the Head of Individual Learning 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.
- 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)
- 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
- Ensure teaching staff delivering AQA Applied General qualifications, OCR Cambridge Nationals, Entry Level Certificate or Project qualifications (and CCEA GCE unitised AS and A Level qualifications follow JCQ [Instructions for conducting coursework](#) and the specification provided by the awarding body
- Ensure teaching staff delivering GCE and 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, ensure teaching staff follow appropriate instructions issued by the awarding body
- Ensure 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

Examinations 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 candidate's documents](#) that are annually updated

Invigilation

Head of Centre

- Ensures relevant support is provided to the Examinations Officer 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 (and not taking on its own an assurance from a recruitment agency, that this is the case)
- Determines if additional invigilators will be deployed in timed Art examinations in addition to the subject teacher to ensure the supervision of candidates is maintained at all times

Examinations 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 training for new invigilators on the current instructions for conducting examinations and an annual update for the existing invigilation team so that they are aware of any changes in a new academic year before they are allocated to invigilate an exam
- 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 examination room and made aware of the access arrangement(s) awarded (ensuring 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

Examinations Officer

- Requests estimated or early entry information, where this may be required by awarding bodies, from Heads of Subject in a timely manner to ensure awarding body external deadlines for submission can be met
- Makes candidates aware of the JCQ **Information for candidates – Privacy Notice** at the start of a course leading to a vocational qualification or when entries are submitted to awarding bodies for processing for general qualifications

Senior Leaders

- Provide entry information requested by the Examinations Officer to the internal deadline
- Inform the Examinations Officer immediately of any subsequent changes to entry information

Final entries

Head of Centre

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

Examinations Officer

- Requests final entry information from Heads of Subject in a timely manner to ensure awarding body external deadlines for submission can be met
- Informs Heads of Subject of subsequent deadlines for making changes to final entry information without charge
- Confirms with Heads of Subject 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

Senior Leaders

- Provide information requested by the Examinations Officer to the internal deadline
- Inform the Examinations Officer 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
- Check final entry submission information provided by the Examinations Officer and confirms information is correct

Entry fees

Entry fees/late fees/amendment fees or re-sit fees are disbursed to candidates.

Late entries

Examinations Officer

- Has clear entry procedures in place to minimise the risk of late entries
- Charges any late or other penalty fees to departmental budgets or candidates where appropriate.

Senior Leaders

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

Private candidates

The Centre does not accept private candidates

Candidate statements of entry

Examinations Officer

- Provides candidates with statements of entry for checking

Teaching staff

- Ensure candidates check statements of entry and return any relevant confirmation required to the Examinations Officer

Candidates

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

Pre-examinations: roles and responsibilities

Access arrangements and reasonable adjustments

Head of Individual Learning

- Ensures appropriate arrangements, adjustments and adaptations are in place to facilitate access to examinations/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 examination)
- Ensures a candidate is involved in any decisions about arrangements, adjustments and /or adaptations that may be put in place for him/her
- Ensures examination information (JCQ information for candidate's documents, individual examination 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 examinations 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

Examinations Officer

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

Examinations Officer

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

Estimated grades

Senior Leaders

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

Examinations 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

Head of Individual Learning

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

Teaching staff

- Support the Head of Individual Learning 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

Senior 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 Examinations Officer to the internal deadline
- Ensure teaching staff provide required samples of work for moderation and sample recordings for monitoring to the Examinations Officer to the internal deadline

Examinations 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

Examinations Officer

- Trains new invigilators on appointment and updates experienced invigilators on the current regulations any updates experienced invigilators on regulation changes and any changes to Centre specific processes on an annual basis.
- Deploys invigilators effectively to examination rooms throughout an examination 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 examination, ensure all relevant rules are being adhered to and to support the practical assistant/reader and/or scribe in maintaining the integrity of the examination)
- Allocates invigilators to examination rooms (or where supervising candidates due to a timetable clash) according to the required ratios
- Liaises with the Head of Individual Learning regarding the facilitation and invigilation of access arrangement candidates

Head of Individual Learning

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

Invigilators

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

JCQ Centre Inspections

Examinations Officer or Senior leader

- Will accompany the Inspector throughout a visit

Head of Individual Learning or relevant Senior Leader (in the absence of the Head of Individual Learning)

- 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 examination(s)

Seating and identifying candidates in examination rooms

Examinations Officer

- Ensures a procedure is in place to verify the identity of all candidates

Candidate Identification Procedure

Candidate photocards are printed from the MIS and available to all invigilators in each examination room. Each examination desk has a personalised name and candidate number. Senior members of staff to be on hand where necessary.

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

Invigilators

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

Security of examination materials

Examination 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 approved by the Head of Centre are accompanied by a keyholder at all times. There must be between two and six keyholders only, each of whom 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 examination 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 an area that can be

controlled 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 Examination Officer. Other members of Centre staff may assist with printing and collation provided they are under supervision. For AQA examinations, one member of Centre staff can be authorised to handle secure electronic material.

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 transferal to 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

Examinations Officer

- Produces a master Centre examination timetable for each examination series
- Identifies and resolves candidate examination 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)
- Identifies examination rooms and specialist equipment requirements
- Allocates invigilators to examination rooms (or where supervising candidates due to an examination timetable clash) according to required ratios
- Liaises with site staff to ensure examination rooms are set up according to JCQ and awarding body requirements
- Liaises with the Head of Individual Learning regarding rooming of access arrangement candidates

Head of Individual Learning

- Liaises with the Examinations Officer 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 examinations

Site staff

- Liaise with the Examinations Officer to ensure examination rooms are set up according to JCQ and awarding body requirements

Alternative site arrangements

Examinations Officer

- (Where/if applicable to the Centre) 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 to timescale by submitting a JCQ Alternative Site arrangement notification using 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

Transferred candidate arrangements

Examinations Officer

- (Where/if applicable to the Centre) liaises with the host or entering Centre, as required
- Processes requests for Transferred Candidate arrangements using 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 arrangement

Internal examinations

Examinations Officer

- Prepares for the conduct of internal examinations under external conditions (where applicable to the Centre)
- Provides a Centre examination timetable of subjects and rooms
- Provides seating plans for examination rooms
- Requests internal examination papers from teaching staff

Head of Individual Learning

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

Teaching staff

- Provide examination papers and materials to the Examinations Officer
- Support the Head of Individual Learning in making appropriate arrangements for access arrangement candidates

Examination time: roles and responsibilities

Access arrangements

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

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 examinations

Candidate belongings

See Unauthorised items below.

Candidate late arrival

Examinations Officer

- Ensures that candidates who arrive very late for an examination are reported to the awarding body by submitting a report on candidate admitted very late to examination room using CAP to timescale
- Warns candidates that their script may not be accepted by the awarding body

Conducting examinations

Head of Centre

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

Examinations Officer

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

Dispatch of examination scripts

Examinations Officer

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

Examination papers and materials

Examinations Officer

- Organises examination question papers and associated confidential resources in date order in the secure storage facility
- Attaches erratum notices received to relevant sealed 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 care is taken to ensure the correct question paper packets are opened by ensuring a member of Centre staff, additional to the person removing the papers from secure storage, e.g. an invigilator, checks 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 is recorded
- Where allowed by the awarding body, only releases examination papers and materials to teaching departments for teaching and learning purposes after the published finishing time of the examination, or until any timetable clash candidates have completed the examination

Examination rooms

Head of Centre

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

Food and Drink Policy (Examinations)

- No food is permitted in the examination room unless agreed in advance with the Examination Office for medical reasons
- Water is provided in within the examination room. If candidates bring water bottles into the examination room then they must be see-through plastic with a sports cap

Leaving the Examination Room Policy

- For examinations that last one hour or more, candidates must stay under supervision until 1000 hours for a morning examination or 1430hours for an afternoon examination
- Candidates who are allowed to leave the examination room temporarily 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. Those candidates may be allowed extra time at the discretion of the Centre to compensate their temporary absence
- Candidates who have finished the examination and have been allowed to leave the examination room must hand in their script, question paper and any other material before they leave the examination room. Those candidates must not be allowed back into the room

Examinations Officer

- Ensures examination rooms are set up and conducted as required in the regulations
- Provides invigilators with appropriate resources to effectively conduct examinations
- Briefs invigilators on examinations 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). The mobile phones is only allowed to be used for the purpose of contacting someone outside of the examination room
- Ensures invigilators understand 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 examination room incident log
- Ensures invigilators understand how to deal with candidates who may need to leave the examination room temporarily and how this should be recorded on the examination room incident log
- Provides authorised examination 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 examination rooms is in place
- Ensure arrangements are in place for a candidate with a disability who may need assistance if an examination room is evacuated

Site staff

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

Invigilators

- Conduct examinations in every examination room according to JCQ Instructions for conducting examinations and/or awarding body requirements and as instructed by the Centre in training/update and briefing sessions

Candidates

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

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 **immediately**, by completing the appropriate documentation

Managing Behaviour Policy (Examinations)

Where a candidate is being disruptive, the invigilator must warn the candidate that they may be removed from the examination room. The candidate must also be warned that the awarding body will be informed and may decide to penalise them, which could include disqualification.

The Head of Centre has the authority to remove a candidate from the examination room but should only do so if the candidate would disrupt others by remaining in the room.

Malpractice Policy (Examinations)

Malpractice

Additional information is available in Appendix 1.

Head of Centre and Examinations Officer

- Through taking an ethical approach and working proactively to avoid malpractice among students and staff the Examinations Officer takes all reasonable steps to prevent the occurrence of any malpractice/ maladministration before, during and after assessments 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 immediately of any 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
- Ensures risks to the exam process are assessed and appropriate risk management processes/contingency plans are in place (that allow the Senior Leadership Team to act immediately in the event of an emergency or where the Head of Centre/Examination Office or Head of Individual Learning is absent at a critical stage of the examination cycle
- The examination contingency plan should reinforce procedures in the event of the Centre being unavailable for examinations owing to an unforeseen emergency
- All relevant Centre staff must be familiar with the examination contingency plan. Consideration should be given as to how these arrangements will be communicated to candidates, parents and staff should disruption to examination occur.

The Head of Centre must report to the awarding body immediately all cases of suspected or actual malpractice in connection with the examination.

Senior Leaders

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

Examinations Officer

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

Invigilators

- Record any incidents or irregularities on the examination room incident log (for example, late/very late arrival, candidate or Centre staff suspected malpractice, candidate illness or needing to leave the examination room temporarily, disruption or disturbance in the examination room, emergency evacuation)

Special consideration

Senior Leaders

- Provide signed evidence to support eligible applications for special consideration

Examinations 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

Special consideration is a post-examination adjustment to a candidate's mark or grade. This is to reflect a temporary illness, temporary injury or some other event outside of the candidate's control **at the time of the assessment**.

Candidates

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

Unauthorised items

Arrangements for unauthorised items taken into the examination room

Unauthorised items will be removed from the examination venue and taken to the examination office.

After the examination items can be returned to the candidate and where necessary action may be taken which could include a written warning and or advising the awarding body.

Invigilators

- Are informed of the arrangements through training

Internal examinations

Examinations Officer

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

Invigilators

- Conduct internal examinations as briefed by the Examinations Officer

Results and post-results: roles and responsibilities

Internal assessment

Senior 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 after the retention period 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 immediately 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

Examinations Officer

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

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

Examinations Officer

- Informs candidates in advance of when and how results will be released to them for each examination 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)

Examinations 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, Reviews of 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 and 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

Deputy Head Academic

- Provides analysis of results to appropriate Centre staff
- Provides results information to external organisations where required
- Undertakes the DfE School and College Checking Exercises (where applicable to the Centre) <https://tableschecking.education.gov.uk>

Certificates

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

Certificate Issue Procedure and Retention Policy

Certificates are sent via Royal Mail signed for delivery to the candidates' homes address as listed on the MIS. The Examinations Officer will email and or phone the home address on the MIS for any certificates returned.

The Examinations Officer will retain the certificates for 12 months and then securely destroy if not collected or reposted

Candidates

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

Retention of records: roles and responsibilities

Examinations 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 examination archiving policy that identifies information held, retention period and method of disposal

Policies/procedures

Ensures risks to the examination process are assessed and appropriate risk management processes/contingency plans are in place (that allow the Senior Leadership Team to act immediately in the event of an emergency or staff absence).

- Exam Contingency Plan
- Lockdown Policy (Examinations)
- Internal Appeals Procedures
- Equalities Policy
- Complaints and Appeals Procedure (Examinations)
- Child Protection/Safeguarding Policy (Examinations)
- Data Protection Policy (Examinations)
- Whistleblowing Policy (Examinations)
- Access Arrangements Policy
- Separate Invigilation Policy

National Centre Number Register

Examinations Officer

- 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

Candidate Late Arrival Policy

Where a candidate arrives very late for an examination, Centres must:

- send the script to the awarding body/examiner in the normal way
- submit Form JCQ/VLA-Report on candidate admitted very late to examination room online, using the Centre Admin Portal (CAP), within seven days of the examination having taken place.

The Centre Admin Portal can be accessed via any of the awarding bodies' secure extranet sites. The accompanying guidance notes must be read before completing the online form:

<https://www.jcq.org.uk/exams-office/online-forms/>

Centres must provide the following information:

- the reason the candidate arrived late, including any details of special arrangements made for the candidate to reach the Centre; • the actual starting and finishing times of the examination;
 - the time the candidate started the examination
 - the time the candidate finished the examination
- warn the candidate that the awarding body may not accept their script.

If a candidate arrives in the afternoon for a paper that had been re-arranged for a morning session, the candidate may be allowed to take the paper at the published time as long as he or she has not had any contact with candidates who sat the paper earlier. The awarding body must be informed of the situation and will decide whether to accept the script.

Overnight Supervision Arrangements Policy

Overnight supervision arrangements should only be applied as a last resort and once all other options have been exhausted. The Head of Centre must be satisfied with any arrangement for overnight supervision of a candidate where necessary and must accept full responsibility for the security of the examination throughout.

When candidates are entered for multiple examinations (three or more examinations) timetabled for the same day and the total duration for those papers is:

- a) more than six hours for GCE examinations (AS, A2, A-level), including approved extra time allowances and/or supervised rest breaks; or
- b) more than five and a half hours for GCSE examinations, including approved extra time allowances and/or supervised rest breaks

Candidates may, at the Centre's discretion, be allowed to take an examination the following morning, including Saturdays. Candidates are not allowed to take examinations on an earlier day than that scheduled on the timetable

Where a candidate takes an examination the following morning, the Centre must appoint a member of Centre staff or an invigilator to supervise the candidate at all times while he/ she is on the premises sitting examinations.

The candidate must be under Centre supervision from 30 minutes after the awarding body's published starting time for the delayed examination and the Centre must ensure there is no contact with other candidates.

The supervision of a candidate on journeys to and from the Centre and overnight may be undertaken by the candidate's parent/carer or Centre staff.

The Centre must determine a method of supervision which ensures the candidate's wellbeing. The overnight supervision arrangements must ensure that the candidate does not have advance warning of the content of the examination deferred until the following morning. This means the candidate must not meet or communicate with anyone who may have knowledge of the content. This includes any form of electronic communication/storage device, e.g. telephone (both landline and mobile), email, internet and social media. It also extends to television and radio, which could report key details of the day's examinations.

The JCQ Overnight Supervision and Overnight Supervision Declaration forms must be completed before the overnight supervision is to commence.

If some candidates are allowed to take an examination on a later day than other candidates at the Centre, all copies of the question paper used on the earlier day must be sealed in an envelope and returned to the Centre's secure storage facility until all candidates at the Centre have taken that examination.

Alternative Rooming Policy

Alternative Rooming Policy within the Centre - a candidate may only take their examinations under separate invigilation within the Centre where they have an established difficulty - see section 5.16 of the JCQ publication Access Arrangements and Reasonable Adjustments.

Where candidates are subject to alternative rooming within the Centre, the regulations and guidance within JCQ ICE 23/24 booklet must always be adhered to.

Candidate Absence Policy

When a candidate has missed a timetabled component/unit for acceptable reasons and the Centre is prepared to support an application for special consideration, an adjustment may be made to the terminal grade. However, the component/unit must have been missed in the terminal series and the minimum requirements must be met. Centre staff must follow their internal procedures for dealing with candidates who feel unwell on the day of an examination.

Candidates must meet the minimum requirements for enhanced grading and, in all cases, candidates must have been fully prepared and covered the whole course.

Appendix 1

Malpractice Policy

AI Use in Assessments: Protecting the Integrity of Qualifications

Senior Leaders and Teaching Staff

The [JCQ AI Use in Assessments: Protecting the Integrity of Qualifications guidance](#) is intended to provide teachers/assessors involved in delivering JCQ qualifications with the information they need to manage use of AI in assessments. Update: February 2024.

The guidance is designed to help students and teachers to complete NEAs, coursework and other internal assessments successfully. These assessments give students the chance to demonstrate skills which cannot be assessed in exams (see link above).

- Centre staff must be aware of the risks of using AI and must be clear on what constitutes malpractice
- Where teaching staff have doubts about the authenticity of candidate work submitted for assessment (for example, they suspect that parts of it have been generated by AI but this has not been acknowledged), they must investigate and take appropriate action

Candidates

Candidates who misuse AI such that the work they submit for assessment is not their own will have committed malpractice, in accordance with JCQ regulations, and may attract severe sanctions.

- Candidates must be aware of the risks of using AI and must be clear on what constitutes malpractice
- Candidates must make sure that work submitted for assessment is demonstrably their own. If any sections of their work are reproduced directly from AI generated responses, those elements must be identified by the student and they must understand that this will not allow them to demonstrate that they have independently met the marking criteria and therefore will not be rewarded
- Where teaching staff have doubts about the authenticity of candidate work submitted for assessment (for example, they suspect that parts of it have been generated by AI but this has not been acknowledged), they must investigate and take appropriate action.

Plagiarism in Assessments

Plagiarism calls into question the integrity of examinations and assessments, especially those assessment components such as non-examination assessments where plagiarism can occur most easily. If non-examination assessments are to remain as a viable assessment method, it is the duty of all who are preparing and assessing candidates for assessments as well as those who have an interest in the setting, marking and administration of assessments, to do whatever they can to address plagiarism. [Guidance for Teachers/Assessors](#)

Senior Leaders and Teaching Staff

Teaching staff entering candidates for a qualification with a non-examination assessment (NEA) component, must authenticate the work which is submitted for assessment. Must confirm that the work produced is solely that of the candidate concerned. Must not accept work which is not the candidate's own. Where there are doubts about the authenticity of candidate work submitted for assessment you must investigate and take appropriate action.

If your suspicions are confirmed and the candidate has not signed the declaration of authentication, your Centre need not report the malpractice to the appropriate Awarding Body. Centres can resolve the matter themselves prior to the signing of the declarations.

If plagiarism is detected by the Centre and the declaration of authentication has been signed, the case must be reported to the Awarding Body. The procedure is detailed in JCQ Suspected Malpractice Policies and Procedures. (<https://www.icq.org.uk/exams-office/malpractice/>).

Candidates

Plagiarism refers to a student copying work and submitting it as their own. This can involve published resources (whether in print or on the internet), AI-generated content, essays, or pieces of work previously submitted for assessments by others or manufactured artefacts. Copying can involve memorisation and reproduction of text.

The sanctions applied to a candidate committing plagiarism and making a false declaration of authenticity range from a warning regarding future conduct to disqualification and the candidate being barred from entering for one or more examinations for a set period of time.