

Internal Appeals Procedures

2020/21

These procedures are reviewed annually to ensure compliance with current regulations

Approved/reviewed by	
Leadership	
Date of next review	Spring 2022

Key staff involved in internal appeals procedures

This template is provided for members of *The Exams Office* **only** and must not be shared beyond use in your centre

Internal appeals procedures template (2019/20)
Hyperlinks provided in this document were correct as at September 2019

Role	Name(s)
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SLT member(s)	Mr S Castle, Mrs R Goode, Mrs S Cardwell, Mr L Carey
Exams officer	Mr P Hoornaert

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1. Appeals against internal assessment decisions (centre assessed marks)

This procedure confirms Stockland Green School's compliance with JCQ's General Regulations for Approved Centres 2019-2020 (section 5.7) that the centre has in place "a written internal appeals procedure relating to internal assessment decisions and to ensure that details of this procedure are communicated, made widely available and accessible to all candidates" and that the centre "must inform candidates of their centre assessed marks. A candidate is allowed to request a review of the centre's marking before marks are submitted to the awarding body".

Certain components of GCSE, GCSE non-examination assessments and other qualifications that contribute to the final grade of the qualification are internally assessed (marked) by the centre. The marks awarded (the internal assessment decisions) are then submitted by the deadline set by the awarding body for external moderation.

Deadlines for the submission of marks

Date	Qualification	Details	Exam series
08/12/2019	Level 1 /2	OCR National	January 20
11/05/2020	GCSE	Final date for submission of centre assessed marks (AQA, OCR, Pearson and WJEC)	Summer-20

Stockland Green School is committed to ensuring that whenever its staff mark candidates' work this is done fairly, consistently and in accordance with the awarding body's specification and subject-specific associated documents.

Stockland Green School ensures that all centre staff follow a robust *Non-examination assessment policy* (for the management of GCE and GCSE non-examination assessments). This policy details all procedures relating to non-examination assessments for GCSE, OCR Nationals, RSL projects and other Project qualifications, including the marking and quality assurance processes which relevant teaching staff are required to follow.

Candidates' work will be marked by staff who have appropriate knowledge, understanding and skill, and who have been trained in this activity. Stockland Green School is committed to ensuring that work produced by candidates is authenticated in line with the requirements of the awarding body. Where a number of subject teachers are involved in marking candidates' work, internal moderation and standardisation will ensure consistency of marking.

On being informed of their centre assessed marks, if a candidate believes that the above procedures were not followed in relation to the marking of his/her work, or that the assessor has not properly applied the mark scheme to his/her marking, then he/she may make use of the appeals procedure below to consider whether to request a review of the centre's marking.

Stockland Green School will

1. ensure that candidates are informed of their centre assessed marks so that they may request a review of the centre's marking before marks are submitted to the awarding body.

This policy is created using the TEO template Internal Appeals Procedure 2019/20 including wording taken directly from the JCQ publication Reviews of marking (centre assessed marks)

2. inform candidates that they may request copies of materials (for example, a copy of their marked work, the relevant specification, the mark scheme and any other associated subject-specific documents) to assist them in considering whether to request a review of the centre's marking of the assessment.
3. having received a request for copies of materials, promptly make them available to the candidate within 3 working days.
4. provide candidates with sufficient time in order to allow them to review copies of materials and reach a decision.
5. provide a clear deadline for candidates to submit a request for a review of the centre's marking. Requests will not be accepted after this deadline. Requests must be made in writing within 2 working days of receiving copies of the requested materials [insert your centre's process, for example – by completing the **internal appeals form**].
6. allow 4 working days for the review to be carried out, to make any necessary changes to marks and to inform the candidate of the outcome, all before the awarding body's deadline.
7. ensure that the review of marking is carried out by an assessor who has appropriate competence, has had no previous involvement in the assessment of that candidate and has no personal interest in the review.
8. instruct the reviewer to ensure that the candidate's mark is consistent with the standard set by the centre.
9. inform the candidate in writing of the outcome of the review of the centre's marking.

The outcome of the review of the centre's marking will be made known to the head of centre. A written record of the review will be kept and made available to the awarding body upon request.

The moderation process carried out by the awarding bodies may result in a mark change, either upwards or downwards, even after an internal review. The internal review process is in place to ensure consistency of marking within the centre, whereas moderation by the awarding body ensures that centre marking is line with national standards. The mark submitted to the awarding body is subject to change and should therefore be considered provisional.

The procedures above are developed directly from the *JCQ publication Reviews of Marking (centre assessed marks)*.

2. Appeals against the centre's decision not to support a clerical check, a review of marking, a review of moderation or an appeal

This procedure confirms Stockland Green School's compliance with JCQ's General Regulations for Approved Centres 2019-2020 (section 5.13) that the centre has in place "a written internal appeals procedure to manage disputes when a candidate disagrees with a centre decision not to support a clerical re-check, a review of marking, a review of moderation or an appeal".

Following the issue of results, awarding bodies make post-results services available. Stockland Green School will discuss with individual students who will pay for this service. If a student (or his/her parent/carer) wish to appeal against Stockland Green School's advice the student will be asked to pay the fees.

Candidates are also informed of the arrangements for post-results services **before** they sit any exams and the accessibility of senior members of centre staff immediately after the publication of results.

If the centre or a candidate (or his/her parent/carer) has a concern and believes a result may not be accurate, post-results services may be considered.

The JCQ post-results services currently available are detailed below.

Reviews of Results (RoRs):

- Service 1 (Clerical re-check)
This is the only service that can be requested for objective tests (multiple choice tests)
- Service 2 (Review of marking)
- Priority Service 2 (Review of marking)
This service is only available for externally assessed components of GCE A-level specifications (an individual awarding body may also offer this priority service for other qualifications)
- Service 3 (Review of moderation)
This service is not available to an individual candidate

Access to Scripts (ATS):

- Copies of scripts to support reviews of marking
- Copies of scripts to support teaching and learning

Written candidate consent (informed consent via candidate email is acceptable) is required in all cases before a request for a RoR service 1 or 2 (including priority service 2) is submitted to the awarding body. Consent is required to confirm the candidate understands that the final subject grade and/or mark awarded following a clerical re-check or a review of marking, and any subsequent appeal, may be lower than, higher than, or the same as the result which was originally awarded. Candidate consent must only be collected after the publication of results.

If a concern is raised about a particular examination result, the exams officer, teaching staff and head of centre will investigate the feasibility of requesting a review supported by the centre.

Where the centre does not uphold a request from a candidate, the candidate may pay the appropriate RoR fee to the centre, and a request will be made to the awarding body on the candidate's behalf.

If the candidate (or his/her parent/carer) believes there are grounds to appeal against the centre's decision not to support a review of results, an internal appeal can be submitted to the centre at least 6 working days prior to the internal deadline for submitting a request for a review of results.

The appellant will be informed of the outcome of his/her appeal.

Following the RoR outcome, an external appeals process is available if the head of centre remains dissatisfied with the outcome and believes there are grounds for appeal. The JCQ publications **Post-Results Services** and **JCQ Appeals Booklet** (A guide to the awarding bodies' appeals processes) will be consulted to determine the acceptable grounds for a preliminary appeal.

Where the head of centre is satisfied after receiving the RoR outcome, but the candidate (or his/her parent/carer) believes there are grounds for a preliminary appeal to the awarding body, a further internal appeal may be made to the head of centre. Following this, the head of centre's decision as to whether to proceed with a preliminary appeal will be based upon the acceptable grounds as detailed in the **JCQ Appeals Booklet**. Candidates or parents/carers are not permitted to make direct representations to an awarding body.

The **internal appeals form** should be completed and submitted to the centre within 5 working days of the notification of the outcome of the RoR. Subject to the head of centre's decision, this will allow the centre to process the preliminary appeal and submit to the awarding body within the required **30 calendar days** of receiving the outcome of the review of results process. Awarding body fees which may be charged for the preliminary appeal must be paid to the centre by the appellant before the preliminary appeal is submitted to the awarding body (fees are available from the exams officer). If the appeal is upheld by the awarding body, this fee will be refunded by the awarding body and repaid to the appellant by the centre.

3. Covid-19 Appeals against results following results in Summer 2020

Stockland Green School has followed the Ofqual and JCQ instructions.

<https://www.jcq.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/08/JCQ-June-2020-appeals-guidance-1.pdf>

Particular points from the JCQ document are:

Point 3

The regulators were directed to develop an appeals process that focuses on the accuracy and application of the data provided, rather than challenge teachers' professional judgement on the ability of individual students.

Point 4

Any concerns that a candidate or group of candidates may have been subject to bias or discrimination, should be raised directly with the centre and escalated through their complaints/internal appeals process. In addition, evidence of bias, discrimination or other improper action by a centre may be presented to an awarding body who may then investigate the matter as alleged malpractice.

Point 8

...appeals must be authorised by the head of centre

Point 10

An appeal may be submitted if the head of centre considers that:

- a. the awarding body did not apply procedures consistently, or procedures were not followed properly and fairly; or
- b. the awarding body used the wrong data in calculating results; or
- c. the result generated was incorrectly issued by the awarding body to one or more candidates.

Any other appeal must be made to the School through the normal School procedures.

Internal appeals form

FOR CENTRE USE ONLY	
Date received	
Reference No.	

Please tick box to indicate the nature of your appeal and complete all white boxes on the form below

- Appeal against an internal assessment decision and/or request for a review of marking
- Appeal against the centre's decision not to support a clerical check, a review of marking, a review of moderation or an appeal

Name of appellant		Candidate name if different to appellant	
Awarding body		Exam paper code	
Subject		Exam paper title	

Please state the grounds for your appeal below

(If applicable, tick below)

- Where my appeal is against an internal assessment decision I wish to request a review of the centre's marking
If necessary, continue on an additional page if this form is being completed electronically or overleaf if hard copy being completed

Appellant signature:

Date of signature:

This form must be signed, dated and returned to the exams officer on behalf of the head of centre to the timescale indicated in the relevant appeals procedure

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Further guidance to inform and implement appeals procedures

JCQ publications

- *General Regulations for Approved Centres*
<https://www.jcq.org.uk/exams-office/general-regulations>
- *Post-Results Services*
<https://www.jcq.org.uk/exams-office/post-results-services>
- *JCQ Appeals Booklet*
<https://www.jcq.org.uk/exams-office/appeals>
- *Notice to Centres – informing candidates of their centre assessed marks*
<https://www.jcq.org.uk/exams-office/non-examination-assessments>

Ofqual publications

- *GCSE (9 to 1) qualification-level conditions and requirements*
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/gcse-9-to-1-qualification-level-conditions>
- *GCE qualification-level conditions and requirements*
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/gce-qualification-level-conditions-and-requirements>