



# Rednock School

## Appeals Process for Summer 2021

## **Appeals Process - Summer 2021 Qualifications**

To ensure that you are fully informed of this summer's appeals process, please refer to the Joint Council for Qualifications (JCQ) ['a guide to appeals processes Summer 2021 series'](#). Teacher Assessed Grades (TAGs) have been generated and submitted to the exam boards following the school's Centre Policy. Samples of student work have been submitted to exam boards as part of the external quality assurance process.

All students have the opportunity to appeal their grade if they meet the eligibility criteria.

### **1. Grounds for Appeal**

Grounds for appeal, as dictated by the Joint Council for Qualifications (JCQ) are:

- **Administrative error** - This school has made an error when recording the grade or submitting the grade to the exam board.
- **Procedural error** - The school did not follow its own process, as outlined in the [Centre Policy](#) which was approved by the exam board.
- **Academic judgement on the selection of evidence was unreasonable** - The choice of evidence used to grade you was not reasonable.
- **Academic judgement on the grade you were given was unreasonable**

#### **What does 'unreasonable' mean?**

'Unreasonable' is a technical term in this context and means that no educational professional acting reasonably could have selected the same evidence or come up with the same grade.

This means that just because other forms of evidence may have been equally valid to use, the selection of evidence is not unreasonable. Because of the flexibility of the approach this year, every school and college will have used different forms of evidence.

It also means that the independent reviewers will **not** remark or grade students' evidence. Instead, they will look to see whether any teacher acting reasonably could have arrived at the same grade.

### **2. The Appeals Process**

There are two stages to the process but all appeals, on any of the grounds above, must first go through a **centre review**. It is important to note that an appeal may result in a grade being lowered, staying the same, or going up. When requesting an appeal, the student will have to sign a declaration saying that they accept the fact their grade may go down and they may get a lower grade than their original TAG.

#### **Stage 1 - Centre Review**

During this stage the student can ask the school (centre) to check whether it made a **procedural error** or an **administrative error** or both. If a student makes a Stage 1 appeal, they will need to submit a ['Centre Review'](#) form and the school will conduct the required checks and then communicate the outcome to the student via their school email address.

At this stage, we will check for any administrative errors, and check that our policies and procedures were followed correctly. Our policy has already been approved by the exam boards, so we are only ensuring that we followed this properly.

The outcome of the centre review will be communicated to students when made.

At the centre review stage, if we find that a grade should go up or down, we will ask the exam board to change it. They will then consider this request.

## **Stage 2 - Awarding Organisation Appeal**

Following the outcome of a school (centre) review, students may still choose to pursue an **awarding organisation appeal**. During this stage, the student can ask the exam boards to check whether the school made a procedural error or an administrative error. You can also check whether the academic judgement of the centre was unreasonable, either in the selection of evidence or the determination of the grade. To request this review, students must fill in the '[Awarding Organisation Appeal](#)' form, which we will then send on their behalf to the exam boards.

***Students and parents cannot send appeals directly to the exam board themselves – it must come from us.***

The outcome of the awarding organisation appeal will be communicated to students when made.

Students may want to review their portfolio of evidence and assessment marks to make a decision on whether to proceed to stage 2 of the Appeal Process. Details on how students can access their evidence portfolio will be available on results days.

## **Priority vs Non-Priority Appeals - Criteria and Key Dates**

### **Priority Appeals** *(This option is not available for GCSE students)*

A priority appeal is **only for students applying to higher education who did not attain their firm choice** (i.e. the offer they accepted as their first choice) and wish to appeal an A level or other Level 3 qualification result. **You should inform your intended higher education provider that you have requested a centre review or appeal.**

Key Dates for Priority Appeals	
16 <sup>th</sup> August 2021 11am	deadline for a Stage 1 - Centre Review
20 <sup>th</sup> August 2021 11am	deadline for a Stage 2 - Appeal to awarding organisation
23 <sup>rd</sup> August 2021	deadline for the centre to submit the appeal to the awarding body

### **Non-Priority Appeals**

For all other students i.e., those that do not meet the eligibility criteria for priority appeals, the following deadlines apply:

Key Dates for Non-Priority Appeals	
3 <sup>rd</sup> September 2021 3pm	deadline for a Stage 1 - Centre Review
15 <sup>th</sup> September 2021 11am	deadline for a Stage 2 - Appeal to awarding organisation
17 <sup>th</sup> September 2021	deadline for the centre to submit the appeal to the awarding body

We will not accept any appeals after these deadlines.