

GCSE Exam Centre Policy

GCSE FOR SUMMER 2021



Centre Policy for determining teacher assessed grades in Summer 2021

Terms used in this policy:

- Centre Policy Summary (Form): this is an online webform to be completed on the JCQ Centre Admin Portal (CAP) summarising Centre Policy, which should also be uploaded when the form is completed this needs to be completed only once for all awarding organisations unless information is missing or needs to be clarified.
- Private Candidates: are students who have not studied with the exam centre that makes their entry.
- SENCOs: (Special Educational Needs Co-ordinators) this encompasses SEND (Special Educational Needs and Disability) leads in colleges and other relevant experts and assessors.
- Students: this means students entered for qualifications in 2021 within the scope of this guidance as outlined above and encompasses 'candidates' and 'students'.
- Support materials: to assist in the determination and submission of grades, for example guidance, training, exemplar responses, performance data and grade descriptors.



Centre Policy for determining teacher assessed grades – summer 2021: Lister Community School

Statement of intent

This section outlines the purpose of this document in relation to our centre.

Statement of Intent

This section provides details of the purpose of this document, as appropriate to our centre:

The purpose of this policy is:

- To ensure that teacher assessed grades are determined fairly, consistently, free from bias and effectively within and across departments.
- To ensure the operation of effective processes with clear guidelines and support for all staff.
- To ensure that all staff involved in the processes clearly understand their roles and responsibilities.
- To support teachers to make evidence-based decisions in line with Joint Council for Qualifications guidance.
- To ensure the consideration of historical centre data in the process, and the appropriate decision making in respect of, teacher assessed grades.
- To support a high standard of internal quality assurance in the allocation of teacher assessed grades.
- To support our centre in meeting its obligations in relation to equality legislation.
- To ensure our centre meets all requirements set out by the Department of Education,
 Ofqual, the Joint Council for Qualifications and awarding organisations for Summer 2021 qualifications.
- To ensure Access Arrangements and special consideration are applied fairly, consistently, without bias and effectively within and across departments.
- To ensure the process for communicating to candidates and their parents/carers how they will be assessed is clear, in order to give confidence.
- To ensure candidates and their parents/carers are clear about the circumstances under which appeals can be made, and the processes for making an appeal.



Roles and responsibilities

This section of our Centre Policy outlines the personnel in our centre who have specific roles and responsibilities in the process of determining teacher assessed grades this year.

Roles and Responsibilities

This section gives details of the roles and responsibilities within our centre:

Head of Centre

- Our Head of Centre, Eileen Griffin, will be responsible for approving our policy for determining teacher assessed grades.
- Our Head of Centre has overall responsibility for the school as an examinations centre and will ensure that clear roles and responsibilities of all staff are defined.
- Our Head of Centre will confirm that teacher assessed grade decisions represent the
 academic judgement made by teachers and that the checks in place ensure these align
 with the guidance on standards provided by awarding organisations.
- Our Head of Centre will ensure a robust internal quality assurance process has been produced and signed-off in advance of results being submitted.

Deputy Headteacher - Curriculum

- Our DHT Kunal Vora has overall leadership and management for progress of all
 external examination cohorts to ensure all students, including those who are
 disadvantaged, are equitably and appropriately entered for relevant examinations that are
 sufficiently aspirational
- Advises Head of Centre on all suspicions or actual incidents of malpractice.
- Advises the leadership team, subject teachers and other relevant support staff of the 2021 procedures as set by the various exam boards, JCQ and Ofqual.
- Communicates relevant information and training materials on the determining of grades, special consideration, access arrangements, evidence collation, objectivity in determining grades, and the submission of both grades and evidence.
- Advises students, parents/persons with parental responsibility and staff on appeals
- Oversees the production and distribution to staff, governors and candidates of an annual calendar for all examinations in which candidates will be involved and communicates regularly with staff concerning imminent deadlines and events
- Accounts for income and expenditures relating to all exam costs/charges
- Ensures that candidates and their parents are informed of and understand those aspects of the exam/assessment timetable that will affect them
- Confirms detailed data on estimated entries and predicted grades
- Arranges for dissemination of exam results and certificates to candidates and forwards, in consultation with the senior leadership team, any appeals/re-mark requests to the awarding bodies.
- Ensures candidates are briefed via assemblies and tutor period, prior to assessments taking place. Ensures candidates have access to all required documentation via Google Classroom, school email and the school website, including this policy.



Exams Officer

• The School has an Exams Officer who is responsible for the administration of all examinations in the school. This role is line managed by the Deputy Headteacher (Curriculum) responsible for examinations.

Our Exams Officer will:

- Be responsible for ensuring candidates are entered for the correct examination, and where appropriate, tier of examination.
- Be responsible for the administration of our final teacher assessed grades and for managing the post-results services.
- Consult with teaching staff to ensure that necessary coursework and controlled assessments are completed on time and in accordance with JCQ guidelines
- Provide detailed data on estimated entries
- Support the tracking of income and expenditures relating to all exam costs/charges
- Organise training and monitoring of a team of examinations invigilators responsible for the conduct of examinations. Runs invigilator training to ensure staff are up to date with JCQ regulations (Appendix G)
- Submit candidates' coursework/controlled assessment marks, tracks despatch and stores
 returned internal assessment and any other material required by the appropriate
 awarding bodies correctly and on schedule
- Maintain systems and processes to support the timely entry of candidates for their examinations
- The Exams Officer and SENCo will cooperate with the JCQ Centre Inspection Service, and/or an awarding body and/or regulatory authority when subject to inspection and/or investigation, and comply with all requests for information or documentation as soon as is practical.
- Ensure secure storage arrangements are in place and compliant with the JCQ expectations. Uses the checklist and updates the facilities each year where appropriate.

Senior Leadership Team and Head of Faculty/Subject (HoF/HoS)

Our Senior Leadership Team and HoF/HoS will:

- Provide training and support to our less experienced staff where required.
- Support the Head of Centre and Deputy Headteacher in the quality assurance of the final teacher assessed grades from 11 18 June 2021.
- Ensure an effective approach within and across Faculty/Subject Areas, and in authenticating the preliminary outcome from single teacher subjects (Arabic, Bengali, Punjabi, Turkish, Urdu, Portuguese, Italian, ICT, Hospitality & Catering, Film Studies, Health & Social Care, Sociology).
- Be responsible for ensuring staff have a clear understanding of the internal and external quality assurance processes and their role within it including knowledge of this Centre Policy and the awarding bodies for their subject(s).
- Ensure that all teachers within their Faculty/Subject Area(s) make consistent judgements about student evidence in deriving a grade.
- Ensure all staff conduct assessments under the appropriate levels of control with reference to guidance provided by the Joint Council for Qualifications.
- Ensure Access Arrangements are in place for all named students in all unseen assessments.



- Ensure teachers have the information required to make accurate and fair judgments.
- Ensure that a Faculty/Subject Checklist is completed for each qualification that they are submitting.
- Ensure that all teachers within their Faculty/Subject Area(s) make their grade and evidence submission through the Grade Evidence Portfolio **and** into G4S by the internal deadline of Wednesday 9 June.
- Undertake a comparison of submitted grades to historic data from exam series in 2017, 2018 and 2019 and identify reasons for any significant disparities in writing.

Teachers/Specialist Teachers/SENCo

Our teachers, specialist teachers and SENCo will:

- Ensure they conduct assessments under our centre's appropriate levels of control and have sufficient evidence, in line with this Centre Policy and guidance from the Joint Council for Qualifications, to provide teacher assessed grades for each student they have entered for a qualification.
- Ensure that the teacher assessed grade they assign to each student is a fair, valid and reliable reflection of the assessed evidence available for each student.
- Make judgements based on what each student has been taught and what they have been assessed on, as outlined in the section on grading in the main JCQ guidance.
- Securely store physically and upload to the Grade Evidence Portfolio sufficient evidence to justify their decisions.
- In addition, enter the final determined grade into G4S by Wednesday 9 June.



Training, support and guidance

This section of our Centre Policy outlines the training, support and guidance that our centre will provide to those determining teacher assessed grades this year.

Training

This section provides details of the approach our centre will take to training, support and guidance in determining teacher assessed grades this year

- Teachers involved in determining grades in our centre will attend any centre-based training to help achieve consistency and fairness to all students.
- Centre-based training will include Faculty time and Twilight.
- The Deputy Headteacher responsible for Examinations will provide Faculty/Subject
 Leaders and teachers with guidance and documentation required for training including a
 staff timeline, moderation guidance, training on objectivity and avoiding bias in grade
 determination, and instructions on how to collect and submit the student and staff
 declaration.
- Teachers will engage fully with all training and support that has been provided by the Joint Council for Qualifications and the awarding organisations.

Support for Newly Qualified Teachers and teachers less familiar with assessment

This section provides details of our approach to training, support and guidance for newly qualified teachers and teachers less familiar with assessment

- Faculty/Subject Leaders and the Senior Leader responsible for NQT induction will provide mentoring from experienced teachers to NQTs and teachers less familiar with assessment.
- NQTs will take part in internal quality assurance processes, and the accuracy of their grading will be checked through moderation samples including seed marking, random spot moderation, and data analysis.
- We will put in place additional internal reviews of teacher assessed grades for NQTs and other teachers as appropriate.



Use of appropriate evidence

This section of our Centre Policy indicates how our centre will give due regard to the section in the JCQ guidance entitled: *Guidance on grading for teachers*.

A. Use of evidence

This section gives details in relation to our use of evidence.

- Teachers making judgements will have regard to the Ofqual Head of Centre guidance on recommended evidence, and further guidance provided by awarding organisations.
- All candidate evidence used to determine teacher assessed grades, and associated documentation, will be stored physically and retained and made available for the purposes of external quality assurance and appeals.
- We will be using student work produced in response to assessment materials provided by our awarding organisation(s), including past papers, groups of questions, or similar materials such as practice or sample papers.
- We will use non-exam assessment work (often referred to as coursework), even if this has not been fully completed.
- We may use student work produced in centre-devised tasks that reflect the specification, that follow the same format as awarding organisation materials, and have been marked in a way that reflects awarding organisation mark schemes.
- We may use substantial class or homework (including work that took place during remote learning).
- We may use internal tests taken by pupils.
- We may use mock exams taken over the course of study.
- We will use records of a student's capability and performance over the course of study in performance-based subjects such as music, drama and PE.

We provide further detail in the following areas:

Additional Assessment Materials

- We will use additional assessment materials to give students the opportunity to show what they know, understand or can do in an area of content that has been taught but not yet assessed.
- We will use additional assessment materials to give students an opportunity to show improvement, for example, to validate or replace an existing piece of evidence.
- We will use additional assessment materials to support consistency of judgement between teachers or classes by giving everyone the same task to complete.
- We will combine and/or remove elements of questions where, for example, a multi-part
 question includes a part which focuses on an element of the specification that hasn't been
 taught.

Our centre will ensure the appropriateness of evidence and balance of evidence in arriving at grades in the following ways:

• We will consider the level of control under which an assessment was completed, for example, whether the evidence was produced under high control and under supervision or at home.



- We will ensure that we are able to authenticate the work as the student's own, especially where that work was not completed within the school or college.
- We will ensure that students authenticate assessed work as their own, and declare they have not received additional support from parents, relatives, or private tutors.
- We will consider the limitations of assessing a student's performance when using assessments that have been completed more than once, or drafted and redrafted, where this is not a skill being assessed.
- We will consider the specification and assessment objective coverage of the assessment.
- We will consider the depth and breadth of knowledge, understanding and skills assessed, especially higher order skills within individual assessments.



Determining teacher assessed grades

This section of our Centre Policy outlines the approach our centre will take to awarding teacher assessed grades.

Awarding teacher assessed grades based on evidence

We give details here of our centre's approach to awarding teacher assessed grades.

- Our teachers will determine grades based on evidence which is commensurate with the standard at which a student is performing, i.e. their demonstrated knowledge, understanding and skills across the content of the course they have been taught.
- Our teachers will justify how the evidence was used to arrive at a fair and objective grade, which is free from bias.
- Our teachers will produce an Assessment Record for each subject cohort and will share this with their Head of Department. Any necessary variations for individual students will also be shared.



Internal quality assurance

This section of our Centre Policy outlines the approach our centre will take to ensure internal standardisation of teacher assessed grades, to ensure consistency, fairness and objectivity of decisions.

Head of Centre Internal Quality Assurance and Declaration

Internal quality assurance

This section gives details of our approach to internal standardisation, within and across subject departments.

- We will ensure that all teachers involved in deriving teacher assessed grades read and understand this Centre Policy document.
- In subjects where there is more than one teacher and/or class in the department, we will ensure that our centre carries out an internal standardisation process.
- We will ensure that all teachers are provided with training and support to ensure they take a consistent approach to:
 - o Arriving at teacher assessed grades
 - o Marking of evidence
 - o Reaching a holistic grading decision
 - o Applying the use of grading support and documentation provided by our awarding organisations.
- We will conduct internal standardisation across all grades.
- We will ensure that the Assessment Record will form the basis of internal standardisation and discussions across teachers to agree the awarding of teacher assessed grades.
- Where necessary, we will review and reflect on individual grading decisions to ensure alignment with the standards as outlined by our awarding organisation(s).
- Where appropriate, we will amend individual grade decisions to ensure alignment with the standards as outlined by our awarding organisation(s).
- Where there is only one teacher involved in marking assessments and determining grades, then the output of this activity will be reviewed by an appropriate member of staff within the centre. Where this is not possible, the Lead teacher will review the process for any work marked by an external marker.
 - o This will be the Faculty Leader or SLT Line Manager. Decisions will be signed off by our Head of Centre.
- In respect of equality legislation, we will consider the range of evidence for students of different protected characteristics that are included in our internal standardisation.
- Extenuating or special circumstances will be taken into account where they are drawn to the attention of the teacher or Head of House by individual students, our SENCo, Access and Inclusions, or other outside agency.



Comparison of teacher assessed grades to results for previous cohorts

This section of our Centre Policy outlines the approach we will take to compare our teacher assessed grades in 2021 with results from previous cohorts.

Comparison of Teacher Assessed Grades to results for previous cohorts

This section gives details of our internal process to ensure a comparison of teacher assessed grades at qualification level to results for previous cohorts in our centre taking the same qualification.

- We will compile information on the grades awarded to our students in the past June series in which exams took place (2017 2019).
- We will consider the size of our cohort from year to year.
- We will consider the stability of our centre's overall grade outcomes from year to year.
- We will consider both subject and centre level variation in our outcomes during the internal quality assurance process.
- In the event of significant divergence from the qualifications-levels profiles obtained in previous exam years, Faculty/Subject Leaders supported by SLT Line Managers will prepare a succinct narrative on the outcomes of the review against historic data which address the reasons for this divergence. This commentary will be available for subsequent review during the QA process.

This section gives details of the approach our centre will follow **if** our initial teacher assessed grades for a qualification are viewed as overly lenient or harsh compared to results in previous years.

- We will compile historical data giving appropriate regard to potential mixtures of A*-G and 9-1 grades in GCSEs. Where required, we will use the Ofqual guidance to convert legacy grades into the new 9 to 1 scale.
- We will bring together other data sources that will help to quality assure the grades we intend to award in 2021.

This section gives details of changes in our cohorts that need to be reflected in our comparisons.

- We will omit subjects that we no longer offer from the historical data.
- We will draw Faculty/Subject Leaders' attention to significant changes in cohort sizes or profiles between 2017-2019.



Access Arrangements and Special Considerations

This section of our Centre Policy outlines the approach our centre will take to provide students with appropriate access arrangements and take into account mitigating circumstances in particular instances.

Reasonable adjustments and mitigating circumstances (special consideration)

This section gives details of our approach to access arrangements and mitigating circumstances (special consideration).

- Where students have agreed access arrangements or reasonable adjustments (for example a reader or scribe) we will make every effort to ensure that these arrangements are in place when assessments are being taken.
- Teachers and Faculty/Subject Leaders will be made explicitly aware of access arrangements for students in their class, and are required to complete the details and timings of unseen assessments for these students.
- Where an assessment has taken place without an agreed reasonable adjustment or access arrangement, we will remove that assessment from the basket of evidence and alternative evidence obtained.
- Where illness or other personal circumstances might have affected performance in assessments used in determining a student's standard of performance, we will take account of this when making judgements.
- We will record, as part of the Assessment Record, how we have incorporated any
 necessary variations to take account of the impact of illness or personal circumstances on
 the performance of individual students in assessments.
- In exceptional circumstances, applications for Special Consideration may be made in accordance with the JCQ guidance. To ensure consistency in the application of Special Consideration, we will ensure our SENCo, Exams Officer and any other relevant staff have read and understood the document: <u>JCQ – A guide to the special consideration process</u>. with effect from 1 September 2020



Addressing disruption/differential lost learning (DLL)

B. Addressing Disruption/Differentiated Lost Learning (DLL)

This section gives details of our approach to address disruption or differentiated lost teaching.

- Teacher assessed grades will be determined based on evidence of the content that has been taught and assessed for each student.
- Teacher assessed grades will be based on evidence covering the full set of taught assessment objectives, and will not assess any untaught content or skills.
- Teachers will direct students towards any required incomplete remote learning assignments before unseen assessments. Students are expected to take the responsibility for completing this work.



Objectivity

This section of our Centre Policy outlines the arrangements in place to ensure objectivity of decisions.

Objectivity

This section gives a summary of the arrangements in place within our centre in relation to objectivity.

Staff will fulfil their duties and responsibilities in relation to relevant equality and disability legislation.

Senior Leaders, Faculty/Subject Leaders and Centre will consider:

- sources of unfairness and bias (situations/contexts, difficulty, presentation and format, language, conditions for assessment, marker preconceptions);
- how to minimise bias in questions and marking and hidden forms of bias; and
- bias in teacher assessed grades.

To ensure objectivity, all staff involved in determining teacher assessed grades will be made aware that:

- unconscious bias can skew judgements;
- the evidence presented should be valued for its own merit as an indication of performance and attainment;
- teacher assessed grades should not be influenced by candidates' positive or challenging personal circumstances, character, behaviour, appearance, socio-economic background, or protected characteristics;
- unconscious bias is more likely to occur when quick opinions are formed; and

Our internal standardisation process will help to ensure that there are different perspectives to the quality assurance process.

All teaching staff will receive information on recognising and mitigating against bias in grading on 27 April 2021.



Recording decisions and retention of evidence and data

This section of our Centre Policy outlines our arrangements to record decisions and to retain evidence and data.

C. Recording Decisions and Retention of Evidence and Data

This section outlines our approach to recording decisions and retaining evidence and data.

- We will ensure that teachers and Faculty/Subject Leaders maintain records that show how
 the teacher assessed grades process operated, including the rationale for decisions in
 relation to individual marks/grades. This will be in the form of a short justification
 statement for every student.
- We will ensure that evidence is maintained across a variety of tasks to develop a holistic view of each student's demonstrated knowledge, understanding and skills in the areas of content taught.
- We will put in place recording requirements for the various stages of the process to ensure the accurate and secure retention of the evidence used to make decisions.
- We will comply with our obligations regarding data protection legislation.
- We will ensure that the grades accurately reflect the evidence submitted.
- We will ensure that evidence is retained physically in a secure centre-based storage that can be readily shared with our awarding organisation(s).



Authenticating evidence

D. Authenticating evidence

This section of our Centre Policy details the mechanisms in place to ensure that teachers are confident in the authenticity of evidence, and the process for dealing with cases where evidence is not thought to be authentic.

- Robust mechanisms, which will include a student declaration, will be in place to ensure that teachers are confident that work used as evidence is the students' own and that no inappropriate levels of support have been given to students to complete it, either within the centre or with external tutors.
- It is understood that awarding organisations will investigate instances where it appears evidence is not authentic. We will follow all guidance provided by awarding organisations to support these determinations of authenticity.

2021 exam changes AQA

Pearson qualifications | Edexcel, BTEC, LCCI and EDI

Everything you need to know for summer 2021 OCR

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Confidentiality, malpractice and conflicts of interest

Confidentiality

This section of our Centre Policy outlines the measures in place to ensure the confidentiality of the grades our centre determines, and to make students aware of the range of evidence on which those grades will be based.

A. Confidentiality

This section details the measures in place in our centre to maintain the confidentiality of grades, while sharing information regarding the range of evidence on which the grades will be based.

- All staff involved have been made aware of the need to maintain the confidentiality of teacher assessed grades.
- All staff involved have been explicitly informed that students must not be informed of the grade recommendation at any point in the process.
- All teaching staff have been briefed on the requirement to share details of the range of
 evidence on which students' grades will be based, while ensuring that details of the final
 grades remain confidential.
- Relevant details from this Policy, including requirements around sharing details of evidence and the confidentiality requirements, have been shared with parents/guardians.

Malpractice

This section of our Centre Policy outlines the measures in place to prevent malpractice and other breaches of exam regulations, and to deal with such cases if they occur.

B. Malpractice

This section details the measures in place in our centre to prevent malpractice and, where that proves impossible, to handle cases in accordance with awarding organisation requirements.

- Our general centre policies regarding malpractice, maladministration and conflicts of interest have been reviewed to ensure they address the specific challenges of delivery in Summer 2021.
- All staff involved have been made aware of these policies, and have received training in them as necessary.
- All staff involved have been made aware of the specific types of malpractice which may affect the Summer 2021 series including:
- o breaches of internal security;
- o deception;
- o improper assistance to students;
- o failure to appropriately authenticate a student's work;
- o over direction of students in preparation for common assessments;
- o allegations that centres submit grades not supported by evidence that they know to be inaccurate;



- o centres enter students who were not originally intending to certificate a grade in the Summer 2021 series;
- o failure to engage as requested with awarding organisations during the External Quality Assurance and appeal stages; and
- o failure to keep appropriate records of decisions made and teacher assessed grades.
- The consequences of malpractice or maladministration as published in the JCQ guidance: <u>JCQ Suspected Malpractice: Policies and Procedures</u> and including the risk of a delay to students receiving their grades, up to, and including, removal of centre status have been outlined to all relevant staff.

Conflicts of Interest

This section of our Centre Policy outlines the measures in place to address potential conflicts of interest.

C. Conflicts of Interest

This section details our approach to addressing conflicts of interest, and how we will respond to such allegations.

- To protect the integrity of assessments, all staff involved in the determination of grades must declare any conflict of interest such as relationships with students to our Head of Centre for further consideration.
- Our Head of Centre will take appropriate action to manage any conflicts of interest arising with centre staff in accordance with the JCQ documents - <u>General</u> Regulations for Approved Centres, 1 September 2020 to 31 August 2021.
- We will also carefully consider the need to separate duties and personnel to ensure fairness in later process reviews and appeals.
- All staff involved will be asked to declare any conflicts of interest electronically by submitting a google form.



External Quality Assurance

This section of our Centre Policy outlines the arrangements in place to comply with awarding organisation arrangements for External Quality Assurance of teacher assessed grades in a timely and effective way.

A. External Quality Assurance

This section outlines the arrangements we have in place to ensure the relevant documentation and assessment evidence can be provided in a timely manner for the purposes of External Quality Assurance sampling, and that staff can be made available to respond to enquiries.

- All staff involved have been made aware of the awarding organisation requirements for External Quality Assurance as set out in the **JCQ Guidance**.
- All necessary records of decision-making in relation to determining grades have been properly kept and can be made available for review as required.
- All student evidence on which decisions regarding the determination of grades has been scanned and submitted to the electronic portfolio and can be made available for review as required.
- Instances where student evidence used to decide teacher assessed grades is not available, for example where the material has previously been returned to students and cannot now be retrieved, will be clearly recorded on the appropriate documentation.
- All staff involved have been briefed on the possibility of interaction with awarding
 organisations during the different stages of the External Quality Assurance process and
 can respond promptly and fully to enquiries, including attendance at Virtual Visits should
 this prove necessary.
- Arrangements are in place to respond fully and promptly to any additional requirements/reviews that may be identified as a result of the External Quality Assurance process.
- Staff have been made aware that a failure to respond fully and effectively to such additional requirements may result in further action by the awarding organisations, including the withholding of results.



Results

This section of our Centre Policy outlines our approach to the receipt and issue of results to students and the provision of necessary advice and guidance.

A. Results

This section details our approach to the issue of results to students and the provision of advice and guidance.

- All staff involved have been made aware of the specific arrangements for the issue of results in Summer 2021.
- Arrangements will be made to ensure the necessary staffing, including exams office and support staff, to enable the efficient receipt and release of results to our students.
- Arrangements will be in place for the provision of all necessary advice, guidance and support, including pastoral support, to students on receipt of their results.
- Such guidance will include advice on the appeals process in place in 2021 (see below).
- Appropriate staff will be available to respond promptly to any requests for information from awarding organisations, for example regarding missing or incomplete results, to enable such issues to be swiftly resolved.
- Parents/guardians have been made aware of arrangements for results days.

Appeals

This section of our Centre Policy outlines our approach to Appeals, to ensure that they are handled swiftly and effectively, and in line with JCQ requirements.

A. Appeals

This section details our approach to managing appeals, including Centre Reviews, and subsequent appeals to awarding organisations.

- All staff involved have been made aware of the arrangements for, and the requirements of, appeals in Summer 2021, as set out in the **JCQ Guidance**.
- Internal arrangements will be in place for the swift and effective handling of Centre Reviews in compliance with the requirements.
- All necessary staff have been briefed on the process for, and timing of, such reviews, and will be available to ensure their prompt and efficient handling.
- Students and parents have been appropriately guided as to the necessary stages of appeal.
- Arrangements will be in place for the timely submission of appeals to awarding organisations, including priority appeals.
- Arrangements will be in place to obtain the written consent of students to the initiation of appeals, and to record their awareness that grades may go down as well as up on appeal.
- Appropriate information on the appeals process will be provided to parents/carers.