



**STUDLEY HIGH SCHOOL**  
AN ACADEMY TRUST SCHOOL – ALWAYS AIMING HIGHER

# Malpractice Policy (Exams)

Policy/Procedure creator: Mr Kris Greda

Policy/Procedure created/reviewed: 30/10/2023

Centre Name	Studley High School
Centre Number	31315
Date policy first created	01/11/2021
Current policy reviewed by	Exams officer - Mr Kris Greda
Current policy approved by	Head of centre - Mr Richard East

## Key staff involved in the policy

Head of centre	Mr Richard East
Senior leader(s)	Mrs Rachel McGhie
Exams officer	Mr Kris Greda
Other staff (if applicable)	Assistant Exams officer - Miss Lorraine Lakin

This policy is reviewed and updated annually to ensure that any malpractice at Studley High School is managed in accordance with current requirements and regulations.

Reference in the policy to **GR** and **SMPP** relate to relevant sections of the current JCQ publications **General Regulations for Approved Centres** and **Suspected Malpractice - Policies and Procedures**.

# Introduction

## What is malpractice and maladministration?

- (SMPP 1)  
'Malpractice' and 'maladministration' are related concepts, the common theme of which is that they involve a failure to follow the rules of an examination or assessment. This policy and procedure uses the word 'malpractice' to cover both 'malpractice' and 'maladministration' and it means any act, default or practice which is:
  - a breach of the Regulations
  - a breach of awarding body requirements regarding how a qualification should be delivered
  - a failure to follow established procedures in relation to a qualification

which:

- gives rise to prejudice to candidates
  - compromises public confidence in qualifications
  - compromises, attempts to compromise or may compromise the process of assessment, the integrity of any qualification or the validity of a result or certificate
  - damages the authority, reputation or credibility of any awarding body or centre or any officer, employee or agent of any awarding body or centre
- For the purposes of this document, suspected malpractice means all alleged or suspected incidents of malpractice (SMPP 2)

## Purpose of the policy

The purpose of this policy is to confirm how Studley High School manages malpractice under normal delivery arrangements in accordance with the regulations.

## General principles

In accordance with the regulations Studley High School will:

- Take all reasonable steps to prevent the occurrence of any malpractice (which includes maladministration) before, during and after examinations have taken place (GR 5.11)
- Inform the awarding body 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 (GR 5.11)
- As required by an awarding body, gather evidence of any instances of alleged or suspected malpractice (which includes maladministration) in accordance with the JCQ publication **Suspected malpractice - Policies and procedures** and provide such information and advice as the awarding body may reasonably require (GR 5.11)

## Candidate malpractice

- 'Candidate malpractice' means malpractice by a candidate in connection with any examination or assessment, including the preparation and authentication of any controlled assessments, coursework or non-examination assessments, the presentation of any practical work, the compilation of portfolios of assessment evidence and the writing of any examination paper (SMPP 2)

## Centre staff malpractice

- 'Centre staff malpractice' means malpractice committed by:
  - a member of staff, contractor (whether employed under a contract of employment or a contract for services) or a volunteer at a centre; or
  - an individual appointed in another capacity by a centre such as an invigilator, a Communication Professional, a Language

## Preventing malpractice

Studley High School has in place:

- robust processes to prevent and identify malpractice, as outlined in section 3.3 of the JCQ publication **Suspected Malpractice: Policies and Procedures** (SMPP 4.3)
- This includes ensuring that all staff involved in the delivery of assessments and examinations understand the requirements for conducting these as specified in the following JCQ documents and any further awarding body guidance: General Regulations for Approved Centres 2023-2024; Instructions for conducting examinations (ICE) 2023-2024; Instructions for conducting coursework 2023-2024; Instructions for conducting non-examination assessments 2023-2024; Access Arrangements and Reasonable Adjustments 2023-2024; A guide to the special consideration process 2023-2024; Suspected Malpractice: Policies and Procedures 2023-2024; Plagiarism in Assessments; AI Use in Assessments: Protecting the Integrity of Qualifications; A guide to the awarding bodies' appeals processes 2023-2024 (SMPP 3.3.1)

## Informing and advising candidates how to avoid committing malpractice in examinations/assessments

Candidates are informed and advised to avoid committing malpractice in examinations/assessments including the use of AI via:

- Information on the school website
- Information on the Exam Notice Board in the main school corridor

## AI Use in Assessments

'AI Use in Assessments: Protecting the Integrity of Qualifications' is available on the school website.

Students complete the majority of their exams and a large number of other assessments under close staff supervision with limited access to authorised materials and no permitted access to the internet. The delivery of these assessments is unaffected by developments in AI tools as students are not able to use such tools when completing these assessments.

There are some assessments in which access to the internet is permitted in the preparatory, research or production stages. The majority of these assessments will be Non-Examined Assessments (NEAs), coursework and internal assessments for General Qualifications (GQs) and Vocational & Technical Qualifications (VTQs). JCQ's guidance which is designed to help students and teachers to complete NEAs, coursework and other internal assessments successfully is followed in relation to these assessments.

## Identification and reporting of malpractice

- The head of centre will notify the appropriate awarding body immediately of all alleged, suspected or actual incidents of malpractice, using the appropriate forms, and will conduct any investigation and gathering of information in accordance with the requirements of the JCQ publication **Suspected Malpractice: Policies and Procedures** (SMPP 4.1.3)
- Form JCQ/M1 will be used to notify an awarding body of an incident of candidate malpractice. Form JCQ/M2 will be used to notify an awarding body of an incident of suspected staff malpractice/maladministration (SMPP 4.4, 4.6)
- Malpractice by a candidate discovered in a controlled assessment, coursework or non-examination assessment component prior to the candidate signing the declaration of authentication need not be reported to the awarding body but will be dealt with in accordance with the centre's internal procedures. The only exception to this is where the awarding body's confidential assessment material has potentially been breached. The breach will be reported to the awarding body immediately (SMPP 4.5)
- If, in the view of the investigator, there is sufficient evidence to implicate an individual in malpractice, that individual (a candidate or a member of staff) will be informed of the rights of accused individuals (SMPP 5.32)
- Once the information gathering has concluded, the head of centre (or other appointed information-gatherer) will submit a written report summarising the case to the relevant awarding body, accompanied by the information obtained during the course of their enquiries (SMPP 5.34)
- Form JCQ/M1 will be used when reporting candidate cases; for centre staff, form JCQ/M3 will be used (SMPP 5.36)
- The awarding body will decide on the basis of the report, and any supporting documentation, whether there is evidence of malpractice and if any

further investigation is required. The head of centre will be informed accordingly (SMPP 5.39)

## Communicating malpractice decisions

- Once a decision has been made, it will be communicated in writing to the head of centre as soon as possible. The head of centre will communicate the decision to the individuals concerned and pass on details of any sanctions and action in cases where this is indicated. The head of centre will also inform the individuals if they have the right to appeal (SMPP 11.1)

## Appeals against decisions made in cases of malpractice

Studley High School will:

- Provide the individual with information on the process for submitting an appeal, where relevant
- Refer to further information and follow the process provided in the JCQ publication **A guide to the awarding bodies' appeals processes**

### **Additional information:**

Not applicable