

Internal appeals procedures

2016/17

These procedures are reviewed annually to ensure compliance with current regulations

Approved/reviewed by	
TB	
Date of next review	October 2017

Appeals procedure against internally assessed marks

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

Candidates' work will be marked by staff who have appropriate knowledge, understanding and skill, and who have been trained in this activity. The Cherwell 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.

If a candidate believes that this may not have happened in relation to his/her work, he/she may make use of this appeals procedure.

N.B: an appeal may only be made against the assessment process and not against the mark to be submitted to the awarding body

- 1. Appeals should be made as early as possible in order to ensure that the internal appeals process is completed prior to the submission of centre marks to the awarding body.*
- 2. Appeals must be made in writing (using the **internal appeals form**)*
- 3. The head of centre will appoint a senior member of staff, e.g. an Assistant Headteacher or a Deputy Headteacher, to conduct the investigation. The senior member of staff will not have had any involvement in the internal assessment process for that subject.*
- 4. The purpose of the appeal will be to decide whether the process used for the internal assessment conformed to the awarding body's specification and subject-specific associated documents.*
- 5. The appellant will be informed in writing of the outcome of the appeal, including any relevant correspondence with the awarding body, and any changes made to internal assessment procedures.*
- 6. The outcome of the appeal will be made known to the head of centre and will be logged as a complaint. A written record will be kept and made available to the awarding body upon request. Should the appeal bring any irregularity in procedures to light, the awarding body will be informed.*

*After candidates' work has been internally assessed, it is moderated by the awarding body to ensure consistency in marking between centres. The moderation may lead to mark changes. This process is outside the control of **The Cherwell School** and is not covered by this procedure.*

The above template (in italics) is taken from the JCQ publication [Appeals against internally assessed marks – suggested template for centres](#) (GCSE controlled assessments, GCE coursework, GCE and GCSE non-examination assessments)

Appeals procedure against centre decisions not to support an enquiry about results

Following the issue of results, the general qualification awarding bodies offer post-results services. Full details of these services, internal deadlines for requesting a service and fees charged are provided by the exams officer.

The service, *enquiries about results* (EARs), may be requested by centre staff or candidates (or their parents/carers). (EAR service 3 is not available to individual candidates.) If a query is raised about a particular examination result, the exams officer, teaching staff and head of centre will investigate the feasibility of requesting an enquiry at the centre's expense.

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

If the candidate (or their parent/carer) believes there are grounds to appeal against the centre's decision not to support an enquiry, an appeal can be submitted to the centre using the **internal appeals form** at least **one week prior to** the internal deadline for submitting an EAR.

Appeals procedure following the outcome of an enquiry about results

Where the head of centre remains dissatisfied after receiving the outcome of an EAR, an appeal will be made to the awarding body, following the guidance in the JCQ publications *Post-results services* <http://www.jcq.org.uk/exams-office/post-results-services> and *A guide to the awarding bodies' appeals processes* <http://www.jcq.org.uk/exams-office/appeals>

Where the head of centre is satisfied after receiving the outcome of an EAR, but the internal candidate and/or their parents/carers are not satisfied, they may make a further representation to the head of centre in a timely manner.

This will be through a meeting between the candidate / parent / carer, a subject specialist from the school, and the Deputy Headteacher with responsibility for Exams. During this meeting, the details of the case will be reviewed, including any specific points which the candidate / parent / carer wishes to raise. Prior to the event, the candidate / parent / carer will have the opportunity to submit the grounds for wishing to proceed with a further appeal in writing, using the **internal appeals form**.

Following this meeting, the head of centre will decide whether the school will support a further appeal. If the Head of Centre still does not wish to support a further appeal, they will:

- a) Offer a further meeting to discuss the reasons why the school does not support a further appeal
- b) Inform the candidate, parents and carers of the school complaints policy, to be used if they feel that the school has acted inappropriately

Appeals procedure against a centre decision not to support a request for special considerations

Where the head of centre feels that there are grounds for a request for special considerations following an examination, they will apply for this through the relevant examining body procedures, usually within 7 days of the last examination in the series of the subject in question.

Where the head of centre feels that there are not grounds for a request for special considerations, but the candidates or their parents / carers disagree, representations can be made to the head of centre, using the **internal appeals form**. The head of centre will take into account the written submission which accompanies this form, before making a further and final decision as to whether or not to support the request for special considerations.

Appeals procedure against a centre decision not to support a request for exams access arrangements

Where appropriate, the centre will follow procedures for assessing whether or not to allow exams access arrangements, such as the provision of extra-time, a scribe, a reader etc. In such cases as the centre's procedure results in a decision not to allow exams access arrangements to be provided, the candidate or their parents / carers can make representations to the head of centre, using the **internal appeals form**. The head of centre will take into account the written submission which accompanies this form, before making a further and final decision as to whether or not to support the request for the provision of exams access arrangements.

Internal appeals form

This form should be completed in all cases to lodge an appeal.

Please tick to indicate what the appeal is against:

- an internal assessment decision
- the centre decision not to support an enquiry about results
- the outcome of an enquiry about results
- the centre decision not to support a further appeal following an enquiry about results
- a centre decision not to support an appeal for special consideration
- a centre decision to support a request for exam access arrangements

Name of appellant	Candidate name <i>if different to appellant</i>
Awarding body	Unit/module/exam paper code
Subject	Unit/module/exam paper title

Please state the grounds for your appeal below:

Continue overleaf if necessary

Appeal against an internal assessment decision

Appellant declaration

By signing here, I am confirming I understand the purpose of the appeal will be to decide whether the process used for the internal assessment conformed to the published requirements of the awarding body's specification and subject-specific associated documents. I also understand the appeal may only be made against the marking/assessment process not against the mark submitted by the centre for moderation by the awarding body.

Signature:

Date of signature:

Appeal against the centre decision not to support an enquiry about results	
Appellant declaration By signing here, I am confirming I feel there are grounds to appeal against the centre's decision.	
Signature:	Date of signature:
Appeal against the outcome of an enquiry about results	
Appellant declaration By signing here, I am confirming I understand that the grounds for my appeal must relate to the awarding body's procedures or the application of the post-result service procedures. I also understand that appeals do not generally involve further reviews of marking candidates' work. I also confirm that I will pay in advance any fees which may be charged by the awarding body for the appeal. I understand this fee will be refunded if the appeal is upheld.	
Signature:	Date of signature:
Appeal against a centre decision not to support a further appeal following an enquiry about results	
Appellant declaration By signing here, I am confirming I feel there are grounds to appeal against the centre's decision.	
Signature:	Date of signature:
Appeal against a centre decision not to support an appeal for special considerations	
Appellant declaration By signing here, I am confirming I feel there are grounds to appeal against the centre's decision.	
Signature:	Date of signature:
Appeal against a centre decision not to support a request for exam access arrangements	
Appellant declaration By signing here, I am confirming I feel there are grounds to appeal against the centre's decision.	
Signature:	Date of signature:

The appellant declaration against the relevant appeal must be signed, dated and returned to the EO, on behalf of the head of centre, to the timescale indicated in the internal appeals procedure.

The internal appeals procedures for this centre have been produced to demonstrate compliance with the publications below.

JCQ General Regulations for approved centres <http://www.jcq.org.uk/exams-office/general-regulations>

Controlled Assessments, Coursework and Portfolios of Evidence

5.8 The centre agrees to:

have in place, and be available for inspection purposes, a **written** internal appeals procedure relating to internal assessment decisions and to ensure that details of this procedure are made widely available and accessible to all candidates; (A centre may place its internal appeals procedure on the school/college website or alternatively, the document may be made available to candidates upon request.)

Post-Results Services and Appeals

5.14 The centre agrees to:

have available for inspection purposes and draw to the attention of candidates and their parents/carers, a **written** internal appeals procedure to manage disputes when a candidate disagrees with a centre decision not to support an enquiry about results or an appeal; (A centre may place its internal appeals procedure on the school/college website or alternatively the document may be made available to candidates upon request.)

JCQ Post-results services <http://www.jcq.org.uk/exams-office/post-results-services>

6.4 Submission of requests

Centres **must** have in place a published formal appeals procedure for use in cases where centres and candidates, or their parents/carers, cannot agree as to whether an enquiry about results should be submitted. The formal appeals procedure **must** be made widely available. Centres **must** therefore draw the appeals procedure to the attention of candidates and their parents/carers. In deciding whether to support an enquiry about results, centres should take account of all relevant factors and afford candidates or their parents/carers a reasonable opportunity to express their views. **Awarding bodies can only enter into discussions over enquiries about results with centres and private candidates.**

7. Appeals

Centres **must** have in place a published formal appeals procedure for use in cases where centres and candidates, or their parents/carers, cannot agree as to whether an appeal should be submitted to the relevant awarding body. The formal appeals procedure **must** be made widely available. Centres **must** therefore draw the appeals procedure to the attention of candidates and their parents/carers. In deciding whether to support an appeal, centres should take account of all relevant factors and afford candidates or their parents/carers a reasonable opportunity to express their views. **Awarding bodies can only enter into discussions over appeals with centres and private candidates.**

However in summer 2016, JCQ issued the following information in their [Notice to Centres – Post-Results Services and Appeals](#)

The JCQ publication Post-Results Services – Information and guidance to centres for examinations taken in June 2016 and November 2016 sets out common arrangements. Although the published information remains valid for the June 2016 examination series, this supplementary document clarifies some key points associated with the reform of post-results services and appeals.

Centres should also refer to awarding bodies' websites for further information as awarding bodies may offer additional post-results services.

JCQ A guide to the awarding bodies' appeals processes <http://www.jcq.org.uk/exams-office/appeals>

12. Please note that internal candidates and/or their parents/carers are not entitled to appeal directly to the awarding body. Representations must be made to the head of centre where the candidate was entered or registered. The head of centre's decision as to whether to proceed with an appeal is subject to the centre's internal appeals arrangements.

Ofqual GCSE, GCE, Principal Learning and Project Code of Practice

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/gcse-gce-principal-learning-and-project-code-of-practice>

9.13 The awarding organisation must require centres offering its examinations to ensure that they have in place:

- iii.a formal, codified procedure for handling disputes when a candidate or carer disagrees with a decision by the centre not to support an enquiry.

Centres must be required to ensure that the procedures are published and made widely available and accessible to all candidates and their carers.

9.14 In deciding whether to support an enquiry or appeal, centres should take account of all relevant factors and afford candidates or their carers a reasonable opportunity to express their views.

However in summer 2016, JCQ issued the following information in the [Notice to Centres – Post-Results Services and Appeals](#)

Ofqual has announced that the Code of Practice in relation to GCE AS, A-level and GCSE qualifications will be withdrawn in August 2016, being replaced by Qualification Level Conditions. Centres may, however, continue to refer to the Code of Practice for the awarding bodies' provision of post-results services and appeals, June 2016 examination series.

Arrangements for the awarding bodies' provision of post-results services and appeals, November 2016 examination series, may be subject to change. Centres will be notified of any changes in due course.

Appellants should consult the full information in the above publications to be fully informed when stating their grounds for appeal.

Further information can be obtained from:

Appeal an exam result <https://www.gov.uk/appeal-exam-result>

The Appeals Process <http://www.jcq.org.uk/examination-system/the-appeals-process>