



HARROGATE  
GRAMMAR SCHOOL  
EXCELLENCE FOR ALL

# Exams Policy 2023-24

**Member of Staff Responsible**

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**Approved on:**

**9 May 2024**

**Review date:**

**Feb 2025**

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**9 May 2024**

## Contents

Purpose of the policy.....	4
Roles and responsibilities overview.....	4
Delivery of qualifications .....	6
<b>National Centre Number Register</b> .....	9
The exam cycle.....	11
Planning: roles and responsibilities.....	11
Information sharing .....	11
Information gathering .....	11
Access arrangements .....	12
Internal assessment and endorsements.....	13
Invigilation .....	14
Entries: roles and responsibilities .....	14
Estimated entries .....	14
Final entries.....	15
Final entries collection and submission procedure .....	15
Entry fees .....	16
Late entries.....	16
Private candidates .....	16
Candidate statements of entry .....	16
Pre-exams: roles and responsibilities .....	17
Access arrangements and reasonable adjustments .....	17
Briefing candidates .....	17
Dispatch of exam scripts .....	18
Internal assessment and endorsements.....	18
Invigilation .....	18
JCQ Centre Inspections .....	19
Seating and identifying candidates in exam rooms .....	19
Verifying candidate identity procedure .....	19
Security of exam materials .....	20
Timetabling and rooming.....	20
Overnight supervision arrangements policy .....	21
Alternative site arrangements .....	21
Consortium arrangements .....	22
Transferred candidate arrangements .....	22
Internal exams .....	22
Exam time: roles and responsibilities.....	22
Access arrangements .....	22
Candidate absence .....	23
Candidate behaviour .....	23
Candidate belongings .....	23
Candidate late arrival .....	23

Candidate late arrival policy .....	24
Conducting exams .....	24
Dispatch of exam scripts .....	24
Exam papers and materials .....	24
Exam rooms .....	24
Food and drink in exam rooms policy .....	25
Policy on candidates leaving the exam room temporarily .....	25
Emergency evacuation policy .....	25
Irregularities .....	26
Managing behaviour in exam rooms procedure .....	26
Malpractice .....	27
Special consideration .....	27
Unauthorised materials .....	27
Internal exams .....	27
Results and post-results: roles and responsibilities .....	27
Internal assessment .....	27
Managing results day(s) .....	28
Results day programme .....	28
Accessing results .....	29
Post-results services .....	29
Analysis of results .....	30
Certificates .....	30
Issue of certificates procedure .....	30
Retention of certificates policy .....	30
Exams review: roles and responsibilities .....	31
Retention of records: roles and responsibilities .....	31
Related Policies .....	32

## Purpose of the policy

Harrogate Grammar School is committed to ensuring that the exams management and administration process is run effectively and efficiently and in compliance with the published JCQ regulations and awarding body requirements.

This exam policy will ensure that:

- all aspects of the centre's exam process are documented, supporting the exams contingency plan, and other relevant exams-related policies, procedures and plans are signposted to
- the workforce is well informed and supported
- all centre staff involved in the exams process clearly understand their roles and responsibilities
- all exams and assessments are conducted according to JCQ and awarding body regulations, guidance and instructions, thus maintaining the integrity and security of the exam/assessment system at all times
- exam candidates understand the exams process and what is expected of them

This policy is reviewed annually to ensure ways of working in the centre are accurately reflected and that exams and assessments are conducted to current JCQ (and awarding body) regulations, instructions and guidance.

This policy will be communicated to all relevant centre staff by e-mail. The policy will also be made available for staff on Teams/Sharepoint and for students and parents on the HGS and RKLTL website.

## Examinations at Harrogate Grammar School

Internal exams are scheduled annually, and conducted under external exam conditions at the following times:

- Y11 - December and March (English, Maths and Science)
- Y13 – January
- Y10 and Y12 – Late June

External exams are scheduled by awarding bodies in November, January, March, May and June.

## Roles and responsibilities overview

The **head of centre** is the individual who is accountable to the awarding bodies for ensuring that the centre is always compliant with the published JCQ regulations and awarding body requirements in order to ensure the security and integrity of the examinations/assessments. This individual must have the authority to deploy the necessary resources to ensure that the centre is always compliant in meeting those published JCQ regulations and awarding body requirements.

Heads of centre must ensure that senior leadership teams and exam office personnel familiarise themselves with the entire contents of JCQ *General Regulations for Approved Centres* booklet. In particular, heads of centre must familiarise themselves with sections 5.1, 5.3 and 5.4.

Heads of centre must ensure that relevant members of staff respond promptly to requests for information from awarding bodies relating to the administration and conducting of examinations/assessments.

The **examinations officer** is the person appointed by the head of centre to act on behalf of, and be the main point of contact for, the centre in matters relating to the general administration of awarding body examinations and assessments.

**The head of centre may not appoint themselves as the examinations officer.** A head of centre and an examinations officer are two distinct and separate roles.

## **Head of centre responsibilities**

The head of centre is the individual who is accountable to the awarding bodies for ensuring that the centre is always compliant with the published JCQ regulations and awarding body requirements to ensure the security and integrity of the examinations/assessments.

**It is the responsibility of the head of centre to ensure that all staff comply with the instructions in the (*Instructions for conducting examinations*) booklet.** Failure to do so may constitute malpractice as defined in the JCQ publication *Suspected Malpractice: Policies and Procedures, 1 September 2023 to 31 August 2024*: <https://www.jcq.org.uk/exams-office/malpractice>

### **Head of Centre**

- Understands the contents, refers to and directs relevant centre staff to annually updated JCQ publications including:
  - ◆ General Regulations for Approved Centres (GR)
  - ◆ Instructions for Conducting Examinations (ICE)
  - ◆ Access Arrangements and Reasonable Adjustments (AA)
  - ◆ Suspected Malpractice - Policies and Procedures (SM)
  - ◆ Instructions for conducting non-examination assessments (NEA) (and the instructions for conducting coursework)
  - ◆ A guide to the special consideration process (SC)
- Ensures the centre has appropriate accommodation to support the size of the cohorts being taught including appropriate accommodation for candidates requiring access arrangements and/or practical assessments
- Where/if using a third party to deliver any part of a qualification (including its assessments) at the centre:
  - ◆ maintains oversight of, and responsibility for, the delivery of the qualification in accordance with JCQ regulations and awarding body requirements
  - ◆ has in place a written agreement with the third party to ensure there is a shared understanding of the arrangement and will manage the risk of failure by the third party to deliver the expected service
  - ◆ ensures that a copy of the written agreement is available for inspection if requested by the awarding body
- Ensures that relevant members of staff respond promptly to actions raised by the JCQ Centre Inspection Service, understanding that failure to do so could result in penalties (see **National Centre Number Register and other information requirements** section)
- Ensures that the centre promptly reports any incidents to the relevant awarding body/bodies which might compromise any aspect of assessment delivery, such as a cyber-attack
- Ensures other relevant centre staff where they may be involved in the receipt and dispatch of confidential exam materials are briefed on the requirements for maintaining the integrity and confidentiality of the exam materials
- Ensures members of centre staff do not forward emails and letters from awarding body or JCQ personnel without prior consent to third parties or upload such correspondence onto social media sites and applications
- Ensures members of centre staff do not advise parents/candidates to contact awarding bodies/JCQ directly nor provide them with addresses/email addresses of awarding body examining/assessment personnel or JCQ personnel

### **Recruitment, selection and training of staff**

- Retains a workforce of an appropriate size and competence, including sufficient managerial and other resource, to undertake the delivery of the qualification as required by an awarding body. This includes taking reasonable steps to ensure occupational competence where this is required for the assessment of specific qualifications
- Provides fully qualified teachers to mark non-examination assessments, and/or fully qualified assessors for the verification of centre-assessed components

- Enables the relevant senior leader(s), the examinations officer (EO) and the SENDCo to receive appropriate training and support in order to facilitate the effective delivery of examinations and assessments within the centre, and ensure compliance with the published JCQ regulations
- Appoints an SENDCo who will determine appropriate arrangements for candidates with learning difficulties and disabilities
- Ensures that the SENDCo has sufficient time to both manage the access arrangements process within the centre and familiarise him/herself with the JCQ publication *Access Arrangements and Reasonable Adjustments*
- Ensures that the examinations officer has sufficient time to perform their role and familiarise him/herself with relevant awarding body and JCQ documentation.
- Ensures that the examinations officer is line managed and actively supported by a member of the senior leadership team who has a good working knowledge of the examination system

### **External and Internal governance arrangements**

- Has in place a written escalation process should the head of centre, or a member of the senior leadership team with oversight of examination administration, be absent *see HGS Escalation Process Policy*
- Has in place a member of the senior leadership team who will provide effective support and supervision of the examinations officer to ensure that the integrity and security of examinations and assessments is maintained throughout an examination series
- Can confirm to an awarding body the external governance arrangements so that the awarding body has confidence in the integrity of centre activities such as the delivery of qualifications and the conducting of examinations and assessments
- Ensures centre staff undertake key tasks within the exams process and meet internal deadlines set by the EO
- Makes sure that a teacher, a teaching assistant, a tutor or a senior member of centre staff who teaches the subject being examined or a Learning Support Assistant who has supported one or more candidates, is not an invigilator during the examination

### **Delivery of qualifications**

- Delivers qualifications, as required by the awarding body, in accordance with relevant equality legislation. This includes but is not limited to ensuring that qualifications are made available to all candidates capable of undertaking them and seeking reasonable adjustments for disabled candidates
- Enables candidates to receive sufficient and up to date laboratory experience, or relevant training where required by the subject concerned

### **Public liability**

- Complies with local health and safety rules which are in place and that the centre is adequately covered for public liability claims

### **Security of assessment materials**

- Takes all reasonable steps to maintain the integrity of the examinations/assessments, including the security of all assessment materials, by ensuring:
  - the location of the centre's secure storage facility in a secure room which must only be used for the purpose of administering secure examination materials
  - the secure room only contains exam-related material
  - there are between two and six keyholders only, each keyholder must fully understand their responsibilities as a key holder to the secure storage facility
  - access to the secure room and secure storage facility is restricted to the authorised two to six keyholders (the exams officer must be one of the keyholders) and staff approved by the head of centre are accompanied by a keyholder at all times
  - appropriate arrangements are in place to ensure that confidential examination materials are only handed over to authorised members of centre staff

- appropriate arrangements are in place for handling secure electronic materials
- the relevant awarding body is immediately informed if the security of question papers or confidential supporting instructions is put at risk
- that when it is permitted to remove question paper packets from secure storage, and to avoid potential breaches of security, arrangements are in place to carefully check and record that the correct question paper packets are opened  
(If it is ever subsequently identified following this check that the wrong question paper packet has been opened, it will be resealed and the incident reported to the relevant awarding body's Malpractice Investigation Team immediately)
- Makes arrangements to receive, check and store question papers and examination material safely and securely at all times and for as long as required in accordance with the current JCQ publication *Instructions for conducting examinations*
- Makes arrangements to receive and issue material received from the awarding bodies to staff and candidates, and notify them of any advice and instructions relevant to the examinations and assessments
- Allows candidates access to relevant pre-release materials on, or as soon as possible after, the date specified by the awarding bodies

### **Malpractice**

- Through taking an ethical approach and working proactively to avoid malpractice among students and staff takes all reasonable steps to prevent the occurrence of any malpractice/maladministration before, during and after assessments have taken place
- Ensures any person involved in administering, teaching or completing examinations/assessments is advised that where malpractice is suspected, or alleged, personal data about them will be provided to the awarding body (or bodies) whose examinations/assessments are involved. Personal data about them may also be shared with other awarding bodies, the qualifications regulator or professional bodies in accordance with the JCQ publication *Suspected malpractice – Policies and procedures*
- Ensures irregularities are investigated and informs the awarding bodies 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
- As required by an awarding body, ensures evidence of any instances of alleged or suspected malpractice (which includes maladministration) is gathered in accordance with the JCQ publication *Suspected Malpractice - Policies and Procedures* and provides such information and advice as the awarding body may reasonably require

### **Policies/procedures**

#### **[HGS Exam Contingency Plan](#)**

Ensures risks to the exam process are assessed and appropriate risk management processes/contingency plans are in place (that allow the senior leadership team to act immediately in the event of an emergency or where the head of centre, the examinations officer or SENCo is absent at a critical stage of the examination cycle)

The examination contingency plan should reinforce procedures in the event of the centre being unavailable for examinations owing to an unforeseen emergency.

All relevant centre staff must be familiar with the examination contingency plan. Consideration should be given as to how these arrangements will be communicated to candidates, parents and staff should disruption to examinations occur.

#### **[HGS Internal Appeals Procedure](#)**

Ensures required internal appeals procedures are in place and drawn to the attention of candidates and (where relevant) their parents/carers

### [HGS Equalities Policy/ HGS Access Arrangements Policy](#)

Ensures the centre's equalities policy demonstrating the centre's compliance with relevant legislation is in place and details the processes followed in respect of identifying the need for, requesting and implementing access arrangements.

### [HGS Complaints Policy \(Exams\)/ RKLTL Complaints Policy](#)

Ensures a complaints policy covering general complaints regarding the centre's delivery or administration of a qualification is in place and drawn to the attention of candidates and their parents/carers

### [Child Protection/Safeguarding Policy](#)

Ensures the centre has a child protection/safeguarding policy in place, including Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) clearance, which satisfies current legislative requirements.

### [Data Protection Policy \(Exams\)](#)

Ensures the centre has a data protection policy in place that complies with General Data Protection Regulation and Data Protection Act 2018 regulations – see *GDPR Policy Exams* and *RKLTL Privacy Notice*

### [Whistleblowing Policy](#)

Ensures the centre has a whistleblowing policy in place.

### [Access Arrangements Policy](#)

Ensures the centre has documented processes in place relating to access arrangements and reasonable adjustments.

### [Conflicts of interest](#)

- Ensures the relevant awarding bodies are informed before the published deadline for entries for each examination series of any potential conflict of interest where:
  - ◆ a member of centre staff is taking a qualification at the centre which includes internally assessed components/units (noting that being entered by the centre must be as a last resort where unable to find an alternative centre)
  - ◆ a candidate is being taught and prepared for a qualification which includes internally assessed components/units by a member of centre staff with a close relationship to the candidate
- Maintains clear records that confirm the measures taken/protocols in place to mitigate any potential risk to the integrity of the qualifications affected by the above, and where:
  - ◆ a member of exams office staff has a close relationship to a candidate being entered for exams and assessments at the centre or at another centre
  - ◆ a member of centre staff is taking a qualification at the centre which does not include internally assessed components/units (noting that being entered by the centre must be as a last resort where unable to find an alternative centre)
  - ◆ a member of centre staff is taking a qualification at another centre

#### **Staff Conflicts of Interest**

The Exams Office will e-mail all staff annually (prior to the entry deadline) to ask them to declare any conflict of interest they may have for the upcoming external exams.

Where staff have declared a conflict they will be asked to complete a form stating the nature of the conflict.

This information will be collated by the EO and where necessary the relevant information will be submitted to the Awarding Bodies.

A risk assessment will be carried out to mitigate any risks to the security of the exams.



## **National Centre Number Register and other information requirements**

- Provides contact details and an address to which all correspondence in connection with the administration of examinations and assessments can be directed which must be the registered address of the centre
- Ensures the National Centre Number Register annual update is responded to by the end of October every year
- Takes responsibility for confirming, on an annual basis, that they are both aware of and adhering to the latest version of the JCQ's regulations. This confirmation is managed as part of the National Centre Number Register (NCNR) annual update by completion of the Head of Centre Declaration
- Understands that this responsibility cannot be delegated to a member of the senior leadership team or the examinations officer, and acknowledges that failure to respond to the NCNR annual update, and/or the head of centre's declaration, will result in:
  - ◆ the centre status being suspended
  - ◆ the centre not being able to submit examination entries
  - ◆ the centre not receiving or being able to access question papers and ultimately, awarding bodies could withdraw their approval of the centre

## **Centre inspections**

- Co-operates with the JCQ Centre Inspection Service, an awarding body or a regulatory authority when subject to an inspection, an investigation or an unannounced visit, and takes all reasonable steps to comply with all requests for information or documentation made by an awarding body or regulatory authority as soon as is practical
- Allows all venues used for examinations and assessments, paperwork and secure storage facilities to be open to inspection
- Understands the JCQ Centre Inspector will identify him/herself with a photo ID card and **must** be accompanied throughout his/her tour of the premises, including inspection of the centre's secure storage facility

## **Exams Manager/ Exams Officer Responsibilities**

- Understands the contents of annually updated JCQ publications including:
  - ◆ General Regulations for Approved Centres
  - ◆ Instructions for Conducting Examinations
  - ◆ Suspected Malpractice – Policies and Procedures
  - ◆ Post-Results Services (PRS)
  - ◆ A guide to the special consideration process
- Completes/submits the National Centre Number Register annual update (administered on behalf of the JCQ member awarding bodies by OCR <https://ocr.org.uk/administration/ncn-annual-update/>) by the end of October every year
  - ◆ Confirms the details or informs the awarding bodies of any changes to the centre's contact details through the National Centre Number Register
  - ◆ Informs the National Centre Number Register Team immediately (e-mail address – [ncn@ocr.org.uk](mailto:ncn@ocr.org.uk)) if any changes occur after the National Centre Number Register annual update has taken place
  - ◆ (Where it may be applicable) Informs the National Centre Number Register Team no later than 6 weeks prior to moving to a new address or a re-location of the secure storage facility
  - ◆ Informs the National Centre Number Register Team immediately of any other changes in circumstances that could affect the centre's status

- Is familiar with the contents of annually updated information from awarding bodies on administrative procedures, key tasks, key dates and deadlines
- Ensures key tasks are undertaken and key dates and deadlines met
- Recruits, trains and deploys a team of internal/external invigilators; appoints lead invigilators, as required and keeps a record of the content of training provided to invigilators for the required period
- Works with the SENDCo to ensure invigilators supervising access arrangement candidates and those acting as a facilitator supporting access arrangement candidates fully understand the respective role and what is and what is not permissible in the exam room
- Supports the head of centre in ensuring that awarding bodies are informed (where required) of any conflict of interest declared by members of centre staff and in maintaining records that confirm the measures taken/protocols in place to mitigate any potential risk to the integrity of the qualifications affected before the published deadline for entries for each examination series
- Briefs other relevant centre staff where they may be involved in the receipt and dispatch of confidential exam materials on the requirements for maintaining the integrity and confidentiality of the exam materials

### **Faculty Leaders/ Programme Managers Responsibilities**

- Are familiar with the contents, refer to and direct relevant centre staff to annually updated JCQ publications including:
  - ◆ General Regulations for Approved Centres
  - ◆ Instructions for Conducting Examinations
  - ◆ Access Arrangements and Reasonable Adjustments
  - ◆ Suspected Malpractice – Policies and Procedures
  - ◆ Instructions for conducting non-examination assessments (and the instructions for conducting coursework)
  - ◆ A guide to the special consideration process
- Ensure teaching staff undertake key tasks, as detailed in this policy, within the exams process (exam cycle) and meet internal deadlines set by the EO and SENDCo
- Ensure teaching staff keep themselves updated with awarding body subject and teacher-specific information to confirm effective delivery of qualifications
- Ensure teaching staff attend relevant awarding body training and update events

### **Additional Learning Support (ALS) lead/Special educational needs co-ordinator (SENCo) Responsibilities**

- Understands the contents, refers to and directs relevant centre staff to annually updated JCQ publications including:
  - ◆ Access Arrangements and Reasonable Adjustments
- Leads on the access arrangements and reasonable adjustments process (referred to in this policy as ‘access arrangements’)
- If not the qualified access arrangements assessor, works with the person appointed, on all matters relating to assessing candidates and ensures the correct procedures are followed
- Presents when requested by a JCQ Centre Inspector, evidence of the assessor’s qualification

### **Teaching Staff Responsibilities**

- Undertake key tasks, as detailed in this policy, within the exams process and meet internal deadlines set by the EO and SENDCo
- Keep updated with awarding body subject and teacher-specific information to confirm effective delivery of qualifications
- Attend relevant awarding body training and update events

### **Invigilator Responsibilities**

- Attend/undertake training, (on the current regulations), update, briefing and review sessions as required
- Provide information as requested on their availability to invigilate
- Sign a confidentiality and security agreement and confirm whether they have any current maladministration/malpractice sanctions applied to them

### **Reception Staff Responsibilities**

- Support the EO in the receipt and dispatch of confidential exam materials and follow the requirements for maintaining the integrity and confidentiality of the exam materials

### **Site Staff Responsibilities**

- Support the EO in relevant matters relating to exam rooms and resources

### **Candidates**

Where applicable in this policy, the term 'candidates' refers to candidates and/or their parents/carers.

## **The exam cycle**

The exams management and administration process that needs to be undertaken for each **exam series** is often referred to as the **exam cycle** and relevant tasks required within this grouped into the following stages:

- planning
- entries
- pre-exams
- exam time
- results and post-results

This policy identifies roles and responsibilities of staff within this cycle.

## **Planning: roles and responsibilities**

### **Information sharing**

#### **Head of Centre**

- Directs relevant centre staff to annually updated JCQ publications including GR, ICE, AA, SM, NEA (and the instructions for conducting coursework) and SC

#### **Exams Manager/ Exams Officer**

- Signposts relevant centre staff to JCQ publications and awarding body documentation relating to the exams process that have been updated
- Signposts relevant centre staff to JCQ information that should be provided to candidates
- As the centre administrator, approves relevant access rights for centre staff to access awarding body secure extranet sites

### **Information gathering**

#### **Exams Manager/ Exams Officer**

- Undertakes an annual information gathering exercise in preparation for each new academic year to ensure data about all qualifications being delivered is up to date and correct
- Collates all information gathered into one central point of reference
- Researches awarding body guidance to identify administrative processes, key tasks, key dates and deadlines for all relevant qualifications
- Produces an annual exams plan of key tasks and key dates to ensure all external deadlines can be effectively met; informs key centre staff of internal deadlines
- Collects information on internal exams to enable preparation for and conduct of internal mock and end of year exams.

### **Faculty Leader/Programme Leader**

- Responds (or ensures teaching staff respond) to requests from the EO on information gathering
- Meets the internal deadline for the return of information
- Informs the EO of any changes to information in a timely manner minimising the risk of late or other penalty fees being incurred by an awarding body
- Notes the internal deadlines in the annual exams plan and directs teaching staff to meet these

## **Access arrangements**

### **Head of Centre**

- Ensures there is appropriate accommodation for candidates requiring access arrangements in the centre for all examinations and assessments
- Ensures a written process is in place to not only check the qualification(s) of the appointed assessor(s) but that the correct procedures are followed as in Chapter 7 of the JCQ publication [Access Arrangements and Reasonable Adjustments](#)
- Ensures the SENDCo is fully supported in effectively implementing access arrangements and reasonable adjustments once approved

### **ALS Lead/SENDCo**

- Assesses candidates (or works with the appropriately qualified assessor as appointed by the head of centre) to identify access arrangements/reasonable adjustments requirements
- Gathers **evidence** to support the need for access arrangements for a candidate
- Liaises with teaching staff to gather evidence of **normal way of working** of an affected candidate
- Determines candidate eligibility for arrangements or adjustments that are centre-delegated
- Gathers signed **Personal data consent**, forms from candidates where required and ensures Data protection confirmation(s) by the examinations officer or SENDCo are completed
- Applies for **approval** through **Access arrangements online (AAO)** via the **Centre Admin Portal (CAP)**, where required or through the awarding body where qualifications sit outside the scope of AAO
- Keeps a file for each candidate for JCQ inspection purposes containing all the required documentation (if documentation is stored electronically, an e-folder must be created for each individual candidate. The candidate's e-folder must hold each of the required documents for inspection)
- Employs good practice in relation to the Equality Act 2010
- Liaises with the EO regarding exam time arrangements for access arrangement candidates
- Ensures staff appointed to facilitate access arrangements for candidates are thoroughly trained and understand the rules of the particular arrangement(s) and keeps a record of the content of training provided to facilitators for the required period
- Works with the EO to ensure invigilators and those acting as a facilitator fully understand the respective role and what is and what is not permissible in the exam room
- Liaises with the relevant member of the senior leadership team on the centre's policy on the use of word processors in examinations – see *HGS Word Processor Policy*

- Ensures criteria for candidates granted alternative rooming arrangements is clear, meets JCQ regulations and best meets the needs of individual candidates and remaining candidates in main exam rooms – see *HGS Access Arrangements Policy*

### **Senior Leaders, Faculty Leaders, Programme Leaders, Teaching staff**

- Support the SENDCo in determining and implementing appropriate access arrangements/reasonable adjustments
- Produce a word processor policy, specific to the centre, which details the criteria the centre uses to award and allocate word processors for examinations

## **Internal assessment and endorsements**

### **Head of centre**

#### **Controlled assessments, coursework and non-examination assessments**

- Ensures appropriate controls are in place which allow accurate data to be submitted to the awarding bodies, e.g. internally assessed marks
- Ensures arrangements are in place to co-ordinate and standardise all marking of centre-assessed components and ensures that candidates' centre-assessed work is produced, authenticated and marked, or assessed and quality assured in accordance with the awarding bodies' instructions (including where relevant, private candidates)
- Ensures that teaching staff, in accordance with awarding bodies' instructions, return all subject-specific forms by the required date
- Provides fully qualified teachers to mark non-examination assessments, and/or fully qualified assessors for the verification of centre-assessed components
- Ensures an **internal appeals procedure** relating to internal assessment decisions is in place for a candidate to appeal against and request a review of the centre's marking (see Roles and responsibilities overview)
- Ensures a **non-examination assessment policy** is in place for GCE and GCSE qualifications which include components of non-examination assessment - see *Non-Exam Assessment Policy*
- Ensures any irregularities relating to the production of work by candidates are investigated and dealt with internally if discovered prior to a candidate signing the authentication statement (where required) or reported to the awarding body if a candidate has signed the authentication statement

### **Senior leaders**

- Ensure teaching staff have the necessary and appropriate knowledge, understanding, skills, and training to set tasks, conduct task taking, and to assess, mark and authenticate candidates' work (including where relevant, private candidates)
- Ensure appropriate internal moderation, standardisation and verification processes are in place

### **Faculty Leader/Programme Leader**

- Ensures teaching staff delivering AQA Applied General qualifications, OCR Cambridge Nationals, Entry Level Certificate or Project qualifications follow JCQ Instructions for conducting coursework and the specification provided by the awarding body
- Ensures teaching staff delivering GCE & GCSE specifications (which include components of non-examination assessment) follow JCQ Instructions for conducting non-examination assessments and the specification provided by the awarding body
- For other qualifications, ensures teaching staff follow appropriate instructions issued by the awarding body
- Ensures teaching staff inform candidates of their centre assessed marks as a candidate may request a review of the centre's marking before marks are submitted to the awarding body
- Liaises with the Cover Manager and Exams Office for rooming and invigilation requirements for internal assessments where appropriate.

## Teaching staff

- Ensure appropriate instructions for conducting internal assessment are followed
- Ensure candidates are aware of JCQ and awarding body information for candidates on producing work that is internally assessed (coursework, non-examination assessments, social media) prior to assessments taking place
- Ensure candidates are informed of their centre assessed marks as a candidate may request a review of the centre's marking before marks are submitted to the awarding body
- Ensures that each candidate signs a declaration that authenticates the internal assessment work produced as their own (where required).

## Exams Manager/Officer

- Identifies relevant key dates and administrative processes that need to be followed in relation to internal assessment
- Signposts teaching staff to relevant JCQ *information for candidates* documents that are annually updated

## Invigilation

### Head of centre

- Ensures relevant support is provided to the EO in recruiting, training and deploying a team of invigilators
- Ensures, if contracting supply staff to act as invigilators, that such persons are competent and fully trained, understanding what is and what is not permissible (and not taking on its own an assurance from a recruitment agency, that this is the case)
- Determines if additional invigilators will be deployed in timed Art exams in addition to the subject teacher to ensure the supervision of candidates is maintained at all times

### Exams Manager/Officer

- Recruits additional invigilators where required to effectively cover all exam periods/series' throughout the academic year
- Collects information on new recruits to identify if they have invigilated previously and if any current maladministration/malpractice sanctions are applied to them
- Provides thorough training for new invigilators on the current instructions for conducting examinations and an update for the existing invigilation team so that they are aware of any changes in a new academic year before they are allocated to invigilate an exam
- Ensures invigilators supervising access arrangement candidates understand their role (and the role of a facilitator who may be supporting a candidate) and the rules and regulations of the access arrangement(s)
- Ensures invigilators are briefed on the access arrangement candidates in their exam room and made aware of the access arrangement(s) awarded (ensuring these candidates are identified on the seating plan) and confirms invigilators understand what is and what is not permissible
- Collects evaluation of training to inform future events

## Entries: roles and responsibilities

### Estimated entries

#### Exams officer

- Requests estimated or early entry information, where this may be required by awarding bodies, from Faculty Leaders in a timely manner to ensure awarding body external deadlines for submission can be met

- Makes candidates aware of the JCQ Information for candidates – Privacy Notice at the start of a course leading to a vocational qualification or when entries are submitted to awarding bodies for processing for general qualifications

### **Faculty Leader/Programme Leader**

- Provides entry information requested by the EO to the internal deadline
- Informs the EO immediately of any subsequent changes to entry information
- Updates the Exams Office of changes in the curriculum affecting exam entries to enable the Exams Office to process 'Intention to Enter' and 'Estimated Entry' submissions where appropriate.

## **Final entries**

### **Head of centre**

- Ensures appropriate controls are in place which allow accurate data to be submitted to the awarding bodies, e.g. entries

### **Exams Manager/ Officer**

- Requests final entry information from Faculty Leaders in a timely manner to ensure awarding body external deadlines for submission can be met
- Informs Faculty Leaders of subsequent deadlines for making changes to final entry information without charge
- Confirms with Faculty Leaders final entry information that has been submitted to awarding bodies
- Ensures as far as possible that entry processes minimise the risk of entries or registrations being missed reducing the potential for late or other penalty fees being charged by awarding bodies
- Observes each awarding body's terms and conditions for the entry and withdrawal of candidates for their examinations and assessments, and observes any regulatory requirements for the qualification
- Submits the final entries to the Awarding Bodies via A2C before the deadline

### **Final entries collection and submission procedure**

- ◆ Faculty Leaders decide exam entries for candidates in consultation with teaching staff.
- ◆ Entries are indicated on a subject spreadsheet by the HOF
- ◆ Entries are input into the MIS by the Exams Manager
- ◆ Entries are checked, printed out and given to Faculty Leaders by the Exams officer for signing off.
- ◆ Parents/carers may request a subject entry, change of level or withdrawal, however the final decision rests with the Faculty Leader.
- ◆ Candidates may be withdrawn from a qualification if they have not satisfied attendance and/or internal assessment requirements.

### **Faculty Leader/Programme Leader**

- Provides information requested by the EO to the internal deadline
- Informs the EO immediately, or at the very least prior to the deadlines, of any subsequent changes to final entry information, which includes
  - ◆ changes to candidate personal details
  - ◆ amendments to existing entries
  - ◆ withdrawals of existing entries
- Checks final entry submission information provided by the EO and confirms information is correct

### **Year Managers/Sixth Form Management Team**

- Advises the Exams Office of any relevant changes in candidate details affecting exam entries including candidates who are: new students, leavers, repeating year, dropping or picking up subjects (GCE).

## Entry fees

- ◆ External exam entry fees are paid by HGS. Late entry or amendment fees are paid by HGS or the candidate depending on the circumstances.
- ◆ Candidates or Faculties/Subjects will not be charged for changes of tier, withdrawals made by the proper procedures or alterations arising from administrative processes provided these are made within the time allowed by the awarding bodies.
- ◆ Fee reimbursements are sought from candidates who decide to sit an exam after the late entry/withdrawal deadline; fail to sit an exam; or do not meet the necessary internal assessment requirements without medical evidence or evidence of other mitigating circumstances.
- ◆ BTEC, Cambridge National, and Cambridge Technical qualifications: HGS will pay for the first re-sit attempt, subsequent attempts will be paid by the candidate
- ◆ Post-certification re-sit fees for first and subsequent attempts are paid by candidates except for GCSE English and Maths where the candidate has yet to achieve a grade 4.
- ◆ All resit attempts for Functional Skills will be paid by HGS

## Late entries

### Exams Manager/Officer

- Has clear entry procedures in place to minimise the risk of late entries
- Charges any late or other penalty fees to departmental budgets

### Faculty Leader/Programme Leader

- Minimises the risk of late entries by
  - ◆ following procedures identified by the EO in relation to making final entries on time
  - ◆ meeting internal deadlines identified by the EO for making final entries
  - ◆

## Private candidates

HGS will accept Private Candidates if they were a previous student of the school. In addition to the exam entry fees they will be charged a £30 fee to cover administrative costs associated with the processing of entries and results in addition to the exam entry fee costs.

## Candidate statements of entry

### Exams Manager/Officer

- Provides candidates with statements of entry for checking

### Teaching staff

- Ensure candidates check statements of entry and return any relevant confirmation required to the EO



## Candidates

- Confirm entry information is correct or notify the EO of any discrepancies

## Pre-exams: roles and responsibilities

### Access arrangements and reasonable adjustments

#### ALS lead/SENDCo

- Ensures appropriate arrangements, adjustments and adaptations are in place to facilitate access to exams/assessments for candidates where they are disabled within the meaning of the Equality Act (unless a temporary emergency arrangement is required at the time of an exam)
- Ensures a candidate is involved in any decisions about arrangements, adjustments and /or adaptations that may be put in place for him/her
- Ensures exam information (JCQ information for candidates documents, individual exam timetable etc.) is adapted where this may be required for a disabled candidate to access it
- Where relevant, ensures the necessary and appropriate steps are undertaken to gather an appropriate picture of need and demonstrate normal way of working for a private candidate (including distance learners and home educated candidates) and that the candidate is assessed by the centre's appointed assessor
- Allocates appropriately trained centre staff to facilitate access arrangements for candidates in exams and assessments (ensuring that the facilitator appointed meets JCQ requirements and fully understands the rule of the access arrangement)

#### Exams Manager/Officer

- Liaises with SENDCo to ensure all access arrangements are in place for external and internal examinations
- Allocates appropriately trained centre staff to facilitate access arrangements for candidates in exams and assessments (ensuring that the facilitator appointed meets JCQ requirements and fully understands the rule of the access arrangement)

### Briefing candidates

#### Exams officer

- Issues individual exam timetable information to candidates and informs candidates of any designated contingency sessions awarding bodies may identify in the event of national or significant local disruption to exams
- Prior to exams, issues relevant JCQ information for candidates documents
- Where relevant, issues relevant awarding body information to candidates
- Issues centre exam information to candidates including information on:
  - ♦ exam timetable clashes
  - ♦ arriving late for an exam
  - ♦ absence or illness during exams
  - ♦ what equipment is/is not provided by the centre
  - ♦ food and drink in exam rooms
  - ♦ unauthorised items in exam rooms
  - ♦ when and how results will be issued and the staff that will be available
  - ♦ the post-results service information and how the centre will deal with requests from candidates
  - ♦ access to scripts, reviews of results and appeals procedures

- ◆ when and how certificates will be issued

## **Dispatch of exam scripts**

### **Exams Manager/Officer**

- Identifies and confirms arrangements for the dispatch of candidate exam scripts with the DfE (STA) 'yellow label service' or the awarding body where qualifications sit outside the scope of the service

## **Internal assessment and endorsements**

### **Head of centre**

- Ensures procedures are in place for candidates to appeal internal assessment decisions and make requests for reviews of marking

### **ALS lead/SENDCo**

- Liaises with teaching staff to implement appropriate access arrangements for candidates undertaking internal assessments and practical endorsements

### **Teaching staff**

- Support the SENDCo in implementing appropriate access arrangements for candidates undertaking internal assessments and practical endorsements
- Assess and authenticate candidates' work
- Assess endorsed components
- Ensure candidates are informed of centre assessed marks prior to marks being submitted to awarding bodies

### **Faculty Leader/Programme Leader**

- Ensures teaching staff assess and authenticate candidates' work to the awarding body requirements
- Ensures teaching staff assess endorsed components according to awarding body requirements
- Ensures teaching staff provide marks for internally assessed components and grades for endorsements of qualifications to the EO to the internal deadline
- Ensures teaching staff provide required samples of work for moderation and sample recordings for monitoring to the EO to the internal deadline

### **Exams Manager/Officer**

- Submits marks, endorsement grades and samples to awarding bodies/moderators/monitors to meet the external deadline
- Keeps a record to track what has been sent
- Logs moderated samples returned to the centre
- Ensures teaching staff are aware of the requirements in terms of retention and subsequent disposal of candidates' work

### **Candidates**

- Authenticate their work as required by the awarding body

## **Invigilation**

### **Exams Manager/Officer**

- Provides an annually reviewed/updated invigilator handbook to invigilators, trains new invigilators on the current regulations on appointment and updates experienced invigilators on any regulation changes and any changes to centre-specific processes

- Deploys invigilators effectively to exam rooms throughout an exam series (including the provision of a roving invigilator where a candidate and invigilator (acting as a practical assistant, reader or scribe) are accommodated on a 1:1 basis to enter the room at regular intervals in order to observe the conducting of the exam, ensure all relevant rules are being adhered to and to support the practical assistant/reader and/or scribe in maintaining the integrity of the exam)
- Allocates invigilators to exam rooms (or where supervising candidates due to a timetable clash) according to the required ratios
- Liaises with the SENDCo regarding the facilitation and invigilation of access arrangement candidates

#### **ALS lead/SENDCo**

- Liaises with the EO regarding facilitation and invigilation of access arrangement candidates

#### **Invigilators**

- Provide information as requested on their availability to invigilate throughout an exam series

### **JCQ Centre Inspections**

#### **Exams Manager/Officer or Head of Centre**

- Will accompany the Inspector throughout a visit

#### **ALS lead/SENDCo or relevant Senior leader** (in the absence of the SENDCo)

- Will meet with the inspector when requested to provide documentary evidence regarding access arrangement candidates and address any questions the inspector may raise
- Ensures that information is readily available for inspection at the venue where the candidate is taking the exam(s)

### **Seating and identifying candidates in exam rooms**

#### **Exams Manager/Officer**

- Ensures a procedure is in place to verify the identity of all candidates

#### **Verifying candidate identity procedure**

- ◆ Photograph ID cards will be on desks to enable invigilators to identify all candidates. KS4 candidates will also be identified by Year Managers/SLT before entering the hall, Sixth form students will be wearing a school ID badge which they will be asked to take off and place on the desk.
- ◆ Private candidates will have their ID checked upon arrival at the school to prove that they are the same person who entered/registered for the examination/assessment, e.g. passport or photographic driving licence

- Ensures invigilators are aware of the procedure
- Provides seating plans for exam rooms according to JCQ and awarding body requirements (and ensures candidates with access arrangements are identified on the seating plan and invigilators are informed of those candidates with access arrangements and made aware of the access arrangement(s) awarded)

#### **Invigilators**

- Follow the procedure for verifying candidate identity provided by the EO
- Seat candidates in exam rooms as instructed by the EO/on the seating plan

#### **Year Managers/Sixth Form Management Team**

- Are present at the beginning of external exams to identify candidates in accordance with exam board regulations.

## Security of exam materials

### Exams Manager/Officer

- Confirms appropriate arrangements are in place to ensure that confidential materials are only delivered to those authorised by the head of centre.
- Ensures access to the secure room is restricted and staff approved by the head of centre are accompanied by a keyholder at all times. There must be between two and six keyholders only, (the exams officer must be one of the keyholders), each keyholder whom must fully understand their responsibilities as a key holder to the secure storage facility
- Has a process in place to demonstrate the receipt, secure movement and secure storage of confidential exam materials within the centre
- Ensures a log is kept at the initial point of delivery recording confidential materials received and signed for by authorised staff within the centre and that appropriate arrangements are in place for confidential materials to be immediately transferred to the secure storage facility until they can be removed from the dispatch packaging and checked in the secure room before being returned to the secure storage facility in timetable order
- Carefully checks question paper packets when they are removed from the dispatch packing and keeps a log of the check
- Ensures the secure storage facility contains only current and live confidential material (ensuring that past examination question papers, internal tests and mock examinations are not kept in the centre's secure storage facility)
- Ensures that examination stationery, e.g. answer booklets and formula booklets are stored in the secure room (attempting to store this material in the secure storage facility, when sufficient space allows)
- Ensures the integrity and security of any electronic question paper is maintained during the downloading, printing and collating process (ensuring printing is carried out in a secure environment to prevent unauthorised personnel accessing live assessment materials and ensuring only authorised members of centre staff have access to electronic question papers)
- At least two and no more than six members of centre staff should be authorised to handle secure electronic materials, one of whom must be the exams officer\*. Other members of centre staff may assist with printing and collation provided they are under supervision.  
\*For AQA examinations, one member of centre staff can be authorised to handle secure electronic material.

### Reception staff

- Follow the process to log confidential materials delivered to/received by the centre to the point materials are issued to authorised staff for transferal to the secure storage facility

### Teaching staff

- Adhere to the process to record the secure movement of confidential materials taken from or returned to secure storage throughout the time the material is confidential

## Timetabling and rooming

### Exams Manager/Officer

- Produces a master centre exam timetable for each exam series
- Identifies and resolves candidate exam timetable clashes according to the regulations (only applying overnight supervision arrangements as a last resort, once all other options have been exhausted and according to the centre's policy)

## Overnight supervision arrangements policy

- ◆ Overnight supervision will only be applied as a last resort once all other options have been exhausted. This will only be available for candidates who have three or more exams timetabled in one day and the total duration of the papers is over 6 hours (GCE) or 5½ hours (GCSE).
- ◆ Candidates will be identified at the entries stage by the Exams Manager/ Exams Officer who will discuss the options with the candidate.
- ◆ Where overnight supervision is necessary the candidate will be required to sign a declaration form along with a parent carer who agrees to take responsibility for the candidate and ensure that there is no breach in the security of the exam.
- ◆ On the day of the exam the candidate will be supervised at all times whilst on the premises and this supervision will end when the candidate is collected by their parent/carer who will then take on this responsibility.
- ◆ The candidate will be asked to hand their phone in to the Exams Office and will not be allowed access to any form of electronic communication (including TV and radio) or meet/communicate with anyone who may have knowledge of the content of the exam.
- ◆ The following morning the candidate must be accompanied into school by their parent/carer and handed over to a member of the Exams Office and will remain supervised until they have completed their exam.

- Identifies exam rooms and specialist equipment requirements
- Allocates invigilators to exam rooms (or where supervising candidates due to an exam timetable clash) according to required ratios
- Liaises with site staff to ensure exam rooms are set up according to JCQ and awarding body requirements
- Liaises with the ALS lead/SENCo regarding rooming of access arrangement candidates
- Liaises with Cover Manager to make necessary room bookings and cover arrangements for Heads of Year to start exams.
- Liaises with Catering Manager to ensure candidates requiring early lunches are catered for.
- Informs Network Support of examinations which will require ICT input and support e.g MFL listening tests

### ALS lead/SENDCo

- Liaises with the EO regarding rooming of access arrangement candidates
- Liaises with other relevant centre staff to ensure appropriate arrangements, adjustments and adaptations are in place to facilitate access for disabled candidates to exams

### Site staff

- Liaise with the EO to ensure exam rooms are set up according to JCQ and awarding body requirements

### Year Managers

- Liaise with Cover Manager to ensure appropriate supervision arrangements for Years 10 and 11 candidates requiring early lunch.

## Alternative site arrangements

### Exams Manager/Officer

- Ensures question papers will only be taken to an alternative site where the published criteria for an alternative site arrangement has been met

- Will inform the JCQ Centre Inspection Service to timescale by submitting a JCQ *Alternative Site arrangement* notification through CAP (or through the awarding body where a qualification may sit outside the scope of CAP) of any alternative sites that will be used to conduct timetabled examination components of the qualifications listed in the JCQ regulations

## Centre consortium arrangements

### Exams Manager/officer

- Processes applications for Centre Consortium arrangements using CAP to the awarding body deadline (or through the awarding body where a qualification may sit outside the scope of CAP)

### Senior leaders

- Inform the EO of any joint teaching arrangements in place and where the centre is acting as the consortium co-ordinator

## Transferred candidate arrangements

### Exams Manager/Officer

- Liaises with the host or entering centre, as required
- Processes requests for *Transferred Candidate arrangements* using CAP to the awarding body deadline (or through the awarding body where a qualification may sit outside the scope of CAP)
- Where relevant (for an internal candidate) informs the candidate of the arrangements that have been made for their transferred candidate arrangements

## Internal exams

### Exams Manager/Officer

- Prepares for the conduct of internal exams under external conditions
- Provides a centre exam timetable of subjects and rooms
- Provides seating plans for exam rooms
- Requests internal exam papers from teaching staff
- Arranges invigilation

### SENDCo

- Liaises with teaching staff to make appropriate arrangements for access arrangement candidates

### Teaching staff

- Provide exam papers and materials to the EO
- Support the SENDCo in making appropriate arrangements for access arrangement candidates

## Exam time: roles and responsibilities

## Access arrangements

### Exams officer

- Provides cover sheets for access arrangement candidates' scripts where required for particular arrangements
- Has a process in place to deal with emergency/ temporary access arrangements as they arise at the time of exams
  - ◆ applies for approval through AAO where required or through the awarding body where qualifications sit outside the scope of AAO

## **Candidate absence**

A candidate will be considered absent from an examination if they are not present when the attendance register is completed, when the candidates are seated and have started the examination.

Once a candidate is identified as absent from an examination, the following action will be taken:

- The candidate will be contacted immediately as to their whereabouts and as far as possible arrangements made to ensure their immediate arrival

If a candidate fails to sit an examination, the following action is taken:

- A confirmed candidate absence is clearly recorded on the attendance register which is sent to the examiner/marker
- The candidate absence is marked on the seating plan

### **SLT/ Year Managers/Sixth Form Management Team**

- Check on absentees during external exams and coordinate absences with the Attendance Officer, informing Exams Office of any developments/problems which arise out of the process.

### **Attendance Office**

- Contact students as soon as possible to find out reason for absence or if candidate is running late
- Inform EO of reason for absence

### **Invigilators**

- Are informed of the policy/process for dealing with absent candidates through training
- Ensure that confirmed absent candidates are clearly marked as such on the attendance register and seating plan

### **Candidates**

- Are re-charged relevant entry fees for unauthorised absence from exams

## **Candidate behaviour**

See *Irregularities* below.

## **Candidate belongings**

See *Unauthorised materials* below.

## **Candidate late arrival**

### **Exams Manager/Officer**

- Ensures that candidates who arrive very late for an exam are reported to the awarding body by submitting a *report on candidate admitted very late to examination room* using CAP to timescale
- Warns candidates that their script may not be accepted by the awarding body

### **Invigilators**

- Are informed of the policy/process for dealing with late/very late arrival candidates through training
- Ensure that relevant information is recorded on the exam room incident log

## Candidate late arrival policy

- ◆ A candidate who arrives after the start of the examination will be allowed to enter the examination room and sit the examination. A note of the start and finish time will be made by the lead invigilator. The candidate will be allowed the full time for the examination.
- ◆ A candidate who arrives **very late** for the exam will be allowed to sit the exam and be given the full amount of time however they must be supervised from the time they enter the school building until they enter the exam room.
- ◆ An account will be taken of the circumstances resulting in the very late arrival by the Exams Officer and this will be submitted to the awarding body. The candidate will be informed that the awarding body may not accept their script.

## Conducting exams

### Head of centre

- Ensures venues used for conducting exams meet the requirements of JCQ and awarding bodies

### Exams Manager/Officer

- Ensures exams are conducted according to JCQ and awarding body instructions
- Uses an *exam day checklist* to ensure each exam session is fully prepared for, unplanned events can be dealt with and associated follow-up is completed

## Dispatch of exam scripts

### Exams Manager/Officer

- Dispatches scripts as instructed by JCQ and awarding bodies
- Keeps appropriate records to track dispatch

## Exam papers and materials

### Exams Manager/Officer

- Organises exam question papers and associated confidential resources in date order in the secure storage facility
- Attaches erratum notices received to relevant sealed question paper packets
- Collates attendance registers and examiner details in date order
- Regularly checks mail or email inbox for updates from awarding bodies
- In order to avoid potential breaches of security, care is taken to ensure the correct question paper packets are opened by ensuring a member of centre staff, additional to the person removing the papers from secure storage, e.g. an invigilator, checks the day, date, time, subject, unit/component and tier of entry, if appropriate, immediately before a question paper packet is opened
- Ensures this second pair of eyes check is recorded
- Where allowed by the awarding body, only releases exam papers and materials to teaching departments for teaching and learning purposes after the published finishing time of the exam, or until any timetable clash candidates have completed the exam

## Exam rooms

### Head of centre

- Ensures that internal tests, mock exams, revision or coaching sessions are not conducted in a room 'designated' as an exam room
- Ensures that when a room is 'designated' as an exam room it is not used for any purpose other than conducting external exams



- Ensures only approved centre staff (who have not taught the subject being examined) are present in exam rooms to perform permitted tasks
- Ensures the centre's policy relating to food and drink that may be allowed in exam rooms is clearly communicated to candidates
- Ensures the centre's policy on candidates leaving the exam room temporarily is clearly communicated to candidates

### Food and drink in exam rooms policy

#### FOOD & DRINK

- ◆ No food or drink is allowed in the exam room except for water. Bottles must be transparent, have no writing on them and must have labels removed. Chewing gum is not allowed.
- ◆ Aluminium water bottles will not be allowed
- ◆ If students require water bottles refilling this will be done by the invigilator/roving invigilator.

### Policy on candidates leaving the exam room temporarily

- ◆ Any candidate who needs to leave the exam room temporarily will be accompanied by an invigilator/roving invigilator or member of the exams office. They will not be able to leave the exam room until one of the aforementioned is available.
- ◆ Candidates may leave the room temporarily either to go to the toilet or to deal with a medical condition e.g nose bleed, fainting, diabetes etc.
- ◆ No time compensation will be allowed for a toilet break (unless a student has a medical condition which makes this more likely). Time compensation will be given if a candidate leaves the room for medical reasons.

### Exams Manager/Officer

- Ensures exam rooms are set up and conducted as required in the regulations
- Provides invigilators with appropriate resources to effectively conduct exams
- Briefs invigilators on exams to be conducted on a session by session basis (including the arrangements in place for any transferred candidates and access arrangement candidates)
- Ensures sole invigilators have an appropriate means of summoning assistance (if this is a mobile phone, instructs the invigilator that the mobile phone is only allowed to be used for this specific purpose and that it must be kept on silent mode)
- Ensures invigilators understand they must be vigilant and remain aware of incidents or emerging situations, looking out for malpractice or candidates who may be in distress, recording any incidents or issues on the exam room incident log
- Ensures invigilators understand how to deal with candidates who may need to leave the exam room temporarily and how this should be recorded on the exam room incident log
- Provides authorised exam materials which candidates are not expected to provide themselves
- Ensures invigilators and candidates are aware of the emergency evacuation procedure
- Ensures invigilators are aware of arrangements in place for a candidate with a disability who may need assistance if an exam room is evacuated

### Senior leaders

- Ensure a documented emergency evacuation procedure for exam rooms is in place
- Ensure arrangements are in place for a candidate with a disability who may need assistance if an exam room is evacuated

### Emergency evacuation policy

- ◆ **During Exams:** If the alarm is sounded during an exam period, the alarm will be immediately validated by SLT/Site teams to determine if a false alarm.

- ◆ Main School - If evacuation is needed, students undertaking exams will congregate on the far side of the astro-turf pitch away from other students in silence.
- ◆ Sixth Form – students will congregate on the near side of the Tennis Courts away from other students in silence.
- ◆ The exam invigilators will assist in escorting students out of the school buildings and provide a copy of the exam seating plan (including registered attendees) to the Year Manager/Student Support Manager. The exam seating plan will denote any absentees. The Year Manager(s) / Student Support Manager will cross check and register the students back to the exam seating plan to ensure all exam attendees are present and safely left the building. The Year Manager(s) / Student Support Manager will then report back to the Headteacher/Associate Headteacher/Deputy Head.

### Site staff

- Ensure exam rooms are available and set up as requested by the EO
- Ensure grounds or centre maintenance work does not disturb exam candidates in exam rooms
- Ensure fire alarm testing does not take place during exam sessions

### Invigilators

- Conduct exams in every exam room according to JCQ *Instructions for conducting examinations* and/or awarding body requirements and as instructed by the centre in training/update and briefing sessions

### Candidates

- Are required to follow the instructions given to them in exam rooms by authorised centre staff and invigilators
- Are required to remain in the exam room for the full duration of the exam
- Leave all unauthorised materials, bags, phones etc in the designated bag room.

## Irregularities

### Head of centre

- Ensures any cases of alleged, suspected or actual incidents of malpractice or maladministration before, during or after examinations/assessments (by centre staff, candidates, invigilators) are investigated and reported to the awarding body **immediately**, by completing the appropriate documentation

### Managing behaviour in exam rooms procedure

- ◆ Any candidate who is being disruptive in an examination room will be warned by the invigilator that they may be removed from the examination room and that the Awarding Body will be informed and may disqualify them.
- ◆ If the disruption persists and is disturbing other candidates, invigilators will contact the exams office who will inform the Head of Centre and if necessary remove the student from the room.
- ◆ All incidents of disruption must be recorded by the invigilator in the exam room incident book and the EO will inform the Awarding Body.

### Senior leaders

- Ensure support is provided for the EO and invigilators when dealing with disruptive candidates in exam rooms
- Ensure that internal disciplinary procedures relating to candidate behaviour are instigated, when appropriate

### Exams Manager/Officer

- Provides an exam room incident log in all exam rooms for recording any incidents or irregularities
- Actions any required follow-up and reports to awarding bodies as soon as practically possible after the exam has taken place

### **Invigilators**

- Record any incidents or irregularities on the exam room incident log (for example, late/very late arrival, candidate or centre staff suspected malpractice, candidate illness or needing to leave the exam room temporarily, disruption or disturbance in the exam room, emergency evacuation)

### **Malpractice**

See *Irregularities* above.

### **Special consideration**

#### **Exams Manager/Officer**

- Processes eligible applications for special consideration to awarding bodies
- Gathers evidence which may need to be provided by other staff in centre or candidates
- Submits requests to awarding bodies to the external deadline – see *Special Consideration Policy*

#### **Year Managers/Sixth Form Management Team**

- Advise the Exams Office of candidates potentially eligible for special consideration.

#### **Candidates**

- Inform HGS/Invigilator if they are ill before an exam, suffer a bereavement or other trauma, are taken ill during the exam itself or otherwise disadvantaged or disturbed during an exam
- Provide appropriate evidence to support special consideration requests, where required

### **Unauthorised materials**

#### **Invigilators**

- Are informed of the arrangements through training

#### **Candidates**

- A bag room is provided where candidates can leave all unauthorised materials, phones, watches etc.
- If a candidate inadvertently brings unauthorised materials to the exam room they can hand them to an invigilator before the exam starts and the item will be placed in an envelope for collection after the exam has finished. All phones must be turned off when handed in.

### **Internal exams**

#### **Exams officer**

- Briefs invigilators on conducting internal exams
- Returns candidate scripts to teaching staff for marking

#### **Invigilators**

- Conduct internal exams as briefed by the EO

## **Results and post-results: roles and responsibilities**

### **Internal assessment**

#### **Faculty Leader/Programme Leader**

- Ensures teaching staff keep candidates' work, whether part of the moderation sample or not, secure and for the required period stated by JCQ and awarding bodies
- Ensures work is returned to candidates after the retention period or disposed of according to the requirements

## Managing results day(s)

### Senior leaders

- Identify centre staff who will be involved in the main summer results day(s) and their role
- Ensures senior members of staff are accessible to candidates immediately after the publication of results so that results may be discussed and decisions made on the submission of any requests for post-results services and ensures candidates are informed of the periods during which centre staff will be available so that they may plan accordingly

### Exams Manager

- Works with senior leaders to ensure procedures for managing the main summer results day(s) (a results day programme) are in place

## Results day programme

### NOTIFICATION OF RESULTS

- ◆ Results for the November and January Exam series will be e-mailed to students on the day they are released.
- ◆ Results for the May/June (Summer) series are made available for collection on the respective GCE and GCSE results days. For students who are unable to collect their results these will be e-mailed to them.

### Post Results Services

- ◆ Where a Head of Faculty/Subject has concerns about a cohort and believes there has been an error in marking then a Review of Mark may be requested through the Exams Office in accordance with the JCQ regulations on Post-Results Services. The Review of Mark will be funded by HGS however the Head of Faculty/Subject must obtain the candidates consent before it is requested.
- ◆ If a result is queried, a candidate may request a Review of Mark at their own expense through the Exams Office in accordance with the JCQ regulations on Post-Results Services. If the grade increases then the candidate will be reimbursed the fee.
- ◆ After the release of results, candidates may request through the Exams Office the return of papers up to the deadline set by the exam boards. HGS staff may also request scripts for investigation or for teaching purposes. For the latter, the consent of candidates must be obtained.
- ◆ Results guidance sheets will be available when students collect their results this will include a link to an online request form, the different post results services available, information regarding fees and deadlines for the submissions of requests. Exams office staff, Sixth Form Management Team and Heads of Faculty will be available on results day to advise candidates on the different services available to both staff and students.
- ◆ Reviews of moderation cannot be requested by individual candidates and where it is deemed appropriate will be submitted by the school.
- ◆ Completed forms must be signed and submitted to the exams office with proof of payment prior to the deadline given on the form for the service requested. All forms submitted by the deadline will be processed by the exams office. Payments should be made via the schools' website.
- ◆ Results of review/ATS requests will be e-mailed to the address given on the request form.
- ◆ If a student wishes to appeal the result of their review they must contact the Exams Office who will issue them with the appropriate forms. Guidance will be sought from the Faculty Leader as to the appropriateness of an appeal.

- ◆ If teaching staff wish to make an access to scripts request for use in the classroom for teaching and learning purposes they must first obtain written permission from the candidate to use their scripts. The candidate will also be able to request that the scripts be anonymised before they are used in the classroom.
- ◆ If a candidate wishes to appeal the outcome of a review they must put their reasons in writing to the Head of Centre who will then decide whether the centre will support the appeal based on the grounds provided.

### Site staff

- Ensure the centre is open and accessible to centre staff and candidates, as required for the collection of results

## Accessing results

### Head of centre

- Ensures results are kept entirely confidential and restricted to key members of staff until the official dates and times of release of results to candidates
- Understands that it is not permitted to withhold provisional results from candidates under any circumstances

### Exams Manager/Officer

- Informs candidates in advance of when and how results will be released to them for each exam series
- Accesses results from awarding bodies under restricted release of results, where this is provided by the awarding body
- Resolves any missing or incomplete results with awarding bodies
- Issues statements of results to candidates on issue of results date
- Provides summaries of results for relevant centre staff on issue of results date

## Post-results services

### Head of centre

- Ensures an **internal appeals procedure** is available where candidates disagree with any centre decision not to support a clerical re-check, a review of marking, a review of moderation or an appeal
- Ensures that senior members of centre staff are available immediately after the publication of results
- Understands that if the centre has concerns about one of its component/subject cohorts, then requests for reviews of marking should be submitted for all candidates believed to be affected (candidate consent is required as marks and subject grades may be lowered, confirmed or raised)

### Exams Manager/Officer

- Provides information to candidates and staff on the services provided by awarding bodies and the fees charged (see also above *Briefing candidates* and *Access to scripts, enquiries about results and appeals procedures*)
- Publishes internal deadlines for requesting the services to ensure the external deadlines can be effectively met
- Provides a process to record requests for services and to collect candidate informed consent (**after** the publication of results) and fees where relevant
- Submits requests to awarding bodies to meet the external deadline for the particular service
- Tracks requests to conclusion and informs candidates and relevant centre staff of outcomes
- Updates centre results information, where applicable

## Teaching staff

- Ensure that they understand the procedures for requesting re-marks and copies of scripts.
- Meet internal deadlines to request the services and gain relevant candidate informed consent
- Identify the budget to which fees should be charged

## Candidates

- Meet internal deadlines to request the services
- Provide informed consent and fees, where relevant

## Analysis of results

### Exams Officer/Head of Centre/Data Analyst

- Provides analysis of results to appropriate centre staff
- Provides results information to external organisations where required
- Undertakes the secondary school and college (key stage 4/16-18) performance tables *June and September checking exercise*

## Certificates

Certificates are provided to centres by awarding bodies after results have been confirmed.

### Issue of certificates procedure

- ◆ Once certificates arrive in School, they will be checked on receipt before informing leavers by post/email of where and when they can collect them. and current students will receive certificates via form tutors.
- ◆ Certificates are presented in person and a signature collected. Candidates must provide ID when collecting their certificates
- ◆ A record is kept of all certificates issued, when they are collected and by whom.
- ◆ Certificates will only be posted to candidates on receipt of signed authorisation from the candidate and the payment of a fee to cover the cost of the postage.
- ◆ All certificates that re posted will be sent via the recorded delivery service
- ◆ Certificates are not withheld from candidates who owe fees.
- ◆ Any certificates requested by the awarding bodies will be returned as they remain the property of the awarding bodies
- ◆ Certificates may be collected by someone other than the candidate providing they have signed authorisation from the candidate to do so and provide proof of ID

### Retention of certificates policy

Certificates will be held by the exams office for a minimum of 2 years after which time they will be destroyed. *See exams archiving policy*

### Exams Manager/Officer

- Receives the certificates from the awarding bodies and checks the certificates off on receipt.
- Informs candidates that certificates are available for collection.
- Keeps a record of who has collected the certificates and when
- Arranges for the destruction of unclaimed certificates

## Candidates

- May arrange for certificates to be collected on their behalf by providing the EO with written or email permission/authorisation; authorised persons must provide ID evidence on collection of certificates
- May request that their certificates be posted to them subject to receipt of a payment of £4.00 to cover the Recorded Delivery charge.

## **Transcripts**

### **Exams Manager/Officer**

- Will provide a transcript of results to a candidate subject to a completed request form and receipt of a £10 fee.

## **Exams review: roles and responsibilities**

### **Exams Manager/Officer**

- Provides SLT with an overview of the exam year, highlighting what went well and what could be developed/improved in terms of exams management and administrative processes within the stages of the exam cycle
- Collects and evaluates feedback from staff, candidates and invigilators to inform an exams review

### **Senior leaders**

- Work with the EO to produce a plan to action any required improvements identified in the review

## **Retention of records: roles and responsibilities**

### **Exams Manager/Officer**

- Keeps records as required by JCQ and awarding bodies for the required period
- Keeps records as required by the centre's records management policy
- Provides an exams archiving policy that identifies information held, retention period and method of disposal – see *Exams Archiving Policy*

## Related Policies

This policy is supported by the following separate policies referenced in this document:

- Access Arrangements Policy
- Complaints and Appeals Procedure (Exams)
- Disability Policy (Exams)
- Emergency Evacuation Policy (Exams)
- Exams Contingency Plan
- Exams Archiving Policy
- General Data Protection Regulations Policy (Exams)
- Internal Appeals Procedure
- Lockdown Policy (Exams)
- Non-Exam Assessment Policy
- Special Consideration Policy
- Word Processor Policy
- Examinations Handbook for Students
- Escalation Policy