

# Internal Appeals

## Reach Academy Feltham

<b>Approved by:</b>	<b>Date</b>
<b>Approval Signature:</b>	
<b>Policy Holder:</b>	
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<b>Last reviewed on:</b>	
<b>Next review due by:</b>	

## **1. Appeals procedure against internal assessment decisions**

This procedure confirms Reach Academy Feltham's compliance with JCQ's *General Regulations for Approved Centres 2020.201, section 5.7* that the centre will:

- 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 communicated, made widely available and accessible to all candidates
- before submitting marks to the awarding body inform candidates of their centre assessed marks and allow a candidate to request a review of the centre's marking

Certain GCSE, GCE and other qualifications contain components of non-examination assessment (or units of coursework) which are internally assessed (marked) by Reach Academy and internally standardised. The marks awarded (the internal assessment decisions) which contribute to the final grade of the qualification are then submitted by the deadline set by the awarding body for external moderation.

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

Reach Academy Feltham ensures that all centre staff follow a robust *Non-examination assessment policy* (for the management of GCE and GCSE non-examination assessments). This policy details all procedures relating to non-examination assessments for GCE and GCSE including the marking and quality assurance/internal standardisation processes which relevant teaching staff are required to follow.

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

On being informed of their centre assessed marks, if a candidate believes that the above procedures were not followed in relation to the marking of his/her work, or that the assessor has not properly applied the marking standards to his/her marking, then he/she may make use of the appeals procedure below to consider whether to request a review of the centre's marking.

Reach Academy Feltham will:

1. ensure that candidates are informed of their centre assessed marks so that they may request a review of the centre's marking before marks are submitted to the awarding body.
2. inform candidates that they will need to explain on what grounds they wish to request a review of an internally assessed mark as a review will only focus on the quality of their work in meeting the published assessment criteria.
3. inform candidates that they may request copies of materials (generally as a minimum, a copy their marked assessment material (work) and the mark scheme or assessment criteria plus additional materials which may vary from subject to subject) to assist them in considering whether to request a review of the centre's marking of the assessment. **These must be requested within 2 days of receiving the grade.**
4. having received a request for copies of materials, promptly make them available to the candidate (or for some marked assessment materials, such as art work and recordings, inform the candidate that these will be shared under supervised conditions) within 2 calendar days.
5. inform candidates they will not be allowed access to original assessment material unless supervised.
6. provide candidates with sufficient time in order to allow them to review copies of materials and reach a decision, informing candidates that if their decision is to request a review they will need to explain what they believe the issue to be.
7. provide a clear deadline for candidates to submit a request for a review of the centre's marking. Requests will not be accepted after this deadline. Requests must be made in writing within 3 calendar days of receiving copies of the requested materials by completing the internal appeals form.
8. allow 5 calendar days for the review to be carried out, to make any necessary changes to marks and to inform the candidate of the outcome, all before the awarding body's deadline for the submission of marks.
9. ensure that the review of marking is conducted by an assessor who has appropriate competence, has had no previous involvement in the assessment of that candidate and has no personal interest in the review.
10. instruct the reviewer to ensure that the candidate's mark is consistent with the standard set by the centre.
11. inform the candidate in writing of the outcome of the review of the centre's marking.

The outcome of the review of the centre's marking will be made known to the head of centre who will have the final decision if there is any disagreement on the mark to be submitted to the awarding body. A written record of the review will be kept and made available to the awarding body upon request.

The awarding body will be informed if the centre does not accept the outcome of a review.

The moderation process carried out by the awarding bodies may result in a mark change, either upwards or downwards, even after an internal review. The internal review process is in place to ensure consistency of marking within the centre, whereas moderation by the awarding body ensures that centre marking is in line with national standards. The mark submitted to the awarding body is subject to change and should therefore be considered provisional.

## **2. Appeals procedure against centre decisions not to support an enquiry about results**

This procedure confirms Reach Academy Feltham's compliance with JCQ's *General Regulations for Approved Centres 2020-2021*, section 5.13 that the centre will:

*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 a clerical re-check, a review of marking, a review of moderation or an appeal*

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 will be provided by the exams officer.

Candidates are also made aware of the arrangements for post-results services before they sit any exams and the accessibility of senior members of centre staff immediately after the publication of results. This is explained to candidates by the Head of Secondary in the pre exams briefing in the summer series, and by the exams officer before other series.

If the centre or a candidate (or his/her parent/carer) has a concern and believes a result may not be accurate, a review of the result may be requested.

The JCQ post-results services currently available are detailed below.

### **Reviews of Results (RoRs):**

- Service 1 (Clerical re-check)
- This is the only service that can be requested for objective tests (multiple choice tests)
- Service 2 (Review of marking)
- Priority Service 2 (Review of marking)
- This service is only available for externally assessed components of GCE A-level specifications (an individual awarding body may also offer this priority service for other qualifications)
- Service 3 (Review of moderation)
- This service is not available to an individual candidate

### **Access to Scripts (ATS):**

- Copies of scripts to support reviews of marking
- Copies of scripts to support teaching and learning

Where a concern is expressed that a particular result may not be accurate, the centre will look at the marks awarded for each component part of the qualification alongside any mark schemes, relevant result reports, grade boundary information etc. when made available by the awarding body to determine if the centre supports any concerns.

Written candidate consent (informed consent via candidate email is acceptable) is required in all cases before a request for an RoR service 1 or 2 is submitted to the awarding body as with these services candidates' marks and subject grades may be lowered. Candidate consent can only be collected **after** the publication of results.

If a concern is raised about a particular examination result, the exams officer and head of centre will investigate the feasibility of requesting a review at the centre's expense.

When Reach Academy Feltham 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 a review, an internal appeal can be submitted to the centre using the internal appeals form at least one week prior to the internal deadline for submitting an RoR.

The appellant will be informed of the outcome of his/her appeal before the internal deadline for submitting a ROR.

### ***Appeals procedure following the outcome of an enquiry about results***

Where the head of centre remains dissatisfied after receiving the outcome of an RoR, an appeal will be made to the awarding body. The JCQ publications Post-Results Services and JCQ Appeals Booklet (A guide to the awarding bodies' appeals processes) will be consulted to determine the acceptable grounds for a preliminary appeal.

Where the head of centre is satisfied after receiving the outcome of an RoR, but the internal candidates and/or their parents/carers are not satisfied, they may make a further representation to the head of centre. Following this, the head of centre's decision as to whether to proceed with an appeal will be based upon the centre's internal appeals arrangements. Candidates, parents/carers are not permitted to make direct representations to an awarding body.

The **internal appeals form** should be completed and submitted to the centre within **10 calendar days** of the notification of the outcome of the enquiry. Subject to the head of centre's decision, this will allow the centre to process the appeal and submit to the awarding body within the required 30 calendar days of the awarding body issuing the outcome of the review of results process. Awarding body fees which may be charged for the appeal must be paid by the appellant on submission on the internal appeals form. If the appeal is upheld by the awarding body, this fee will be refunded by the awarding body and repaid to the appellant by the centre.

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 or for a review of marking of a centre assessed mark
- the centre decision not to support an enquiry about results
- the outcome of an enquiry about results

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:**

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 Reach Academy Feltham have been produced to demonstrate compliance with the following:

**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/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.**

#### **1. 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.**

**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 of 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.

**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:

<http://www.jcq.org.uk/exams-office/controlled-assessments>

<http://www.jcq.org.uk/exams-office/coursework>

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

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