

THE TELFORD PRIORY SCHOOL



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Non-Examination Assessment Policy

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What does this policy affect?

This policy affects the delivery of subjects of GCSE qualifications which contain a component(s) of non-examination assessment.

The regulators' definition of an examination is very narrow. In effect, any type of assessment that is not:

- set by an awarding body
- designed to be taken simultaneously by all relevant candidates at a time determined by the awarding body, and
- taken under conditions specified by the awarding body (including conditions relating to the supervision of candidates during the assessment and the duration of the assessment)

is classified as non-examination assessment (NEA).

'NEA' therefore includes, but is not limited to, internal assessment. Externally marked and / or externally set practical examinations taken at different times across centres are classified as 'NEA'.

Purpose of the Policy

The purpose of this policy, as defined by JCQ is to

- Cover procedures for planning and managing non-examination assessments
- Define staff roles and responsibilities for non-examination assessments
- Manage risks associated with non-examination assessments

What are non-examination assessments?

"Non-examination assessments measure subject-specific knowledge and skills that cannot be tested by timed written papers.

There are three assessment stages and rules which apply to each stage. These rules often vary across subjects. The stages are:

- Task setting
- Task taking
- Task marking

Procedures for planning and managing non-examination assessments identifying staff roles and responsibilities

The basic principles

Head of Centre

- Returns a declaration as part of the National Centre Number Register annual update to confirm awareness of, and that relevant centre staff are adhering to the latest version of JCQ NEA regulations.

Senior Assistant Headteacher

- Ensures the centre's *non-examination assessment policy* is fit for purpose and covers all types of non-examination assessment
- Ensures the centre's *internal appeals procedures* clearly detail the procedure to be followed by candidates (or their parents / carers) appealing against internal assessment decisions (centre assessed marks) and requesting a review of the centre's marking
- Ensure the correct conduct of non-examination assessments (including endorsements) comply with JCQ and awarding body subject-specific instructions.
- Ensure the centre-wide calendar records assessment schedules by the start of the academic year
- Confirms with subject leads / (heads that appropriate awarding body forms and templates for non-examination assessments (including endorsements) are used by teachers and candidates

Subject Lead

- Ensures appropriate procedures are in place to internally standardise / verify the marks awarded by subject teachers in line with awarding body criteria
- Ensures appropriate centre-devised templates are provided to capture /record relevant information given to candidates by subject teachers
- Ensures appropriate centre-devised templates are provided to capture / record relevant information is received and understood by candidates
- Where not provided by the awarding body, ensures a centre-devised template is provided for candidates to keep a detailed record of their own research, planning resources etc.
- Ensures subject teachers understand their role and responsibilities within the non-examination assessment process
- Ensures JCQ and relevant awarding body subject specific instructions are followed in relation to the conduct of non-examination assessments (including endorsements)
- Ensures the Exams Officer is provided with relevant entry codes for subjects (whether the entry for the internally assessed component forms part of the overall entry code for the qualification, or is made as a separate unit entry code) by the internal deadline for entries
- Ensures appropriate procedures are followed to internally standardise / verify the marks awarded by subject teachers

Subject Teacher

- Understands and complies with the general JCQ instructions
- Where instructions may also be provided by the awarding body, understands, and complies with the awarding body's specification for conducting non-examination assessments, including any subject-specific instructions, teachers' notes or additional information on the awarding body's website
- Marks internally assessed work to the criteria provided by the awarding body

Exams Officer

- Carries out tasks where these may be applicable to the role in supporting the administration / management of non-examination assessment

Task Setting

Subject Teacher

- Selects tasks to be undertaken where a number of comparable tasks are provided by the awarding body or designs tasks where this is permitted by criteria set out within the subject specification
- Makes candidates aware of the criteria used to assess their work

Issuing of Tasks

Subject Teacher

- Determines when set tasks are issued by the awarding body
- Identifies date(s) when tasks should be taken by candidates
- Accesses set tasks in sufficient time to allow planning, resourcing and teaching and ensures that materials are stored securely at all times
- Ensures the correct task is issued to candidates

Task Taking

Supervision

Subject Teacher

- Checks the awarding body's subject-specific requirements ensuring candidates take tasks under the required conditions and supervision arrangements
- Ensures there is sufficient supervision to enable the work of a candidate to be authenticated
- Ensures there is sufficient supervision to ensure the work a candidate submits is their own
- Is confident where work may be completed outside of the centre without direct supervision, that the work produced is the candidate's own
- Where candidates may work in groups, keeps a record of each candidate's contribution and it must be possible to attribute assessable outcomes to individual candidates
- Ensures candidates are aware of the current JCQ documents *Information for Candidates – Non-Examination Assessments and Information for Candidates – Social Media*
- Ensures candidates understand and comply with the regulations in relevant JCQ *Information for Candidates* documents

Advice and feedback

Subject Teacher

- As relevant to the subject / component, advises candidates on relevant aspects before candidates begin working on a task
- Will not provide candidates with model answers or writing frames specific to the task
- When reviewing candidates' work, unless prohibited by the specification, provides oral and written advice at a general level to candidates
- Allows candidates to revise and re-draft work after advice has been given at a general level

- Records any assistance given beyond general advice and takes it into account in the marking or submits it to the external examiner
- Ensures when work has been assessed, candidates are not allowed to revise it

Resources

Subject Teacher

- Refers to the awarding body's specification and / or associated documentation to determine if candidates have restricted / unrestricted access to resources when planning and researching their tasks
- Ensures conditions for any formally supervised sessions are known and put in place
- Ensures appropriate arrangements are in place to keep the work to be assessed, and any preparatory work, secure between any formally supervised sessions, including work that is stored electronically
- Ensures conditions for any formally supervised sessions are understood and followed by candidates
- Ensures candidates understand that they are not allowed to introduce augmented notes or new resources between formally supervised sessions
- Ensures that where appropriate to include references, candidates keep a detailed record of their own research, planning, resources etc.

Word and time limits

Subject Teacher

- Refers to the awarding body's specification to determine where word and time limits apply / are mandatory

Collaboration and group work

Subject Teacher

- Unless stated otherwise in the awarding body's specification, and where appropriate, allows candidates to collaborate when carrying out research and preparatory work
- Ensures that it is possible to attribute assessable outcomes to individual candidates
- Ensures that where an assignment requires written work to be produced, each candidate writes up their own account of the assignment
- Assesses the work of each candidate individually

Authentication procedures

Subject Teacher

- Where required by the awarding body's specification ensures candidates sign a declaration confirming the work they submit for final assessment is their own unaided work
- Signs the teacher declaration of authentication confirming the requirements have been met
- Keeps signed candidate declarations on file until the deadline for requesting reviews of results has passed or until any appeal, malpractice or other results enquiry has been completed, whichever is later
- Provides signed candidate declarations where these may be requested by a JCQ Centre Inspector
- Where there may be doubt about the authenticity of the work of a candidate or if malpractice is suspected, follows JCQ authentication procedures and malpractice information and informs the Head of Centre

- Understands that if, during the external moderation process, it is found that the work has not been properly authenticated, the awarding body will set the mark(s) awarded by the centre to zero

Presentation of work

Subject Teacher

- Obtains informed consent at the beginning of the course from parents / carers if videos or photographs / images of candidates will be included as evidence of participation or contribution
- Instructs candidates to present work as instructed in JCQ regulations unless the awarding body's specification gives different subject-specific instructions
- Instructs candidates to add their candidate number, centre number and the component code of the assessment as a header / footer on each page of their work

Keeping materials secure

Subject Teacher

- When work is being undertaken by candidates under formal supervision, ensures work is securely stored between sessions (if more than one session)
- When work is submitted by candidates for final assessment, ensures work is securely stored
- Liaises with the Exams Officer to ensure that secure storage instructions are followed as defined in the JCQ publication "*Instructions for Conducting NEA*", section 4.8
- Takes sensible precautions when work is taken home for marking
- Stores internally assessed work, including the sample returned after awarding body moderation, securely until all possible post-results services have been exhausted
- If post-results services have not been requested, returns internally assessed work to candidates (if requested by a candidate) after the deadline for requesting a review of results for the relevant series
- If post results services have been requested, returns internally assessed work to candidates (if requested by a candidate) once the review of results and any subsequent appeal has been completed
- Reminds candidates of the need to keep their own work secure at all times and not share completed or partially completed work on-line, on social media or through any other means. **(Reminds candidates of the contents of the JCQ document *Information for candidates – Social Media*)**
- Where work is stored electronically, liaises with the IT Manager to ensure the protection and back up of candidates' work and that appropriate arrangements are in place to restrict access to it between sessions
- Understands that during the period from the submission of work for formal assessment until the deadline for requesting a review of results, copies of work may be used for other purposes, provided that the originals are stored securely as required

IT Manager

- Ensures appropriate arrangements are in place to restrict access between sessions to candidates' work where work is stored electronically
- Restricts access to this material and utilises appropriate security safeguards such as firewall protection and virus scanning software
- Employs an effective back-up strategy so that an up-to-date archive of candidate's evidence is maintained
- Considers encrypting any sensitive digital media to ensure the security of the data stored within it and refers to awarding body guidance to ensure that the method of encryption is suitable

Task marking – externally assessed components

Conduct of externally assessed work

Subject Lead

- Liaises with the Exams Officer regarding the arrangements for any externally assessed components of a specification which must be conducted within a window of dates specified by the awarding body and where applicable according to JCQ Instructions for conducting examinations
- Liaises with the Visiting Examiner where this may be applicable to any externally assessed component
- Ensures that the externally assessed component is conducted within the window specified by the awarding body and where applicable, according to the JCQ publication "*Instructions for conducting examinations*"

Exams Officer

- Arranges timetabling, rooming and invigilation in conjunction with the data and progress team where and if this is applicable to any externally assessed non-examination component of a specification

Submission of work and work for moderation

Subject Lead

- Pays close attention to the completion of the attendance register, if applicable

Exams Officer

- Provides the attendance register to the Subject Lead where applicable
- Ensures the awarding body's attendance register for any externally assessed component is completed correctly
- Where candidates' work must be despatched to an awarding body's examiner or uploaded electronically, ensures this is completed by the date specified by the awarding body
- Keeps a copy of the attendance register until after the deadline for reviews of results for the exam series
- Packages the work as required by the awarding body and attaches the examiner address label
- Ensures that the package in which the work is despatched is robust and securely fastened
- Despatches the work to the awarding body's instructions by the required deadline

Task marking – internally assessed components

Marking and annotation

Subject Lead

- Sets timescales for teachers to inform candidates of their centre-assessed marks that will allow sufficient time for a candidate to appeal an internal assessment decision / request a review of the centre's marking prior to the marks being submitted to the awarding body external deadline

Subject Teacher

- Accesses awarding body training updates as required to ensure familiarity with the mark scheme / marking process
- Marks candidates' work in accordance with the marking criteria provided by the awarding body

- Annotates candidates' work as required to facilitate internal standardisation of marking and enable external moderation to check that marking is in line with the assessment criteria
- Informs candidates of their marks which could be subject to change by the awarding body moderation process
- Ensures candidates are informed of the timescale set by the Subject Lead or as indicated in the centre's *internal appeals procedure* to enable an internal appeal / request for a review of marking to be submitted by a candidate and the outcome known before final marks are submitted to the awarding body

Exams Officer

- Makes every effort to avoid situations where a candidate is assessed by a person who has a close personal relationship with the candidate, for example, members of their family (which includes step-family, foster family and similar close relationships) or close friends and their immediate family (e.g son / daughter)
- Where this cannot be avoided, ensures the possible conflict of interest is declared to the relevant awarding body and the marked work is submitted for moderation regardless of whether it is part of the moderation sample

Internal standardisation

Subject Lead

- Ensures that internal standardisation of marks across assessors and teaching groups takes place as required and to sequence
- Supports staff not familiar with the marks scheme (e.g. NQTs, supply staff etc.)
- Ensures accurate internal standardisation – for example by:
 - obtaining reference materials at an early stage in the course
 - holding a preliminary trial marking session prior to marking
 - carrying out further trial marking at appropriate points during the marking period
 - after most marking has been completed, holds a further meeting to make final adjustments
 - making final adjustments to marks prior to submission, retaining work and evidence of standardisation
- Retains evidence that internal standardisation has been carried out

Subject Teacher

- Indicates on work (or cover sheet) the date of marking
- Marks to common standards
- Keeps candidates work secure until after the closing date for review of results for the series concerned or until any appeal, malpractice or other results enquiry has been completed, whichever is later

Submission of marks and work for moderation

Subject Lead

- Provides marks to the Exams Officer to the internal deadline
- Provides the moderation sample to the Exams Officer to the internal deadline

Subject Teacher

- Ensures that where a candidate's work has been facilitated by a scribe or practical assistant, the relevant completed cover sheet accompanies the work and is sent to the moderator in addition to the sample requested
- Ensures the moderator is provided with authentication of candidates' work, confirmation that internal standardisation has been undertaken and any other subject-specific information where this may be required
- Provides the Exams Officer with any supporting documentation required by the awarding body

Exams Officer

- Inputs and submits marks online, via the awarding body secure extranet site, keeping a record of the marks submitted to the external deadline.
- Ensures checks are made that marks for any additional candidates are submitted and ensures mark input is checked before submission to avoid transcription errors
- Submits the requested samples of candidates' work to the moderator by the awarding body deadline, keeping a record of the work submitted.
- Ensures that for postal moderation; work is dispatched in packaging provided by the awarding body; moderator label(s) provided by the awarding body are affixed to the packaging; proof of dispatch is obtained and kept on file until the successful issue of final results
- Through the subject teacher, ensures the moderator is provided with authentication of candidates' work, confirmation that internal standardisation has been undertaken and any other subject-specific information where this may be required
- Through the subject teacher, submits any supporting documentation required by the awarding body

Storage and retention of work after submission of marks

Subject Lead

- Keeps a record of names and candidate numbers for candidates whose work was included in the moderation sample
- Retains all marked candidates' work (including any sample returned after moderation) under secure conditions for the required retention period
- In liaison with the IT Manager takes steps to protect any work stored electronically from corruption and has a back-up procedure in place
- If retention is a problem because of the nature of the work, retains some form of evidence such as photos, audio or media recordings

Exams Officer

- Ensures any sample returned after moderation is logged and returned to the Subject Lead for secure storage and required retention

External moderation – the process

Subject Lead

- Ensures the awarding body or its moderator receive the correct samples of candidates' work
- Where relevant, liaises with the awarding body / moderator where the moderator visits the centre to mark the sample of work

- Complies with any request from the moderator for remaining work or further evidence of the centre's marking

External moderation – feedback

Subject Lead

- Checks the final moderated marks when issued to the centre when the results are published
- Checks moderator reports and ensures that any remedial action, if necessary, is undertaken before the next examination series

Exams Officer

- Accesses or signposts moderator reports to relevant staff
- Takes remedial action, if necessary, where feedback may relate to centre administration

Access Arrangements and Reasonable Adjustments

Subject Teacher

- Works with the SENCO to ensure any access arrangements for eligible candidates are applied to assessments

Special Educational Needs Coordinator (SENCO)

- Follows the regulations and guidance in the JCQ publication *Access Arrangements and Reasonable Adjustments* in relation to non-examination assessments
- Where arrangements do not undermine the integrity of the qualification and is the candidate's normal way of working, will ensure access arrangements are in place and awarding body approval, where required, has been obtained prior to assessments taking place
- Makes subject teachers aware of any access arrangements for eligible candidates which need to be applied to assessments
- Works with subject teachers to ensure requirements for access arrangements candidates requiring the support of a facilitator in assessments are met
- Ensures that staff acting as an access arrangement facilitator are fully trained in their role

Special Consideration and loss of work

Subject Teacher

- Understands that a candidate may be eligible for special consideration in assessments in certain situations where a candidate
 - is absent
 - produces a reduced amount of work
 - work has been lost
- Liaises with the Exams Officer when special consideration may need to be applied for a candidate taking assessments
- Liaises with the Exam Officer to report loss of work to the awarding body

Exams Officer

- Refers to / directs relevant staff to the JCQ publication *A Guide to the Special Consideration Process*
- Where a candidate is eligible, submits an application for special consideration via the awarding body's secure extranet site to the prescribed timescale

- Where application for special consideration via the awarding body's secure extranet site is not applicable, submits the required form to the awarding body to the prescribed timescale
- Keeps required evidence on file to support the application
- Refers to / directs relevant staff where applicable to JCQ Form 15 (Special Consideration – Lost Work) and where applicable submits to the relevant awarding body

Malpractice

Head of Centre

- Understand the responsibility to immediately report to the relevant awarding body any alleged, suspected or actual incidents cases of malpractice involving candidates, teachers, invigilators or other administrative staff
- Is familiar with the JCQ publication *Suspected Malpractice: Policies and Procedures*
- Ensures that those members of teaching staff involved in the direct supervision of candidates producing non-examination assessment are aware of the potential for malpractice and ensures that teaching staff are reminded that failure to report allegations of malpractice or suspected malpractice constitutes malpractice in itself

Subject Teacher

- Is aware of the JCQ *Notice to Centres – Sharing NEA material and candidates' work* to mitigate against candidate and centre malpractice
- Ensures candidates understand what constitutes malpractice in non-examination assessments
- Ensures candidates understand the JCQ document *Information for Candidates – Non-Examination Assessments*
- Ensures candidates understand the JCQ document *Information for Candidates – Social Media*
- Escalates and reports any alleged, suspected or actual incidents of malpractice involving candidates to the Head of Centre

Exams Officer

- Signposts the JCQ publication *Suspected Malpractice: Policies and Procedures* to the Head of Centre
- Signposts the JCQ *Notice to Centres – Sharing NEA material and candidates' work* to subject teachers
- Signposts candidates to the relevant JCQ information for candidates documents
- Where required, supports the Head of Centre in investigating and reporting incidents of alleged, suspected or actual malpractice

Post-Results Services

Head of Centre

- Is familiar with the JCQ Publication *Post-Results Services*
- Ensure the centre's *internal appeals procedures* clearly detail the procedure to be followed by candidates (or their parents / carers) appealing against a centre decision not to support a review of results or an appeal

Subject Lead

- Provides relevant support to subject teachers making decisions about reviews of results
- Provides advice and guidance to candidates on their results and the post-results services available

- Provides the Exams Officer with the original sample or relevant sample of candidates' work that may be required for a review of moderation to the internal deadline

Exams Officer

- Is aware of the individual post-results services available for externally assessed and internally assessed components of non-examination assessments as detailed in the JCQ publication *Post-Results Services, Information and Guidance to Centres*
- Provides / signposts relevant centre staff and candidates to post-results services information
- Ensures any requests for post-results services that are available to non-examination assessments are submitted online via the awarding body secure extranet site to deadline

Spoken Language Endorsement for GCSE English Language specifications designed for use in England

Head of Centre

- Returns an online 'Head of Centre' declaration at the time of the National Centre Number Register annual update, confirming that all reasonable steps have been or will be taken to ensure that all candidates at the centre have had, or will have, the opportunity to undertake the Spoken Language endorsement

Senior Assistant Headteacher

- Ensures the appropriate arrangements are in place for internal standardisation of assessments

Head of English

- Confirms understanding of the *Spoken Language Endorsement for GCSE English Language specifications designed for use in England* and ensures any relevant JCQ /awarding body instructions are followed
- Ensures the required task setting and task taking instructions are followed by subject teachers
- Ensures subject teachers assess candidates, either live or from recordings, using the common assessment criteria
- Ensures for monitoring purposes, audio-visual recordings of the presentation of a sample of candidates are provided

Subject Teacher

- Ensures all the requirements in relation to endorsement are known and understood
- Follows the required task setting and task taking instructions
- Assesses candidates, either live or from recordings, using the common assessment criteria
- Provides audio-visual recordings of the presentations of a sample of candidates for monitoring purposes
- Follows the awarding body's instructions for the submission of grades (*Pass, Merit, Distinction or Not Classified*) and the storage and submission of recordings

Exams Officer

- Follows the awarding body's instructions for the submission of grades and recordings