



Internal appeals procedures

2020/21

These procedures are reviewed annually to ensure compliance with current regulations

Approved/reviewed by	
Linda Williams	
Date of next review	Oct 21

Key staff involved in internal appeals procedures

Role	Name(s)
Head of centre	Jacqueline Hughes-Williams
SLT members	Helen Clare
Exams officer	Linda Williams

1. Appeals against internal assessment decisions (centre assessed marks)

Certain GCSE, GCE and other qualifications contain components of non-examination assessment (NEA) (or units of coursework) which are internally assessed (marked) by Heart of England 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.

This procedure confirms Heart of England's compliance with JCQ's General Regulations for Approved Centres 2020-2021 (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 components of GCSE and GCE (GCSE controlled assessments, GCE coursework, GCE and GCSE non-examination assessments) and other qualifications that contribute to the final grade of the qualification are internally assessed (marked) by the centre. The marks awarded (the internal assessment decisions) are then submitted by the deadline set by the awarding body for external moderation.

Deadlines for the submission of marks (Summer 2020 exam series)

Date	Qualification	Details
29/03/2021	GCSE & A Level PE	Submit marks to OCR
07/05/2021	GCSE	Submit marks to AQA
15/05/2021	GCSE & GCE	Final date for submission of coursework marks (AQA, OCR and Pearson)
31/05/2020	GCE Art	Final date for submission of coursework marks OCR

Heart of England 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.

Heart of England 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, GCSE, BTEC and OCR Nationals], including the marking and quality assurance 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. Heart of England 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 mark scheme 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. Heart of England 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 may request copies of materials (for example, 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.
3. inform candidates that they may request copies of materials (for example, 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.
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 7 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.
9. ensure that the review of marking is carried out 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 against the centre’s decision not to support a clerical check, a review of marking, a review of moderation or an appeal

This procedure confirms Heart of England’s compliance with JCQ’s *General Regulations for Approved Centres*, that the centre has in place *“a written internal appeals procedure to manage disputes when a candidate disagrees with a centre decision not to support a clerical check, a review of marking, a review of moderation or an appeal...”*

Following the issue of results, awarding bodies make post-results services available. Full details of these services, internal deadlines for requesting a service and fees charged are provided by the Exams & Data Manager.

Candidates are also informed of the arrangements for post-results services and the availability of senior members of centre staff immediately after the publication of results, **before** they sit any exams by email.

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.

Reviews of Marking and Moderation (ROMM) offers three services.

- ▶ Service 1 – clerical re-check
- ▶ Service 2 – review of marking
- ▶ Priority Service 2 – review of marking (only available for A Level if a university place is at risk)
- ▶ Service 3 – review of moderation (this service is not available to an individual candidate)

Written candidate consent (informed consent via candidate email is acceptable) is required in all cases before a request for an ROMM 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 & Data Manager, teaching staff and Head of Centre will investigate the feasibility of requesting a review supported by the centre.

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

If the candidate (or his/her parent/carer) believes there are grounds to appeal against the centre’s decision not to support an review, an internal appeal can be submitted to the centre by completing the **internal appeals form** at least 7 calendar days prior to the internal deadline for submitting an ROMM.

The appellant will be informed of the outcome of his/her appeal, before the internal deadline for submitting an ROMM.

Following the ROMM outcome, an external appeals process is available if the Head of Centre remains dissatisfied with the outcome and believes there are grounds for appeal. 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 ROMM outcome, but the candidate (or his/her parent/carer) believes there are grounds for a preliminary appeal to the awarding body, a further internal appeal may be made to the Head of Centre. Following this, the Head of Centre's decision as to whether to proceed with a preliminary appeal will be based upon the acceptable grounds as detailed in the *JCQ Appeals Booklet*. Candidates or 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 ROMM. Subject to the head of centre's decision, this will allow the centre to process the preliminary appeal and submit to the awarding body within the required **30 calendar days** of receiving the outcome of the review about results process. Awarding body fees which may be charged for the preliminary appeal must be paid to the centre by the appellant before the preliminary appeal is submitted to the awarding body (fees are available from The Exams & Data Manager). 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.

Further guidance to inform and implement appeals procedures

JCQ publications

- General Regulations for Approved Centres
<https://www.jcq.org.uk/exams-office/general-regulations>
- Post-Results Services
<https://www.jcq.org.uk/exams-office/post-results-services>
- JCQ Appeals Booklet
<https://www.jcq.org.uk/exams-office/appeals>
- Notice to Centres – informing candidates of their centre assessed marks
<https://www.jcq.org.uk/exams-office/non-examination-assessments>

Ofqual publications

- GCSE (9 to 1) qualification-level conditions and requirements
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/gcse-9-to-1-qualification-level-conditions>
- GCE qualification-level conditions and requirements
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/gce-qualification-level-conditions-and-requirements>

Internal appeals form

Please tick box to indicate the nature of your appeal and complete all white boxes on the form below

FOR CENTRE USE ONLY	
Date received	
Reference No.	

- Appeal against an internal assessment decision and/or request for a review of marking
- Appeal against the centre's decision not to support a clerical check, a review of marking, a review of moderation or an appeal

Name of appellant		Candidate name if different to appellant	
Awarding body		Exam paper code	
Subject		Exam paper title	

Please state the grounds for your appeal below

(If applicable, tick below)

- Where my appeal is against an internal assessment decision I wish to request a review of the centre's marking

If necessary, continue on an additional page if this form is being completed electronically or overleaf if hard copy being completed

Appellant signature:

Date of signature:

This form must be signed, dated and returned to The Exams & Data Manager on behalf of the head of centre to the timescale indicated in the relevant appeals procedure

