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# Lady Manners School

## Examinations Policy

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*Through our shared school values, we aim for all students to thrive, feel included and aspire to grow as individuals who contribute to society with empathy, integrity and positivity.*

This document will be reviewed annually by the Senior Leadership Team and sooner when significant changes are made to the law.

Guidance from the Department for Education about school policies can be found here: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/governance-in-maintained-schools/statutory-policies-for-maintained-schools>

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## PURPOSE

The purpose of this examination policy is to ensure:

- that the planning and management of examinations is conducted effectively in the best interest of candidates
- that our system of examination administration is efficient and clear, and staff and students understand what is required and expected of them
- That we comply with the requirements and guidance set out by the Joint Council for Qualifications (JCQ) and the awarding bodies

It is the responsibility of everyone involved in the school's examination processes to read, understand and implement this policy.

## **EQUALITIES STATEMENT OF INTENT**

Lady Manners School welcomes a diverse population of both students and staff. In order to consolidate and build upon this diversity, equality of opportunity and the absence of unfair discrimination is at the core of all the school's activities. The school will not unfairly discriminate in the recruitment or general treatment of staff or students.

The school is committed to promoting and developing equality of opportunity in all its functions and will seek to do this by:

- communicating its commitment to equality and diversity to all members of the school community;
- maintaining systems for implementation, monitoring, evaluation and review;
- treating acts of discrimination and other contraventions of this policy as a disciplinary offence.

The Governing Board has responsibility for ensuring that the school operates within the legal framework for equality and for implementing the policy throughout the school. In addition, each member of the school community is responsible for preventing unfair discrimination or harassment or victimisation which it is within their control to prevent; and challenging or reporting such inappropriate behaviour if it occurs.

### **1. EXAMINATION RESPONSIBILITIES**

#### **Headteacher (Head of Centre)**

- Has overall responsibility for the school as an examination centre including advice on appeals and re-marks. The Headteacher is responsible for ensuring that all suspicions or actual incidents of malpractice are reported appropriately in accordance with Joint Council for Qualifications (JCQ) guidelines.
- Ensures safe, secure conduct of examinations and controlled / non-examined assessment.

#### **Examinations Officer**

- Manages the administration of external and some internal examinations:
  - Advises members of the Senior Leadership Team (SLT), Middle Leaders and other relevant staff on examination timetables and application procedures as set by the various examination boards.
  - Ensures that candidates and their parents and carers are informed of and understand those aspects of the examination timetable that will affect them.
  - Advises teaching staff regarding the Boards' deadlines for the submission of controlled / non-examined assessment to ensure they are completed on time and in accordance with JCQ guidelines.
  - Provides and confirms detailed data on estimated entries. Enters students for individual units, whether assessed by controlled / non-examined assessment, external examination or on-screen test, before the deadline for final entries.
  - Maintains systems and processes to support the timely entry of candidates for their examinations.

- Receives, checks and stores securely all examination papers and completed scripts, and controlled / non-examined assessment materials.
- Administers access arrangements and makes applications for special consideration following the regulations in the JCQ guidance on the special consideration process
- Makes emergency access arrangements applications on the day of exams where required.
- Identifies and manages examination timetable clashes.
- Accounts for income and expenditures relating to all examination costs/charges.
- Line manages and trains the team of invigilators.
- Creates the invigilators' timetable and ensures the correct number of invigilators are present for each examination, including scribes and readers where appropriate and arranging suitable accommodation for these examinations to take place.
- Submits candidates' controlled / non-examined assessment marks, tracks despatch and stores returned controlled / non-examined assessment and any other material required by the appropriate awarding bodies correctly and on schedule.
- Reports all suspected or actual incidents of malpractice, in line with the JCQ guidance on suspected malpractice in examinations and assessments.
- Processes the examination results via the A2C Migration Application and transfers results data onto the SIMS Management Information System (MIS) via Assessment Manager.
- Liaises with other support staff regarding the arrangements for dissemination of examination results and certificates to candidates.
- Advise and consult with SLT on any appeals/re-mark requests.
- Identifies where future procedural improvements might be made.
- Maintains the record of examination certificates that have been issued, and those that have been destroyed confidentially.
- Works with the Data Manager to provide a breakdown of results.

### **Deputy Headteacher - Curriculum**

- Authorisation of courses followed at Key Stage 4/Post-16.
- Maps resources including examination rooming and ICT requirements.

### **Middle Leaders**

- Decide on an Awarding Body and specification and advise the examinations officer of any changes to the syllabus or assessment details for their subject by the end of the summer term prior to first delivery.
- Ensure that all assessment is taken in the examination series in which the qualification is certificated to satisfy the terminal assessment requirement.
- Obtain the controlled assessment / non-examined task details from the appropriate Awarding Body.
- Plan when and how the assessment will take place, taking into account the accommodation and resources required, including ICT. The Examinations Officer should be notified when high level controlled assessment is taking place.
- Ensure that teaching staff and in-class support staff understand the requirements of the specification and their responsibilities with regard to controlled / non-

examined assessment. They should take careful note of awarding body guidance and ensure that staff are fully aware of this guidance, including appropriate levels of control - high, medium or low.

- Ensure secure storage of assessment materials and the safe keeping of students' work. Student work needs to be retained securely until after the closing date for any enquiries about results.
- Keep the Examinations Officer and Deputy Headteacher (Curriculum) informed of controlled assessment requirements, including informing the Examinations Officer of unit codes for controlled assessments.
- Ensure appropriate standardisation of student work, where required.
- Liaise with the school's SENDCo for any assistance required for the management of access arrangements.
- Arrange for the accurate completion of controlled assessment mark sheets and declaration sheets.
- Arrange for the accurate completion of entry and all other mark sheets and adherence to deadlines as set by the Examinations Officer.
- Involvement in post-results, review, advice and procedures when necessary.
- Be available on results day in case decisions on post-results procedures are needed.

#### **Pastoral Leaders (Head of Sixth Form, Year Tutors)**

- Communication of information regarding examinations and timetable arrangements.
- Have an understanding of involvement in post-results procedures to provide guidance to students and parents and carers, where required.

#### **Teachers**

- Establish familiarity with guidelines from JCQ and Awarding Bodies in respect of the conduct of examinations and completion of controlled / non-examined assessments.
- Supervise assessments, only permitting assistance to students as the specification allows.
- Ensure that relevant display materials are removed or covered up.
- Mark using the mark schemes provided by the awarding body, keeping a record of marks.
- Retain all work securely until the closing date for enquiries about results. In the event that an enquiry is submitted, retain candidates work securely until the outcome of the enquiry and any subsequent appeal has been conveyed to the centre.

#### **SENDCo**

- Ensures the identification, assessment and recommendations about candidates' requirements for access arrangements.
- Administers and makes applications for access arrangements in accordance with JCQ
- Liaise with the Examinations Officer to ensure access arrangements are put in place for students with learning needs and disabilities.

- Informs subject teachers of candidates with special educational needs who are embarking on a course leading to an examination. The SENDCo can then inform individual staff of any special arrangements that individual candidates may be granted during the course and in the examination.

### **Senior Invigilators and Invigilators**

- Collect examination papers and other material from the examinations office before the start of the examination.
- Ensure all examinations are conducted in accordance with the JCQ guidelines.
- Collection of all examination papers in the correct order at the end of the examination and their return to the examinations office.

### **Candidates**

- Check their examination timetables are correct and that they understand the examination rules and regulations.
- Attend all examinations for which they are entered, and complete all examination controlled / non-examined assessment requirements.
- Conduct themselves in the all examinations in accordance with the JCQ guidelines.

### **Administrative Staff**

- Post examination papers and controlled / non-examined assessment.
- Collate and issue examination results
- Ensure there is a traceable record of examination certificate collection

### **Information Services Officer**

- Analyses examination results data, producing appropriate tables and statistics.
- Prepares and presents reports to SLT showing results achieved in relation to expected grades and comparable data for previous years.
- Provides other relevant breakdowns of results as requested by the Headteacher.

## **2. THE STATUTORY TESTS AND QUALIFICATIONS OFFERED**

The statutory tests and qualifications offered are decided by the Headteacher, SLT and Middle Leaders on behalf of the Governors of Lady Manners School.

The statutory tests and qualifications offered are all approved qualifications for schools in accordance with DfE guidelines.

The subjects offered for these qualifications in any academic year may be found on the school website.

All candidates will be entitled and enabled, to achieve an entry for qualifications from an external awarding body.

## **3. EXAMINATION TIMETABLES**

The Examinations Officer will circulate the examination timetables for internal and external examinations once these are confirmed.

#### **4. ENTRIES, ENTRY DETAILS, LATE ENTRIES AND RETAKES**

##### **4.1 Entries**

Candidates prepared for a course will be entered for the relevant examination. It is expected that entries will be made for all of the subjects that the student studies on their timetable.

The final decision about entries remains with the school.

The Centre only accepts external entries from recent former students when there are very exceptional circumstances. In this instance, external candidates are expected to pay for any examination entries.

##### **4.2 Late Entries**

Entry deadlines are circulated to Middle Leaders via the internal post and email.

Late entries are authorised by Middle Leaders and the Deputy Headteacher.

##### **4.3 Retakes**

Retake decisions will normally be made in consultation with the candidates, Middle Leaders, subject teachers and the Examinations Officer.

(See also section 5: Examination Fees)

#### **5. EXAMINATION FEES**

Initial registration and entry examination fees, where this relates to timetabled teaching as part of the curriculum, are paid by the Centre.

Late entry or amendment fees are paid by the departments.

Candidates or departments 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.

Reimbursement will be sought from candidates who fail to sit an examination without genuine medical reason, or meet the necessary controlled assessment requirements. The school's Charging and Remissions policy is available on the school's website.

With the exception of retakes in GCSE English and Mathematics, fees for any subsequent retakes of the same examination or module are paid by the candidate, unless there are exceptional circumstances agreed by the Headteacher.

Candidates should normally pay the fee for an enquiry about a result, unless there are exceptional circumstances agreed by the Headteacher. (See also section 11.2: Enquiries About Results [EARs])

## **6. THE EQUALITY ACT, PARTICULAR NEEDS AND ACCESS ARRANGEMENTS**

### **6.1 The Equality Act**

The Equality Act 2010 extends to general qualifications. All staff must ensure that the access arrangements and special consideration regulations and guidance are consistent with the law.

We comply with the legislation including making reasonable adjustments to the service that we provide to candidates in accordance with the requirements defined by the legislation, awarding bodies and JCQ. This is the responsibility of the Head of Centre, Examinations officer and SENDCo.

### **6.2 Particular Needs**

A candidate's particular needs and requirements are agreed by the SENDCo, doctor and pastoral staff.

Any staff, as part of their pastoral role, may identify other requirements and liaise with the Examinations Officer over any arrangements which may need to be reviewed.

### **6.3 Access Arrangements**

Making special arrangements for candidates to take examinations is the responsibility of the Examinations Officer. Submitting completed access arrangement applications to the awarding bodies and ensuring there is appropriate evidence for the candidate's access arrangements is the responsibility of the SENDCo and class teachers. School will ensure that the access arrangements assessor is suitably qualified and appropriately trained. Alternative rooming arrangements will be made in accordance with the JCQ regulations.

Rooming for access arrangement candidates will be organised by the Examinations Officer and the SENDCo.

Invigilation and support for access arrangement candidates will be organised by the Examinations Officer and the SENDCo (see Appendix 4 for the policy on the use of word processors in examinations).

Any appeals relating to centre decisions regarding Access Arrangements will be dealt with in accordance with the procedure set out in Appendix 3.

## **7. MANAGING INVIGILATORS AND EXAMINATION DAYS**

### **7.1 Managing Invigilators**

External invigilators will be used for the supervision of external examinations.

The recruitment of invigilators is the responsibility of the Examinations Officer, working with the Human Resources Officer.

Invigilators are timetabled, trained and briefed by the Examinations Officer.

Invigilators' rates of pay are determined by the Governing Body, with reference to County guidelines.

## 7.2 Examination Days

The Examinations Officer will book all examination rooms after liaison with other users and make the question papers, other examination stationery and materials available for the invigilator.

The Premises Manager is responsible for setting up the allocated rooms.

The Senior Invigilator will start all examinations in accordance with JCQ guidelines.

**Identifying candidates:** - Senior staff and/or other relevant pastoral staff will help invigilators identify students.

In practical examinations subject teachers may need to be on hand in case of any technical difficulties and subject to JCQ and awarding body guidance. External invigilators will be provided if requested and if appropriate. However, only those members of staff authorised by the Head of Centre, JCQ and awarding body guidance are permitted in the examination rooms.

## 7.3 Exam Rooms

The Head of Centre

- 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 unless in exceptional circumstances (2022)) 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 Policy (Exams)

Food is not allowed in the examination room  
Water is permitted in a transparent bottle without a label

### Leaving the Examination Room Policy

Candidates may not leave the examination room until the permitted time, as outlined by the examination regulations  
Candidates will be informed of the process for leaving the examination room by the invigilator

Candidates will leave in a quiet and orderly manner
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#### **7.4 Resilience and Contingency Planning - see Appendix 1**

A joint contingency plan is in place to ensure a consistent and effective response in the event of a major disruption to the examination system. This is to safeguard the interests of candidates and to maintain the integrity of the examination process.

Contingency plans are in line with the guidance provided by Ofqual, JCQ and awarding bodies.

#### **7.5 Malpractice**

All cases of malpractice or suspected malpractice will be dealt with in accordance with the malpractice policy contained in Appendix X.

### **8. CANDIDATES, CLASH CANDIDATES AND SPECIAL CONSIDERATION**

#### **8.1 Candidates**

The school's published rules on acceptable dress and behaviour apply at all times.

Candidates' personal belongings remain their own responsibility and the school accepts no liability for their loss or damage.

In the examination room, candidates must not have access to items other than those clearly allowed in the instructions on the question paper, the stationary list, or the specific specification for that subject. This is particularly true of mobile phones and all other electronic devices with text or digital facilities.

Any precluded items must not be taken into the examination room.

Disruptive candidates are dealt with in accordance with JCQ guidelines.

Candidates are expected to stay for the full examination time.

Candidates may leave the examination room for a genuine purpose requiring an immediate return to the examination room, in which case a member of staff or invigilator must accompany them.

The Examinations Officer together with pastoral staff will attempt to contact any candidate who is not present at the start of an examination and deal with them in accordance with JCQ guidelines.

#### **8.2 Clash Candidates**

The Examinations Officer will be responsible for arranging an alternative time for the examination and for the necessary isolation rules of any students involved.

### 8.3 Special Consideration

All cases of special consideration will follow the guidance set out by JCQ.

Where eligible, special consideration will be applied for at the time of the assessment where candidates have been fully prepared and have covered the whole course but performance in the examination, or in the production of coursework or non-examination assessment, is materially affected by adverse circumstances beyond their control.

For candidates who are present for the assessment but disadvantaged Lady Manners School must be satisfied that there has been a material detrimental effect on candidate examination performance or in the production of coursework or non-examination assessment.

If a candidate is absent from a timetabled component/unit for acceptable reasons, and the centre can support this, special consideration will be applied for if the exam missed is in the terminal series and the minimum requirements for enhanced grading in cases of acceptable absence can be met. Where applicable, candidates will be asked to complete the JCQ self-certification form.

For unitised examinations taken in an examination series prior to certification, candidates must be re-entered for any missed units at the next assessment opportunity. Unless there are difficulties arising, e.g. group performances which cannot be repeated, special consideration will not be awarded.

Where other issues or problems affect a candidate or a group of candidates, special consideration will be explored and applied for where eligible. This might include, for example:

- other certification
- coursework/non-examination assessment extensions
- shortfall in work (coursework/non-examination assessment)
- lost or damaged work (non-examination assessment components)
- candidates taking an incorrect or defective question paper
- candidates undertaking the wrong controlled assessment or non-examination assessment assignment

Where a candidate may be eligible for special consideration (a post assessment adjustment) in a vocational qualification, the centre will follow [JCQ](#) and awarding body guidance to determine if, when and how an adjustment can be applied for.

Any special consideration claim must be supported by appropriate evidence within five days of the examination, for example a letter from the candidate's doctor.

The Examinations Officer will then apply on-line only for Special Consideration from the relevant awarding body before the end of the examination series.

The Centre must inform a candidate when an application for special consideration is submitted to the awarding body.

Any appeals relating to centre decisions regarding Special Consideration will be dealt with in accordance with the procedure set out in Appendix 3.

## **9. CONTROLLED / NON-EXAMINED ASSESSMENT AND APPEALS AGAINST INTERNAL ASSESSMENTS**

### **9.1 Controlled / Non-examined Assessment**

Candidates who have to prepare portfolios should do so by the end of the course or centre-defined date.

Middle Leaders will ensure all controlled assessment is ready for despatch before the date set by the awarding body and the Examinations Officer will keep a record of:

- The date assessment was posted
- The name of the assessor

Marks for all internally assessed work are provided to the Examinations Officer by the Curriculum Leaders.

### **9.2 Internal Verification**

There is a separate policy/procedure for the BTEC Assessment and Internal Verification and the BTEC Registration and Certification - see **Appendix 2**.

**9.3** The Examinations Officer will inform staff of the deadline for appeals against internal assessments.

**Appeals Against Internal Assessments - see Appendix 3**

## **10. RESULTS, ENQUIRIES ABOUT RESULTS (EARs) AND ACCESS TO SCRIPTS (ATS)**

### **10.1 Results**

Dates of the results days each year will be publicised to candidates, parents and carers by the school.

Candidates in Years 10, 11, 12 and 13 and external candidates will receive individual results slips on results days in person at the school, via email or by post to their home addresses if requested (candidates to provide stamped addressed envelope). Results will only be given out over the phone or via email if agreed by the Head of Centre.

Arrangements for the school to be open on results days and the provision of staff on results days is the responsibility of the Headteacher.

### **10.2 Enquiries About Results (EARs)**

EARs may be requested by centre staff or the candidates if there are reasonable grounds for believing there has been an error in marking.

A request for a review of marking or clerical check requires the written consent of the candidate.

A candidate may apply to have an enquiry carried out, for which they will be charged. In some situations the school will contact parents, carers and students about particularly borderline results.  
(See section 5: Examination Fees)

All processing of EARs will be the responsibility of the Examinations Officer following JCQ guidance.

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

After the release of results, candidates may request the return of scripts within a deadline specified by the Examinations Officer by completing the relevant form and submission of the required payment.

School staff may also request scripts for investigation or for teaching purposes. For the latter, the consent of candidates must be obtained. The charge for this would be passed on to the Department.

No review of marking can be applied for once a script has been returned, unless there is a priority request for a script.

It is the responsibility of the candidate to ensure that they have notified school that they wish to apply for any post-results services and that they have completed the necessary consent forms and made the appropriate payment before the examination board published deadline.

### **10.4 Reviews of moderation**

Requests for reviews of moderation will be dealt with in accordance with JCQ guidance and any specific exam board guidance.

### **10.5 Appeals to awarding bodies**

Any appeals to awarding bodies will be conducted in accordance with JCQ guidance.

### **10.6 Appeals relating to post results services**

Any appeals relating to the decision about whether to apply for post results services will be dealt with in accordance with the procedure set out in Appendix 3.

## **11. CERTIFICATES**

Certificates are presented in person and signed for on Speech Day. Certificates are signed for if collected after this event. A traceable record is kept of all certificates that are issued.

Certificates may be collected, from the school office after Speech Day, on behalf of a candidate by a third party, provided they have been authorised to do so and bring identification.

The school retains certificates for one year, after then they are destroyed in a confidential manner. A record of any certificates which are destroyed is retained for 4 years from their date of destruction.

## **12. POLICY LINKS**

- Equality and Diversity Policy
- Accessibility Plan

**APPENDIX 1****EXAMINATIONS RESILIENCE AND CONTINGENCY****PURPOSE OF THE PLAN**

This plan examines potential risks and issues that could cause disruption to the exams process at Lady Manners School. By outlining actions/procedures to be followed in case of disruption, it is intended to mitigate the impact these disruptions have on our exam process.

Alongside internal processes, this plan is informed by the Ofqual (and Northern Ireland Council for the Curriculum, Examinations and Assessment) **Exam system contingency plan: England, Wales and Northern Ireland** which provides guidance in the publication *What schools and colleges and other centres should do if exams or other assessments are seriously disrupted* and the **JCQ Joint Contingency Plan** for the Examination System in England, Wales and Northern Ireland and the **JCQ** document **Preparing for disruption to examinations** (effective from 1 September 2023).

This plan also confirms Lady Manners School's compliance with JCQ's **General Regulations for Approved Centres** (section 5.3) that the centre has in place:

- a written examination contingency plan which covers all aspects of examination administration. This will allow members of the senior leadership team to act immediately in the event of an emergency or where the head of centre, examinations officer or SENDCo 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, or on results day, owing to an unforeseen emergency. The potential impact of a cyber-attack should also be considered.

**NATIONAL CENTRE NUMBER REGISTER AND OTHER INFORMATION REQUIREMENTS**

The head of centre will ensure that Lady Manners School has a contingency plan to enable the prompt handling of urgent issues, and responds to the awarding bodies' request for information regarding the contact details of a senior member of staff (which might include a personal mobile phone number and/or email address). This will ensure that any urgent matters which might adversely affect candidates which arise outside of term time, and which potentially put qualification awards at risk, can be addressed by awarding bodies with the support of that member of staff. The head of centre will ensure that this member of staff has the necessary authority to mobilise resources to provide this support, which might include resolving issues within the centre itself.

**HEAD OF CENTRE ABSENCE AT A CRITICAL STAGE OF THE EXAM CYCLE**

Where the head of centre may be absent at a critical stage of the examination cycle, main duties and responsibilities will be disseminated appropriately to senior leaders.

## CAUSES OF POTENTIAL DISRUPTION TO THE EXAM PROCESS

### 1. Examination Officer extended absence at a critical stage of the exam cycle

Criteria for implementation of the plan:

Key tasks required in the management and administration of the exam cycle not undertaken including:

#### *Planning*

- annual data collection exercise not undertaken to collate information on qualifications and awarding body specifications being delivered
- annual exams plan not produced identifying essential key tasks, key dates and deadlines
- sufficient invigilators not recruited and trained

#### *Entries*

- awarding bodies not being informed of early/estimated entries which prompts release of early information required by teaching staff
- candidates not being entered with awarding bodies for external exams/assessment
- awarding body entry deadlines missed or late or other penalty fees being incurred

#### *Pre-exams*

- invigilators not trained or updated on changes to instructions for conducting exams
- exam timetabling, rooming allocation; and invigilation schedules not prepared
- candidates not briefed on exam timetables and awarding body information for candidates
- confidential exam/assessment materials and candidates' work not stored under required secure conditions
- internal assessment marks and samples of candidates' work not submitted to awarding bodies/external moderators

#### *Exam time*

- exams/assessments not taken under the conditions prescribed by awarding bodies
- required reports/requests not submitted to awarding bodies during exam/assessment periods e.g. very late arrival, suspected malpractice, special consideration
- candidates' scripts not dispatched as required to awarding bodies

#### *Results and post-results*

- access to examination results affecting the distribution of results to candidates
- the facilitation of the post-results services

Centre actions:

- Line Manager, Deputy Headteacher to liaise with Information Services Officer over entries
- Line Manager, Deputy Headteacher to liaise with Middle Leaders and Heads of Year over all aspects of pre and post exam administration

- Senior Invigilator to liaise with Deputy Headteacher regarding exam time issues, potential malpractice, or other issues within the examination room.

## 2. SENDCo extended absence at critical stage of the exam cycle

Criteria for implementation of the plan:

Key tasks required in the management and administration of the access arrangements process within the exam cycle not undertaken including:

### *Planning*

- candidates not tested/assessed to identify potential access arrangement requirements
- centre fails to recognise its duties towards disabled candidates as defined under the terms of the Equality Act 2010
- evidence of need and evidence to support normal way of working not collated

### *Pre-exams*

- approval for access arrangements not applied for to the awarding body
- modified paper requirements not identified in a timely manner to enable ordering to meet external deadline
- staff (facilitators) providing support to access arrangement candidates not allocated and trained

### *Exam time*

- access arrangement candidate support not arranged for exam rooms

Centre actions:

- Access arrangements assessor to liaise with Examinations Officer over SENDCo absence.

## 3. Teaching staff extended absence at a critical stage in the exam cycle

Criteria for implementation of the plan:

Key tasks not undertaken including:

- Early/estimated entry information not provided to the exams officer on time; resulting in pre-release information not being received
- Final entry information not provided to the exams officer on time; resulting in:
  - candidates not being entered for exams/assessments or being entered late
  - late or other penalty fees being charged by awarding bodies
- Non-examination assessment tasks not set/issued/taken by candidates as scheduled
- Candidates not being informed of centre assessed marks before marks are submitted to the awarding body and therefore not being able to consider appealing internal assessment decisions and requesting a review of the centre's marking
- Internal assessment marks and candidates' work not provided to meet submission deadlines

Centre actions:

- SLT Line Manager and Examinations Officer to liaise with remaining teaching staff.

#### **4. Invigilators - lack of appropriately trained invigilators or invigilator absence**

Criteria for implementation of the plan:

- Failure to recruit and train sufficient invigilators to conduct exams
- Invigilator shortage on peak exam days
- Invigilator absence on the day of an exam

Centre actions:

- Recruitment and training are completed well in advance.
- Senior Invigilator and agency staff to cover absences or shortages

#### **5. Exam rooms - lack of appropriate rooms or main venues unavailable at short notice**

Criteria for implementation of the plan:

- Examinations officer unable to identify sufficient/appropriate rooms during exams timetable planning
- Insufficient rooms available on peak exam days
- Main exam venues unavailable due to an unexpected incident at exam time

Centre actions:

- In an emergency the Main Hall could be utilised for examination purposes
- Lessons could be re-roomed to accommodate examinations

#### **6. Cyber-attack**

Criteria for implementation of the plan:

- Where a cyber-attack may compromise any aspect of delivery

Centre actions:

- Follow the school disaster recovery plan for IT.

#### **7. Failure of IT systems**

Criteria for implementation of the plan:

- SIMS system failure at final entry deadline
- SIMS system failure during exams preparation
- Power outage immediately prior to or during an on-screen test
- SIMS system failure at results release time

Centre actions:

- Examinations Officer and MIS Manager to liaise with Examination Boards as to appropriate action.

## **8. Emergency evacuation of the exam room (or centre lockdown)**

Criteria for implementation of the plan:

- Whole centre evacuation (or lockdown) during exam time due to serious incident resulting in exam candidates being unable to start, proceed with or complete their exams

Centre actions:

- Liaise with Examination Boards
- The school lockdown procedure would be put in place
- Invigilators to be trained in recognising the alarm system at the centre
- Exam registers to be completed as soon as possible
- Direct communication with SLT and Examinations Officer to be in place

## **9. Disruption of teaching time in the weeks before an exam – centre closed for an extended period**

Criteria for implementation of the plan:

- Centre closed or candidates are unable to attend for an extended period during normal teaching or study supported time, interrupting the provision of normal teaching and learning.

Centre actions:

- Headteacher, Governors, SLT to take the necessary action.
- Examinations Officer to contact the examination boards for advice and guidance and to inform them of the circumstances affecting candidate access to the school
- Examinations officer to follow any regulations set by the government and/or examination board following national disruption to candidates' learning
- Examinations Officer to apply for special consideration for the affected candidate

## **10. Centre may not be able to open as normal during the exams period (including in the event of the centre being unavailable for examinations owing to an unforeseen emergency)**

Criteria for implementation of the plan:

- Centre may not be able to open as normal for scheduled examinations

Centre actions:

- Examinations Officer to liaise with Head of Centre and to inform awarding bodies.
- Headteacher and Examinations Officer to explore alternative local venues.

- Headteacher/ Examinations Officer to notify the JCQ Centre Inspection Service of any alternative site arrangement by submitting the JCQ Alternative Site form online, using the Centre Admin Portal (CAP).

#### **11. Candidates may not be able to take examinations– centre remains open**

Criteria for implementation of the plan:

- Candidates may not be able to attend the examination centre to take examinations as normal

Centre actions:

- Consideration would be given on an individual basis as to why they were unable to attend the examination centre. Special consideration may be applied for.

#### **12. Disruption in the distribution of examination papers**

Criteria for implementation of the plan:

- Disruption to the distribution of examination papers to the centre in advance of examinations

Centre actions:

- Liaise with awarding bodies to arrange electronic access to examination papers via a secure external network and secure storage of electronic files.

#### **13. Disruption to transporting completed examination scripts**

Criteria for implementation of the plan:

- Delay in normal collection arrangements for completed examination scripts/assessment evidence

Centre actions:

- Scripts remain securely stored in exams office or Examinations Officer transports them to the Post Office by collection by Parcelforce.
- Where examinations are part of the national 'yellow label' service or where awarding bodies arrange collections, contact the relevant awarding bodies for advice and instructions
- For any examinations where we make our own collection arrangements, investigate alternative options that comply with the requirements detailed in the JCQ publication *Instructions for conducting examinations*.

#### **14. Assessment evidence is not available to be marked**

Criteria for implementation of the plan:

- Large scale damage to or destruction of completed examination scripts/assessment evidence before it can be marked
- Completed examination scripts/assessment evidence does not reach awarding bodies

Centre actions:

- Where applicable, electronic controlled assessment to be stored on the school's server
- Examinations Officer to contact awarding bodies for advice and guidance.

**15. Centre unable to distribute results as normal or facilitate post results services**

Criteria for implementation of the plan:

- Centre is unable to access or manage the distribution of results to candidates, or to facilitate post results services

Centre actions:

- Examinations Officer to contact awarding bodies for advice and guidance
- Arrange for an alternative location for distributing results if the school is inaccessible
- Email system set up for emailing results if the school is inaccessible
- Communication with parents/carers and students

**16. Centre evacuation**

An emergency evacuation of the examination room is required

Centre actions:

- Invigilators trained in evacuation procedures
- Changes to the normal evacuation procedure communicated to the school
- Evacuation procedure available in the exam room

**17. Student unable to sit examinations**

Criteria for implementation of the plan:

- National disaster (e.g. lockdown)
- Student disability

Centre actions:

- Ensure mock papers are retained under the requirements of Ofqual
- Make necessary applications to JCQ ensuring compliance with the all aspects of the Equality Act 2010



## Lady Manners School

## APPENDIX 2

### Assessment and Internal Verification Policy for BTEC Courses

#### Aim

- To ensure that the assessment methods are valid, reliable and do not disadvantage or advantage any group of learners or individuals.
- To ensure that the assessment procedure is transparent, fair and free from bias and to national standards
- To ensure that there is accurate and detailed recording of assessment decisions

This policy is to maintain a standardised approach across all units throughout the BTEC course to ensure that:

- Students are provided with assignments that are fit for purpose
- Students are provided with clear and published dates for assignment and assessment deadlines
- Students are informed of where they are in their learning within the framework of the qualification, their expected end point and how they can meet or exceed the expectations set by the school
- Students take part in the assessment process by evaluating their own progress and are able to identify skills which will improve their learning
- Subject teachers use the outcomes of student assessments to plan and structure the learning to support each student in working towards their targets
- Subject teachers assess and report on all aspects of student learning including levels of attainment and engagement in learning
- Subject teachers share good practice and have a clear understanding of the BTEC assessment methodology
- Assessment practices meet the BTEC assessment requirements and are impartial, valid and reliable
- Accurate and detailed records of assessment decisions and internal verification are retained
- A robust and rigorous internal verification procedure feeds into external verification as required by the awarding body

#### Roles and Responsibilities

- Form Tutors, Year Heads and Middle Leaders will monitor broader student learning and, in partnership with the subject teacher, will provide support and intervention to ensure that all students have the opportunity to reach the expectations set by the school
- Subject teachers will set and mark the assessments against the BTEC criteria and awarding body requirements
- Subject teachers will provide feedback and areas of improvement to the students in line with the awarding body requirements
- The Lead Internal Verifier (LIV) will monitor the standardisation process of marked assignments and ensure the quality of assessment and assignment briefs

## Approach

### The subject staff will follow the processes set out below:

- Students will be given a specified time frame to complete a written assignment.
- Late work submitted after the original submission date will be classified as a missed deadline. This will be logged.
- Submission dates are indicated on the assignment briefs.
- Extensions may be given for extenuating circumstances (arrangements will need to be discussed with the subject teacher and LIV will need to authorise this in line with the rules set out by the awarding body).

If a student submits a referral, a cause for concern meeting will be requested. This meeting must be attended by the student, the LIV and subject teacher. The LIV may authorise a re-submission if:

- the learner has met all the initial deadlines
- the teacher judges the learner will be able to provide improved evidence without further specific guidance
- the assessor has authenticated that the original work submitted was the learner's own work

A new submission date will be set 10 working days after the student receives the original assessment decision or subject to awarding body timescales.

## The Assessment Process

- Subject teachers will clearly exemplify the standards in a format that is accessible to all so that students can access the learning objectives.
- Subject teachers will share assessment criteria and mark schemes with students.
- Subject teachers will use a range of formative, diagnostic and student peer and self-assessment to inform students of their progress.
- Subject teachers will use homework and independent learning to support consolidation of knowledge.
- Students will be exposed to a range of types of assessment that develop different learning skills.
- Through the variety of briefs, students will have the opportunity to present their work in a range of formats and through different media; paper, electronic, oral (through presentations – assessed using observational records).
- Students will be made aware of the importance of the assignment briefs and their relevance to the overall certification.
- Course information will be shared at the start of the course to outline the BTEC assessment plan, the marking criteria and support materials.

## Feedback to learners

### General Marking Policy

- Students should know that their work is valued and that their efforts will be acknowledged.

- Students should know how a piece of homework or classwork is to be marked and how they are required to respond as a result of the feedback obtained.
- Students should know how an assignment is to be marked and how they are required to achieve the criteria prior to attempting the work.

### **Roles and responsibilities**

- Subject teachers are responsible for indicating to students which pieces of work will be marked and how it will be marked.
- Middle and Senior Leaders are responsible for monitoring the quality of marking and its impact on student progress.

Whilst learners are working on an assessment, subject teachers can give general group feedback and support, particularly around the development of knowledge, understanding and skills.

Feedback could include:

- Guidance on how to approach the knowledge and skills requirements
- Confirmation of deadlines
- Confirmation of which criteria the assessor is targeting and clarification of the assignment brief requirements

### **Following submission**

On the assessment record, assessors should give clear feedback on:

- the criteria the learner achieved (explaining the assessor's decisions)
- the criteria not achieved (and why) although advice on how to improve the assessment must not be included

Feedback could include:

- Which assessment criteria the learner has achieved and what the learner has done well
- Which assessment criteria the learner has not achieved and what was missing
- Information or guidance available to the learner they could have drawn upon (e.g. class notes; handouts; resources within the assignment brief)
- General approach and grammar

Students will be informed of assessment outcomes via a tracking sheet which is held centrally.

### **Internal Verification**

- The Internal Verifier is at the centre of quality assurance in all BTEC programmes to meet national standards.
- Internal Verifiers will have the knowledge and qualifications relevant to the vocational qualification for which they are responsible to enable accurate judgements to be made.
- Internal Verification will be carried out against the national standards and will include:
  - Carrying out and evaluating internal assessment and quality assurance systems
  - Supporting assessors

- Monitoring the quality of assessors' performance
- Meeting external quality assurance requirements
- Maintaining a tracking document to record assessment

## **Implementation of Internal Verification**

### **Verification of Assignment Briefs:**

- The assessor will write the assignment brief
- The LIV will check the assignment is fit for purpose and that it incorporates;
  - programme details and unit
  - a deadline for the assessment
  - a time frame for the assessment
  - assessment criteria
  - task mapping against the criteria
  - relevance of the tasks set
  - evidence the learner needs to generate
  - vocational context
  - presentation requirements
- The LIV will suggest remedial action before a brief is issued
- The assessor and the LIV will confirm actions have been met
- The brief will be signed and dated by LIV
- The brief will be distributed to students

### **Verification of Assessment Decisions:**

- Students' work will be marked by the assessor
- The LIV will sample assessed work across the grade range
- The LIV will give feedback to the assessor on the awarding of criteria, accuracy, the feedback to the learner and the grading decision. If remedial action is needed, this will be discussed and allocated a timeframe for review.
- The LIV will follow up action recommended ensuring high quality standards are being met and maintained.
- The LIV will sign off the assessment decisions form, once satisfied.
- The LIV will initial and date the 'IV Schedule-Assessment Decisions' form to indicate document sampling.

The Internal Lead Verifier will have responsibility for the above, overseen by the Quality Nominee (Deputy Headteacher responsible for examinations and vocational / BTEC programmes).

This policy will be reviewed annually by the Quality Nominee (Deputy Headteacher responsible for examinations and vocational / BTEC programmes).



## Lady Manners School

### Registration and Certification Policy for BTEC Courses

#### Aim

- To register individual learners to the correct learning programme within the awarding body timescales
- To claim valid learner certificates within the agreed timescales
- To construct a secure, accurate and accessible audit trail to ensure that individual learner registration and certification claims can be tracked to the certificate which is issued for each learner

#### In order to do this, Lady Manners School will:

- Ensure centre approval is requested and granted for required programmes
- Register each learner on the correct programme within the awarding body requirements
- Ensure the Middle Leader checks the registration of learners
- Advise learners of the programme they are registered on
- Advise learners of the estimated completion date
- Report results to the awarding body by the awarding body deadline for learners completing at the end of the academic year
- Inform the awarding body of withdrawals, transfers or changes to learner details
- Ensure that prior attainment is considered for students who transfer to the school mid-course
- Ensure that certificate claims are timely and are based on accurate internally verified assessment records
- Audit certification claims made to the awarding body
- Check that all certificates received from the awarding body are accurate and complete
- Provide traceable audit of students having received their certificate
- Keep all records safely and securely for three years post certification

#### Approach

##### Verification of courses and learner entry:

- The Middle Leader will verify with the awarding body that the course is available for study at KS4/5
- The Deputy Headteacher will give course approval for KS4/5 courses to be run in school
- The examinations officer will produce entry lists for the Middle Leader to verify
- The examinations officer will enter the learners for the correct course in accordance with the deadlines provided by the awarding body
- The examinations officer will provide a final learner entry copy to the Middle Leader for verification

##### Transfers and withdrawals

- Students transferring to another provider or transferring to the school mid-course, will have prior attainment and assessment taken into consideration, where applicable

- Where applicable, certificated units will be transferred to the new provider
- Withdrawals will be subject to agreement with the Deputy Headteacher, parents/carers and the Middle Leader
- The examinations officer will withdraw candidates in accordance with the awarding body guidelines

### **Certification**

- Certification of assessments will be verified by the Lead Internal Verifier (LIV) in accordance with the Assessment policy for BTEC Courses
- The LIV will liaise with the examinations officer to ensure accurate application for certification
- An audit trail of certification claims and certificates received will be held by the examinations officer
- Any amendments or inaccuracies will be acted upon in accordance with the awarding body guidelines
- Students will sign upon collection of their certificates

The school examinations officer will have responsibility for the above, in conjunction with the Lead Internal Verifier and overseen by the Quality Nominee (Deputy Headteacher responsible for examinations and vocational / BTEC programmes).

This policy will be reviewed annually by the Quality Nominee (Deputy Headteacher responsible for examinations and vocational / BTEC programmes).

**This document should be read in conjunction with the Examinations Policy, The Internal Appeals Procedure and the Assessment Policy for BTEC Courses.**

**APPENDIX 3****PART 1****EXAMINATION APPEALS PROCEDURE – POST RESULTS SERVICES, ACCESS ARRANGEMENTS AND SPECIAL CONSIDERATION**

Any appeals relating to post results services or centre decisions regarding access arrangements and special consideration will be dealt with as follows:

- Requests for an appeal must be in writing and clearly state the grounds on which the appeal is being made
- School will acknowledge receipt of the request within [2] working days
- The concern will be referred to a Deputy Headteacher for review
- The Deputy Headteacher will review the appeal against the relevant JCQ guidance and evidence collected in school in order to determine whether the relevant JCQ guidance has been complied with
- School will inform the appellant of the outcome of the appeal in writing within a reasonable period of time taking into account all the information to be considered and any examination board deadlines

**PART 2****EXAMINATIONS APPEALS PROCEDURE - NEA DECISIONS****1. Background**

Lady Manners School is committed to ensuring that whenever staff assess students' work for external qualification, this is done fairly, consistently and in accordance with the specification for the qualification concerned. Assessments are conducted by staff who have appropriate knowledge, understanding and skills, and who have been trained in this activity. Students' work is produced and authenticated according to the requirements of the examinations board. Where a set of work is divided between staff, consistency is assured by internal moderation and standardisation.

After work has been assessed internally it is moderated by the awarding body (examinations board) to ensure consistency between centres. Such moderation may change the marks awarded for internally assessed work. That is beyond the control of Lady Manners School and is not covered by this procedure. If a student has concerns about this, a copy of the appeals procedure for the relevant examinations board should be obtained from the Exams Office.

**2. The Appeal Procedure**

Students may appeal if they feel their NEA has been assessed unfairly, inconsistently or not in accordance with the specification for the qualification.

**Lady Manners School 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
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) normally within 5 working 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.
8. allow time 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.

This procedure is available from the Exams Office and is available to students and parents/carers on the school website.

**APPENDIX 4****WORD PROCESSOR POLICY**

Key staff involved in awarding and allocating word processors for exams

<b>Role</b>	<b>Name(s)</b>
Access arrangements assessor	<b>David Askew</b> <b>Rebecca Fox</b> <b>Claire Wilson</b>
Exams officer	<b>Jo Picknell / Lisa Adamsby</b>
Senior leader(s)	<b>Jo Picknell</b>
IT manager	<b>Chris Carroll</b>

This policy is part of the examinations policy and is reviewed and updated annually on the publication of updated JCQ regulations and guidance on access arrangements and instructions for conducting exams.

References in this policy to AARA and ICE relate to/are directly taken from the [Access Arrangements, Reasonable Adjustments and Special Consideration – Joint Council for Qualifications](#) and [Instructions for Conducting Exams \(ICE\) – Joint Council for Qualifications](#) publications.

**Introduction**

The use of a word processor in exams and assessments is an available access arrangement/reasonable adjustment.

(AARA 4.2.1) The purpose of an access arrangement/reasonable adjustment is to ensure, where possible, that barriers to assessment are removed for a disabled candidate preventing him/her from being placed at a substantial disadvantage as a consequence of persistent and significant difficulties. The integrity of the assessment is maintained, whilst at the same time providing access to assessments for a disabled candidate.

The centre must make decisions on appropriate access arrangements for its students. Although professionals from other organisations may give advice, they cannot make the decision for the school. It is the responsibility of the SENDCO to make appropriate and informed decisions based on the JCQ regulations.

(AARA 4.2.2) Although access arrangements/adjustments are intended to allow access to assessments, they cannot be granted where they will compromise the assessment objectives of the specification in question.

(AARA 4.2.3) Candidates may not require the same access arrangements/reasonable adjustments in each specification. Subjects and their methods of assessments may vary, leading to different demands of the candidate. ALS leads/SENDCOs must consider the need for access arrangements/reasonable adjustments on a subject-by-subject basis.

(AA 4.2.1) The Additional Learning Support lead/SENDCo must ensure that the proposed access arrangement/reasonable adjustment does not disadvantage or advantage a candidate.

(AA 4.2.7) The candidate must have had appropriate opportunities to practise using the access arrangement(s)/reasonable adjustment(s) before their first examination.

### **Purpose of the policy**

This policy details how Lady Manners School complies with AARA chapter 4 (Managing the needs of candidates - principles for centres), 5.8 (Word processor) and ICE (14.20-27) when awarding and allocating a candidate the use of word processor in examinations.

The term 'word processor' is used to describe for example, the use of a computer, laptop or tablet.

### **The criteria Lady Manners School uses to award and allocate word processors for examinations and assessments:**

The normal way of working for exam candidates is that candidates handwrite their exams unless there are exceptions.

All students eligible for the use of a word processor have this information stored in the same location as other students with Access Arrangements so that it is easily accessible for teachers, SEND staff and the exams officer.

### **Exceptions**

A candidate may be awarded the use of a word processor in examinations where:

- the candidate may have an approved access arrangement in place, for example the use of a scribe / speech / recognition technology.
- The candidate has a firmly established need, it reflects the candidate's normal way of working and by not being awarded a word processor would be at a substantial disadvantage to other candidates.

The centre will

- allocate the use of a word processor to a candidate with the spelling and grammar check/predictive text disabled (switched off) where it is their normal way of working within the centre (AARA 5.8.1)
- award the use of a word processor to a candidate where appropriate to their needs
- For example, a candidate with:
  - a learning difficulty which has a substantial and long-term adverse effect on their ability to write legibly. This may be detailed in an EHCP.
  - a medical condition
  - a physical disability
  - a sensory impairment
  - planning and organisational problems when writing by hand
  - poor handwriting (AARA 5.8.4)
- only permit the use of a word processor where the integrity of the assessment can be maintained (AARA 4.2.1)

- not grant the use of a word processor where it will compromise the assessment objectives of the specification in question (AARA 4.2.2)
- consider on a subject-by-subject basis if the candidate will need to use a word processor in each specification (AARA 4.2.3)
- process access arrangements/reasonable adjustments at the start of the course, or as soon as practicable having firmly established a picture of need and normal way of working, ensuring arrangements are always approved before an examination or assessment (AARA 4.2.4)
- provide the use of word processors to candidates in non-examination assessment components as standard practice unless prohibited by the specification (AARA 5.8.2)

The centre will not:

- simply grant the use of a word processor to a candidate because they now want to type rather than write in exams or can work faster on a keyboard, or because they use a laptop at home. (AARA 5.8.4)

Additionally, the use of a word processor would be considered for a candidate:

- in the event of a temporary injury or impairment, or a diagnosis of a disability or manifestation of an impairment relating to an existing disability arising after the start of the course (AARA 4.2.4)
- where the curriculum is delivered electronically and the centre provides word processors to all candidates (AARA 5.8.4)

### **Arrangements at the time of the assessment for the use of a word processor**

A candidate using a word processor is accommodated in a separate room, where appropriate.

In compliance with the regulations the centre:

- provides a word processor, with the spelling and grammar check and predictive text switched off, to a candidate where it is their normal way of working within the centre, unless an awarding body's specification says otherwise (ICE 14.20)
- (where a candidate is to be seated with the main cohort without the use of a power point) checks the battery capacity of a laptop or tablet before the candidate's exam(s) to ensure that the battery is sufficiently charged for the entire duration of the exam (ICE 14.21)
- ensures the candidate is reminded to ensure that their centre number, candidate number and the unit or component code appear on each page as a header or footer e.g. 12345/8001 – 6391/01 (ICE 14.22). If a candidate is using the software application Notepad or Wordpad these do not allow for the insertion of a header or footer. In such circumstances once the candidate has completed the examination and printed off their typed script, they are instructed to handwrite their details as a header or footer. The candidate is supervised throughout this process to ensure that they are solely performing this task and not re-reading their answers or amending their work in any way.
- ensures the candidate understands that each page of the typed script must be numbered, e.g. page 1 of 6 (ICE 14.23)

- ensures the candidate is reminded to save their work at regular intervals (or where possible, an IT technician will set up 'autosave' on each laptop or tablet to ensure that if there is a complication or technical issue, the candidate's work is not lost) (ICE 14.24)
- instructs the candidate to use a minimum of 12pt font and double spacing in order to make marking easier for examiners (ICE 14.24)

(ICE 14.25)

The centre will ensure the word processor:

- is only used in a way that ensures a candidate's script is produced under secure conditions
- is not used to perform skills which are being assessed
- is in good working order at the time of the exam
- is accommodated in such a way that other candidates are not disturbed and cannot read the screen
- is used as a typewriter, not as a database, although standard formatting software is acceptable and is not connected to an intranet or any other means of communication
- is cleared of any previously stored data
- does not give the candidate access to other applications such as a calculator (where prohibited in the examination), e-mail, the Internet, social media sites or spreadsheets
- does not include graphic packages or computer aided design software unless permission has been given to use these
- does not have any predictive text software or an automatic spelling and grammar check enabled unless the candidate has been permitted a scribe (a scribe cover sheet must be completed), or the awarding body's specification permits the use of automatic spell checking
- does not include computer reading (text to speech) unless the candidate has permission to use a computer reader
- does not include speech recognition technology unless the candidate has permission to use a scribe (a scribe coversheet must be completed)
- does not include AI tools
- is not used on the candidate's behalf by a third party unless the candidate has permission to use a scribe (a scribe coversheet must be completed)

### **Portable storage medium**

(ICE 14.25)

The centre will ensure that any portable storage medium (e.g. a memory stick) used

- is provided by the centre
- is cleared of any previously stored data

### **Printing the script after the exam is over**

(ICE 14.25)

The centre will ensure

- the word processor is either connected to a printer so that a script can be printed off, or have the facility to print from a portable storage medium
- the candidate is present to verify that the work printed is his or their own

- a word-processed script is attached to any answer booklet which contains some of the answers
- if a candidate omits to insert the required header or footer, they are instructed to handwrite the details as a header or footer; the candidate is supervised throughout this process to ensure that they are solely performing this task and not re-reading their answers or amending their work in any way (ICE 14.22)
- the centre will also ensure that where an awarding body may require a word processor cover sheet, this is with the candidate's typed script (and according to the relevant awarding body's instructions). (ICE 14.26]
- the centre may retain electronic copies of word-processed scripts as the electronic copy of a word-processed script may be accepted by an awarding body where the printed copy has been lost. However, the centre would need to demonstrate to the awarding body that the electronic file has been kept securely. The head of centre would be required to confirm this in writing to the awarding body. (ICE 14.27)

### **Allocating word processors at the time of the assessment**

Appropriate exam compliant word processors will be provided by the IT department in liaison with the SENDCO and the exams officer.

In exceptional circumstances where the number of appropriate word processors may be insufficient for the cohort of candidates approved to use them in an exam session, the cohort will be split into two groups. One group will set the exam earlier than or later than the awarding bodies published start time.

The security of the exam will be maintained at all times and candidates will be supervised in line with ICE 7.

**APPENDIX 5****Non-Examination Policy**

Key staff involved in the conduct of non-examination assessments

<b>Role</b>	<b>Name(s)</b>
Head of centre	<b>Gary Peat</b>
Quality assurance lead/Lead internal verifier	<b>Jo Picknell</b>
Senior leader(s)	<b>Jo Picknell / Curriculum Leaders</b>
SENDCo / staff member responsible for access arrangements	<b>Claire Wilson / David Askew</b>
Exams officer	<b>Jo Picknell</b>

**What does this policy affect?**

This policy affects the delivery of subjects of GCE and 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'. (JCQ's **Instructions for conducting non-examination assessments**, Foreword)  
[This publication is further referred to in this policy 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

The policy will need to cover all types of non-examination assessment. ([NEA](#), section1 )

**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. ([NEA](#), section 1)

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

### **The basic principles**

#### **Head of centre**

- Returns a declaration (managed 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 [NEA](#)
- 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

#### **Senior leaders**

- Ensure the correct conduct of non-examination assessments (including endorsements) which comply with [NEA](#) and awarding body subject-specific instructions
- Ensure the centre-wide calendar records assessment schedules by the start of the academic year

#### **Quality assurance (QA) lead/Lead internal verifier**

- Confirms with subject heads that appropriate awarding body forms and templates for non-examination assessments (including endorsements) are used by teachers and candidates
- 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.

#### **Curriculum Leaders**

- Ensures subject teachers understand their role and responsibilities within the non-examination assessment process
- Ensures [NEA](#) and relevant awarding body subject specific instructions are followed in relation to the conduct of non-examination assessments (including endorsements)
- Works with the QA lead/Lead internal verifier to ensure appropriate procedures are followed to internally standardise/verify the marks awarded by subject teachers

### **Subject teacher**

- Understands and complies with the general instructions as detailed in [NEA](#)
- Where these 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
- 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) to the internal deadline for entries

### **Exams officer**

- Signposts the annually updated JCQ [NEA](#) publication to relevant centre staff
- 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 the authentication procedures and malpractice information in [NEA](#) and informs a member of the senior leadership team
- 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 detailed in [NEA](#) 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
- Follows secure storage instructions as defined in [NEA 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 candidates' 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 teacher**

- 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

#### **Exams officer**

- Arranges timetabling, rooming and invigilation where and if this is applicable to any externally assessed non-examination component of a specification
- Conducts the externally assessed component within the window specified by the awarding body and where applicable, according to JCQ *Instructions for conducting examinations*

## Submission of work

### Subject teacher

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

### Exams officer

- Provides the attendance register to the subject teacher where applicable
- Ensures the awarding body's attendance register for any externally assessed component is completed correctly
- Where candidates' work must be dispatched 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 dispatched is robust and securely fastened
- Dispatches the work to the awarding body's instructions by the required deadline

## Task marking - internally assessed components

### Marking and annotation

#### Head of centre

- 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 (**see Appendix 6**) is declared to the relevant awarding body

#### Subject head/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/marketing 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

## **Internal standardisation**

### **Quality assurance (QA) lead/Lead internal verifier**

- Ensures that internal standardisation of marks across assessors and teaching groups takes place as required and to sequence
- Supports staff not familiar with the mark 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 teacher**

- Inputs and submits marks online, via the awarding body secure extranet site, keeping a record of the marks awarded, to the external deadline/Provides marks to the exams officer to the internal deadline
- Where responsible for marks input, 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 awarding body moderator by the external deadline, keeping a record of the work submitted/Provides the moderation sample to the exams officer to the internal deadline
- Ensures that where a candidate's work has been facilitated by a scribe or practical assistant, the relevant completed cover sheet is securely attached to the front of the work and 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
- Submits any supporting documentation required by the awarding body/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/Confirms with subject teachers that marks have been submitted to the awarding body deadline

- Where responsible for marks input, 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/Confirms with Subject teacher that the moderation sample has been submitted to the awarding body deadline
- 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 teacher**

- 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 teacher for secure storage and required retention

### **External moderation – the process**

#### **Subject teacher**

- Ensures that 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**

#### **Curriculum Leader**

- 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 exam 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 access arrangements assessor to ensure any access arrangements for eligible candidates are applied to assessments

#### **Special educational needs coordinator (SENDCo)**

- Follows the regulations and guidance in the JCQ publication [Access Arrangements and Reasonable Adjustments](#) in relation to non-examination assessments including [Reasonable Adjustments for GCE A-level sciences – Endorsement of practical skills](#)
- 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 arrangement 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 and/or produces a reduced quantity of work
- Liaises with the exams officer when special consideration may need to be applied for a candidate taking assessments
- Liaises with the exams 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 [Form 15 – JCQ/LCW](#) and where applicable submits to the relevant awarding body

## Malpractice

### Head of centre

- Understands the responsibility to immediately report to the relevant awarding body any alleged, suspected or actual incidents 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 heads
- 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](#)
- Ensures 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

### Middle Leader

- Provides relevant support to subject teachers making decisions about reviews of results

**Subject teacher**

- 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

**Practical Skills Endorsement for the A Level Sciences 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 prescribed practical activities
- Ensures new lead teachers undertake the required training provided by the awarding body on the implementation of the practical endorsement
- Ensures relevant centre staff liaise with all relevant parties in relation to arrangements for and conduct of the monitoring visit

**Quality assurance (QA) lead/Lead internal verifier**

- Ensures arrangements are in place for implementing the requirements of the practical endorsement appropriately and applying the standards appropriately

**Curriculum Leader**

- Confirms understanding of the *Practical Skills Endorsement for the A Level Sciences designed for use in England* and ensures any relevant JCQ/awarding body instructions are followed
- Ensures where the centre intends to enter candidates for the first time for one or more of the A level subjects, the relevant awarding body will be contacted at the beginning of the course
- Undertakes any training provided by the awarding body on the implementation of the practical endorsement
- Disseminates information to subject teachers ensuring the standards can be applied appropriately
- Liaises with all relevant parties in relation to arrangements for and conduct of a monitoring visit

**Subject teacher**

- Ensures all the JCQ/awarding body requirements/instructions in relation to the endorsement are known, understood and followed
- Ensures the required arrangements for practical activities are in place

- Provides all the required centre records
- Ensures candidates provide the required records
- Provides any required information to the subject lead regarding the monitoring visit
- Assesses candidates using *Common Practical Assessment Criteria (CPAC)*
- Applies for an exemption where a candidate cannot access the practical endorsement due to a substantial impairment
- Follows the awarding body's instructions for the submission of candidates *Pass* or *Not Classified* assessment outcome/provides assessment outcomes to the exams officer to the internal deadline

**Exams officer**

- Accepts contact with the monitor and passes information to the subject lead for a visit to be arranged with at least two weeks' notice
- Confirms with the subject teacher that assessment outcomes have been submitted to the awarding body to the external deadline/Follows the awarding body's instructions for the submission of candidates *Pass* or *Not Classified* assessment outcome

**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

**Quality assurance (QA) lead/Lead internal verifier**

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

**Middle Leader**

- 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 presentations of a sample of candidates are provided

**Subject teacher**

Ensures all the requirements in relation to the 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

### Private candidates

#### Exams officer

- According to centre policy, confirms if private candidates (including distance learners and home educated candidates) are accepted by the centre for entry for subjects containing components of non-examination assessment (where the specification may be made available to private candidates by the awarding body)

#### Curriculum Leader

- Ensures relevant staff in the centre administer all aspects of the non-examination assessment process for a private candidate, according to the awarding body's specification

### Management of issues and potential risks associated with non-examination assessments

Issue/Risk	Centre actions to manage issue/mitigate risk	Action by
Centre staff malpractice	<i>Records confirm that relevant centre staff are familiar with and follow: the current JCQ publication Instructions for conducting non-examination assessments the JCQ document Notice to Centres - Sharing NEA material and candidates' work - <a href="http://www.jcq.org.uk/exams-office/non-examination-assessments">www.jcq.org.uk/exams-office/non-examination-assessments</a></i>	
Candidate malpractice	<i>Records confirm that candidates are informed and understand they must not: submit work which is not their own make available their work to other candidates through any medium allow other candidates to have access to their own independently sourced material assist other candidates to produce work use books, the internet or other sources without acknowledgement or attribution submit work that has been word processed by a third party without acknowledgement include inappropriate, offensive or obscene material Records confirm that candidates have been made aware of the JCQ documents Information for candidates - non-examination assessments and</i>	

Issue/Risk	Centre actions to manage issue/mitigate risk	Action by
	<i>Information for candidates – Social Media - <a href="http://www.jcq.org.uk/exams-office/information-for-candidates-documents">www.jcq.org.uk/exams-office/information-for-candidates-documents</a> and understand they must not post their work on social media. Candidates have been made aware of JCQ Information for Candidates relating to coursework and NEAs and JCQ publications relating to the use of AI in assessments</i>	
<b>Task setting</b>		
Awarding body set task: IT failure/corruption of task details where set task details accessed from the awarding body online	<i>Awarding body key date for accessing/downloading set task noted prior to start of course IT systems checked prior to key date Alternative IT system used to gain access Awarding body contacted to request direct email of task details</i>	
Centre set task: Subject teacher fails to meet the assessment criteria as detailed in the specification	<i>Ensures that subject teachers access awarding body training information, practice materials etc. Records confirmation that subject teachers understand the task setting arrangements as defined in the awarding body's specification Samples assessment criteria in the centre set task</i>	
Candidates do not understand the marking criteria and what they need to do to gain credit	<i>A simplified version of the awarding body's marking criteria described in the specification that is not specific to the work of an individual candidate or group of candidates is produced for candidates Records confirm all candidates understand the marking criteria Candidates confirm/record they understand the marking criteria</i>	
Subject teacher long term absence during the task setting stage	<i>See centre's Exam Contingency Plan - Teaching staff extended absence at key points in the exam cycle</i>	
<b>Issuing of tasks</b>		
Awarding body set task not issued to candidates on time	<i>Awarding body key date for accessing set task as detailed in the specification noted prior to start of course Course information issued to candidates contains details when set task will be issued and needs to be completed by Set task accessed well in advance to allow time for planning, resourcing and teaching</i>	
The wrong task is given to candidates	<i>Ensures course planning and information taken from the awarding body's specification confirms the correct task will be issued to candidates Awarding body guidance sought where this issue remains unresolved</i>	
Subject teacher long term absence during the issuing of tasks stage	<i>See centre's exam contingency plan - Teaching staff extended absence at key points in the exam cycle</i>	
A candidate (or parent/carer) expresses	<i>Ensures the candidate's presentation does not form part of the sample which will be recorded</i>	

Issue/Risk	Centre actions to manage issue/mitigate risk	Action by
concern about safeguarding, confidentiality or faith in undertaking a task such as a presentation that may be recorded	<i>Contacts the awarding body at the earliest opportunity where unable to record the required number of candidates for the monitoring sample</i>	
<b>Task taking</b>		
<b>Supervision</b>		
Planned assessments clash with other centre or candidate activities	<i>Assessment plan identified for the start of the course Assessment dates/periods included in centre wide calendar</i>	
Rooms or facilities inadequate for candidates to take tasks under appropriate supervision	<i>Timetabling organised to allocate appropriate rooms and IT facilities for the start of the course Staggered sessions arranged where IT facilities insufficient for number of candidates Whole cohort to undertake written task in large exam venue at the same time (exam conditions do not apply)</i>	
Insufficient supervision of candidates to enable work to be authenticated	<i>Confirm subject teachers are aware of and follow the current JCQ publication Instructions for conducting non-examination assessments and any other specific instructions detailed in the awarding body's specification in relation to the supervision of candidates Confirm subject teachers understand their role and responsibilities as detailed in the centre's non-examination assessment policy</i>	
A candidate is suspected of malpractice prior to submitting their work for assessment	<i>Instructions and processes in the current JCQ publication Instructions for conducting non-examination assessments (section 9 Malpractice) are followed An internal investigation and where appropriate internal disciplinary procedures are followed</i>	
Access arrangements were not put in place for an assessment where a candidate is approved for arrangements	<i>Relevant staff are signposted to the JCQ publication A guide to the special consideration process (section 2), to determine the process to be followed to apply for special consideration for the candidate</i>	
<b>Advice and feedback</b>		
Candidate claims appropriate advice and feedback not given by subject teacher prior to starting on their work	<i>Ensures a centre-wide process is in place for subject teachers to record all information provided to candidates before work begins as part of the centre's quality assurance procedures Regular monitoring of subject teacher completed records and sign-off to confirm monitoring activity Full records kept detailing all information and advice given to candidates prior to starting on their work as appropriate to the subject and component Candidate confirms/records advice and feedback given prior to starting on their work</i>	
Candidate claims no advice and feedback given	<i>Ensures a centre-wide process is in place for subject teachers to record all advice and feedback provided to</i>	

Issue/Risk	Centre actions to manage issue/mitigate risk	Action by
by subject teacher during the task-taking stage	<i>candidates during the task-taking stage as part of the centre's quality assurance procedures            Regular monitoring of subject teacher completed records and sign-off to confirm monitoring activity            Full records kept detailing all advice and feedback given to candidates during the task-taking stage as appropriate to the subject and component            Candidate confirms/records advice and feedback given during the task-taking stage</i>	
A third party claims that assistance was given to candidates by the subject teacher over and above that allowed in the regulations and specification	<i>An investigation is conducted; candidates and subject teacher are interviewed and statements recorded where relevant            Records as detailed above are provided to confirm all assistance given            Where appropriate, a suspected malpractice report is submitted to the awarding body</i>	
Candidate does not reference information from published source	<i>Candidate is advised at a general level to reference information before work is submitted for formal assessment            Candidate is again referred to the JCQ document Information for candidates: non-examination assessments            Candidate's detailed record of his/her own research, planning, resources etc. is regularly checked to ensure continued completion</i>	
Candidate does not set out references as required	<i>Candidate is advised at a general level to review and re-draft the set out of references before work is submitted for formal assessment            Candidate is again referred to the JCQ document Information for candidates: non-examination assessments            Candidate's detailed record of his/her own research, planning, resources etc. is regularly checked to ensure continued completion</i>	
Candidate joins the course late after formally supervised task taking has started	<i>A separate supervised session(s) is arranged for the candidate to catch up</i>	
Candidate moves to another centre during the course	<i>Awarding body guidance is sought to determine what can be done depending on the stage at which the move takes place</i>	
An excluded pupil wants to complete a non-examination assessment(s)	<i>The awarding body specification is checked to determine if the specification is available to a candidate outside mainstream education            If so, arrangements for supervision, authentication and marking are made separately for the candidate</i>	
<b>Resources</b>		
A candidate augments notes and resources	<i>Preparatory notes and the work to be assessed are collected in and kept secure between formally supervised sessions</i>	

Issue/Risk	Centre actions to manage issue/mitigate risk	Action by
between formally supervised sessions	<p><i>Where memory sticks are used by candidates, these are collected in and kept secure between formally supervised sessions</i></p> <p><i>Where work is stored on the centre's network, access for candidates is restricted between formally supervised sessions</i></p>	
A candidate fails to acknowledge sources on work that is submitted for assessment	<p><i>Candidate's detailed record of his/her own research, planning, resources etc. is checked to confirm all the sources used, including books, websites and audio/visual resources</i></p> <p><i>Awarding body guidance is sought on whether the work of the candidate should be marked where candidate's detailed records acknowledges sources appropriately</i></p> <p><i>Where confirmation is unavailable from candidate's records, awarding body guidance is sought and/or a mark of zero is submitted to the awarding body for the candidate</i></p>	
<b>Word and time limits</b>		
A candidate is penalised by the awarding body for exceeding word or time limits	<p><i>Records confirm the awarding body specification has been checked to determine if word or time limits are mandatory</i></p> <p><i>Where limits are for guidance only, candidates are discouraged from exceeding them</i></p> <p><i>Candidates confirm/record any information provided to them on word or time limits is known and understood</i></p>	
<b>Collaboration and group work</b>		
Candidates have worked in groups where the awarding body specification states this is not permitted	<p><i>Records confirm the awarding body specification has been checked to determine if group work is permitted</i></p> <p><i>Awarding body guidance sought where this issue remains unresolved</i></p>	
<b>Authentication procedures</b>		
<p>A teacher has doubts about the authenticity of the work submitted by a candidate for internal assessment</p> <p>Candidate plagiarises other material</p>	<p><i>Records confirm subject staff have been made aware of the JCQ document Notice to Centres - Sharing NEA material and candidates' work</i></p> <p><i>Records confirm that candidates have been issued with the current JCQ document Information for candidates: non-examination assessments</i></p> <p><i>Candidates confirm/record that they understand what they need to do to comply with the regulations for non-examination assessments as outlined in the JCQ document Information for candidates: non-examination assessments</i></p> <p><i>The candidate's work is not accepted for assessment</i></p> <p><i>A mark of zero is recorded and submitted to the awarding body</i></p>	
Candidate does not sign their authentication statement/declaration	<p><i>Records confirm that candidates have been issued with the current JCQ document Information for candidates: non-examination assessments</i></p>	

Issue/Risk	Centre actions to manage issue/mitigate risk	Action by
	<p><i>Candidates confirm/record they understand what they need to do to comply with the regulations as outlined in the JCQ document Information for candidates: non-examination assessments</i></p> <p><i>Declaration is checked for signature before accepting the work of a candidate for formal assessment</i></p>	
Subject teacher not available to sign authentication forms	<p><i>Ensures a centre-wide process is in place for subject teachers to sign authentication forms at the point of marking candidates work as part of the centre's quality assurance procedures</i></p>	
<b>Presentation of work</b>		
Candidate does not fully complete the awarding body's cover sheet that is attached to their worked submitted for formal assessment	<p><i>Cover sheet is checked to ensure it is fully completed before accepting the work of a candidate for formal assessment</i></p>	
<b>Keeping materials secure</b>		
Candidates work between formal supervised sessions is not securely stored	<p><i>Records confirm subject teachers are aware of and follow current JCQ publication Instructions for conducting non-examination assessments</i></p> <p><i>Regular monitoring/internal audit ensures subject teacher use of appropriate secure storage</i></p>	
Adequate secure storage not available to subject teacher	<p><i>Records confirm adequate/sufficient secure storage is available to subject teacher prior to the start of the course</i></p> <p><i>Alternative secure storage sourced where required</i></p>	
Candidates work produced electronically is not securely stored	<p><i>Records confirm subject teachers are aware of and follow current JCQ publication Instructions for conducting non-examination assessments</i></p> <p><i>Internal processes and regular monitoring/internal audit by IT Manager ensures:</i></p> <p><i>access to this material is restricted (insert how)</i></p> <p><i>appropriate security safeguards are in place (insert names/types of protection)</i></p> <p><i>an effective back-up strategy is employed so that an up to date archive of candidates' evidence is maintained (insert details of how work is backed up)</i></p> <p><i>any sensitive digital media is encrypted (according to awarding body guidance to ensure that the method of encryption is suitable) to ensure the security of the data stored within it (insert relevant details of how)</i></p>	
<b>Task marking – externally assessed components</b>		
A candidate is absent on the day of the examiner visit for an acceptable reason	<p><i>Awarding body guidance is sought to determine if alternative assessment arrangements can be made for the candidate</i></p> <p><i>If not, eligibility for special consideration is explored and a request submitted to the awarding body where appropriate</i></p>	

Issue/Risk	Centre actions to manage issue/mitigate risk	Action by
A candidate is absent on the day of the examiner visit for an unacceptable reason	<i>The candidate is marked absent on the attendance register</i>	
<b>Task marking – internally assessed components</b>		
A candidate submits little or no work	<i>Where a candidate submits no work, the candidate is recorded as absent when marks are submitted to the awarding body Where a candidate submits little work, the work produced is assessed against the assessment criteria and a mark allocated appropriately; where the work does not meet any of the assessment criteria a mark of zero is submitted to the awarding body</i>	
A candidate is unable to finish their work for unforeseen reason	<i>Relevant staff are signposted to the JCQ publication A guide to the special consideration process (section 5), to determine eligibility and the process to be followed for shortfall in work</i>	
The work of a candidate is lost or damaged	<i>Relevant staff are signposted to the JCQ publication Instructions for conducting non-examination assessments (section 8), to determine eligibility and the process to be followed for lost or damaged work</i>	
Candidate malpractice is discovered	<i>Instructions and processes in the current JCQ publication Instructions for conducting non-examination assessments (section 9 Malpractice) are followed Investigation and reporting procedures in the current JCQ publication Suspected Malpractice: Policies and Procedures are followed Appropriate internal disciplinary procedures are also followed</i>	
A teacher assesses the work of a candidate with whom they have a close personal relationship e.g. 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)	<i>A possible conflict of interest (see <b>Appendix 6</b>) is declared by informing the awarding body before the published deadline for entries for each examination series</i>	
An extension to the deadline for submission of marks is required for a legitimate reason	<i>Awarding body is contacted to determine if an extension can be granted Relevant staff are signposted to the JCQ publication A guide to the special consideration process (section 5), to determine eligibility and the process to be followed for non-examination assessment extension</i>	
After submission of marks, it is discovered that the wrong task was given to candidates	<i>Awarding body is contacted for guidance Relevant staff are signposted to the JCQ publication A guide to the special consideration process (section 2),</i>	

Issue/Risk	Centre actions to manage issue/mitigate risk	Action by
	<i>to determine eligibility and the process to be followed to apply for special consideration for candidates</i>	
A candidate wishes to appeal/request a review of the marks awarded for their work by their teacher	<p><i>Candidates are informed of the marks they have been awarded for their work prior to the marks being submitted to the awarding body</i></p> <p><i>Records confirm candidates have been informed of their marks</i></p> <p><i>Candidates are informed that these marks are subject to change through the awarding body's moderation process</i></p> <p><i>Candidates are informed of their marks to the timescale identified in the centre's internal appeals procedure and prior to the internal deadline set by the exams officer for the submission of marks</i></p> <p><i>Through the candidate exam handbook, candidates are made aware of the centre's internal appeals procedures and timescale for submitting an appeal/request for a review of the centre's marking prior to the submission of marks to the awarding body</i></p>	
Deadline for submitting work for formal assessment not met by candidate	<p><i>Records confirm deadlines given and understood by candidates at the start of the course</i></p> <p><i>Candidates confirm/record deadlines known and understood</i></p> <p><i>Depending on the circumstances, awarding body guidance sought to determine if the work can be accepted late for marking providing the awarding body's deadline for submitting marks can be met</i></p> <p><i>Decision made (depending on the circumstances) if the work will be accepted late for marking or a mark of zero submitted to the awarding body for the candidate</i></p>	
Deadline for submitting marks and samples of candidates work ignored by subject teacher	<p><i>Internal/external deadlines are published at the start of each academic year</i></p> <p><i>Reminders are issued through senior leaders/subject heads as deadlines approach</i></p> <p><i>Records confirm deadlines known and understood by subject teachers</i></p> <p><i>Where appropriate, internal disciplinary procedures are followed</i></p>	
Subject teacher long term absence during the marking period	<i>See centre's Exam Contingency Plan (Teaching staff extended absence at key points in the exam cycle)</i>	

## APPENDIX 6

## CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

JCQ requirements:

The Centre manages conflicts of interest by informing the awarding bodies, before the published deadline for entries for each examination series, of:

- any members of centre staff who are taking qualifications at their own centre which include internally assessed components/units
- any members of centre staff who are teaching and preparing 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) for qualifications which include internally assessed components/units **and**
- maintains clear records of **all instances** where:
  - exams office staff have 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) being entered for examinations and assessments either at the centre itself or other centres
  - centre staff are taking qualifications at their own centre which do not include internally assessed components/units
  - centre staff are taking qualifications at other centres (GR 5.3)

Members of centre staff and exams office staff are asked to complete a yearly conflict of interest declaration. Responses are collected in advance of entry deadlines and the relevant awarding bodies are informed as necessary before the published deadline for entries.

*Exams office staff*

Where exams office staff have 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) being entered for examinations and assessments either at the centre itself or other centres a record of this will be maintained.

In order to ensure the integrity of the exams process the Instructions for Conducting Examinations published by the JCQ will be followed at all times and Lady Manners School will implement the following additional measures

- Where packets of question papers are opened to be split for different examination rooms the requirements of paragraphs 5.2 and 5.3 will be complied with and two members of centre staff will be present
- Where secure electronic materials need to be downloaded, printed and/or collated this will be carried out in accordance with the JCQ requirements, particularly section 4 of the Instructions for Conducting Examinations, and by a member of centre staff who does not have a conflict of interest.