



# Examinations Policy 2021-22

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## Mission Statement

We are a Catholic College dedicated to the education and development of the whole person and supporting all students to realise their full potential. As an outstanding learning organisation SJR will have a strong sense of purpose and a commitment to shared values within a Christian community. We will establish a unique, safe and challenging environment where every individual is valued, talents are recognised and nurtured, achievements are celebrated and dedication is rewarded. To achieve this as a community we will:

- Welcome all students who are happy to be educated within a Christian environment
- Value the uniqueness and dignity of each individual
- Deliver the highest standards of teaching and learning
- All show a commitment to our work, to the Christian values of the College and to the safety of all in our community
- Provide equality of opportunity, with mutual respect and positive encouragement
- Build and further develop local, national and international partnerships

Core values in daily life at St John Rigby College are expressed as:

- Genuine concern for others
- Support for and challenge of one another
- High standards and expectations
- Consistency and perseverance
- Recognition of talents, progress and achievements.

## Policy Statement

This document sets out responsibilities and procedures for all examinations at St John Rigby College.

This will be reviewed and evaluated every year in the light of the Joint Council for Qualifications (JCQ) guidelines and/or JCQ Centre audits.

Since the results of examinations and assessments are so important to students, staff and the College in general, the College aims to administer examinations efficiently and effectively, and in such a way as to allow the students to perform to the best of their ability.

The College also recognises that it has a responsibility to the public in general to ensure that all Awarding Body policies are fully complied with, and that public money is used effectively.

This Policy covers general responsibilities and procedures for all examinations in College - it does not deal with individual subject requirements.

It is recognised that the Examinations Officer will need the co-operation of all staff and students in order for the successful execution of public examinations and associated processes.

## Responsibilities

### **Principal:**

- is responsible to the awarding bodies for making sure all examinations or assessments are conducted according to awarding body and JCQ instructions, and the qualification specifications issued by the awarding bodies
- reads the JCQ's General Regulations for Approved Centres which is published annually
- ensures that all staff comply with this policy and the instruction in the JCQ Instructions for conducting examinations
- ensures the College delivers qualifications, in accordance with relevant equality legislation. This includes ensuring that qualifications are made available to all candidates capable of undertaking them and seeking reasonable adjustments for disabled candidates
- ensures that a Learning Support Manager (SENCo) in post to determine appropriate access arrangements for students where relevant
- ensures the relevant senior leader(s), the Examinations Officer and the Learning Support Manager to receive appropriate training and support in order to facilitate the effective delivery of examinations and assessments within the centre, and ensure compliance with the published JCQ regulations
- manages Conflicts of Interest by informing the awarding bodies, before the published deadline for entries, 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 centre which do not include internally assessed components/units;
  - centre staff are taking qualifications at other centres
- confirms, on an annual basis, to the National Centre Number Register that as Head of Centre he is both aware of and adhering to the latest version of the JCQ regulations (by 31 October each year)
- sets the authorisation for access to the Examinations secure storage for named College staff
- authorises key holders for the secure storage (2 to 6 only)
- ensures there is an Internal Appeals Policy for non-examination assessments
- responds to appeals from candidates regarding non-examination assessment
- reports immediately all suspicions or actual incidents of malpractice to the relevant awarding body
- appoints a suitably qualified person to assess students for examination access arrangements
- approves any communication with the media following the publication of results
- declares any Conflict of Interests

### **Vice Principal Curriculum & Quality:**

- organizes teaching and learning to prepare students for assessment
- reports any concerns regarding an actual or possible security breach to the Principal
- confirms with the Examinations Officer and MIS & Funding Manager those courses and specifications (including Awarding Body) that are being offered
- deputises for the Vice Principal (Staffing & Resources) in matters relating to examinations (escalation process) in the Principal's and Vice Principal (Staffing & Resources) absence
- is the BTEC Quality Nominee and is responsible for ensuring BTEC quality processes are adhered to and that staff are trained in these processes
- prepares and manages any Quality Review visits
- ensures that all external verification reports are centrally recorded and distributed along with their associated Action Plan and that required action is taken and recorded within relevant self-assessment processes
- manages the AP Curriculum and Divisional Leaders

- declares any Conflict of Interests

***Vice Principal Students:***

- manages the Learning Support Manager
- liaises with the Examinations Officer with regard to special consideration applications
- ensures that students are fully aware of procedures for collecting their results
- declares any Conflict of Interests

***Vice Principal Staffing & Resources:***

- reads the JCQ's General Regulations for Approved Centres which is published annually and updates policies accordingly
- deputises for the Principal in matters relating to examinations (escalation process) in the Principal's absence
- monitors and evaluates these procedures and their implementation
- periodically inspects the secure facilities within Departments used to store candidates work
- reports any concerns regarding an actual or possible security breach to the Principal
- line manages the MIS and Funding Manager and hence the Examination's Officer
- deputises for the MIS & Funding Manager in their absence
- ensures the College's compliance with JCQ regulations
- will provide support and guidance to the examinations officer and ensure that the integrity and security of examinations and assessments is maintained throughout an examination series
- reports any concerns regarding an actual or possible security breach to the Principal
- ensures the Reception is staffed between 8.30 am to 3.30 pm during term time
- ensures the confidentiality of the teaching staff Declarations of Interest for those who are examiners, moderators, paper/question setters in the employ of awarding bodies
- declares any Conflict of Interests
- ensures that any potential Conflicts of Interests of staff where:
  - staff take examinations at the College which include internally assessed components
  - staff teaching members of their family (including step/foster relations), or close friends (or their children) which include internally assessed components
 are reported to the relevant awarding bodies prior to the deadline for entries.
- maintains records of where
  - Examinations Office staff have members of their family (including step/foster relations) or close friends (or their children)
- ensures the College is compliant with the Data Protection Act (2018)

***Central Services Manager:***

- ensures that the main examination venues are set up in time for each examination session using instructions provided by the Examinations Officer
- ensures that the lighting and heating in each venue are adequate
- stores, maintains and, when required, orders examination furniture
- ensures provision of IT support to candidates who are allowed to word-process their examination/non-examination assessment
- where necessary, provide and maintain the use of secure exam accounts for candidates to create and securely store their examination/non-examination assessment work
- ensure that the IT systems are robust and backed-up so that student coursework is secure from loss or corruption
- ensures that there is clear signage outside the main building
- line manages the Office Manager
- declares any Conflict of Interests

***MIS & Funding Manager:***

- manages and supports the work of the Examinations Officer.
- deputises for the Examinations Officer in their absence.
- ensures the production of individual and summary reports and analysis of results.
- informs the VP (S&R) of staffing required to facilitate an effective examination function
- advises the College's SLT and CMT of examination arrangements
- investigates and reports any concerns regarding an actual or possible security breach to the Vice Principal (S&R)
- ensures that there is adequate staffing on results day (external invigilators to give out results)

- ensures that staff authorised by the Principal to have access to the secure storage are accompanied by a keyholder at all times
- declares any Conflict of Interests

**Examinations Officer:**

Manages the administration of public and internal examinations:

- advises the MIS & Funding Manager, subject and class tutors and other relevant support staff on annual examination timetables and application procedures as set by the various examination boards
- annually, checks the JCQ publications relating to the arrangements for examinations but in particular the General Regulations for Approved Centres and Instructions for conducting examinations
- oversees the production and distribution to staff and students of an annual calendar for all examinations in which candidates will be involved and communicates regularly with staff concerning imminent deadlines and events
- ensures that candidates are informed of and understand those aspects of the examination timetable that will affect them
- liaises, where appropriate, with teaching staff to ensure that necessary coursework is completed on time and in accordance with JCQ guidelines
- provides and confirms detailed data on estimated entries
- makes examination entries/registrations for candidates according to the relevant deadlines
- emails the JCQ document *Information for candidates – Privacy notice, general and vocational qualifications* to students
- ensures that the JCQ document Information for candidate's documents (on-screen tests, social media and written examinations) is distributed to all candidates and is available on the College intranet.
- receives, checks and immediately securely stores all examination papers and completed scripts and retains records of examination paper receipt and storage, movement within College and dispatch of confidential materials
- maintains a log of delivery of confidential materials, including the number of boxes received and ensures that these are locked in the secure store without delay
- checks, and maintains a log to show that the correct paper packets day, date, time, subject, unit/component and tier) are opened prior to the examination and only within the timescale stipulated by JCQ (90 minutes). A Lead Invigilator or MIS Assistant will assist in this task.
- maintains the organization of the Examinations secure storage and ensure that it contains only 'live' confidential materials
- ensures that examination stationery is stored securely
- ensures that the JCQ regulations for the handling of encrypted material are adhered to
- ensures appropriate arrangements are in place for the security of "clash" or "supervision" students
- may correct a discrepancy on the front of student's script (e.g. add a missing Centre number), but will counter-sign to show the addition/correction. No other changes to scripts are permitted.
- promptly dispatches completed examination scripts to the relevant bodies, in accordance with Awarding Body policies
- liaises with the Learning Support Manager, administers access arrangements (readers, scribes, extra time etc) and makes applications for special consideration using the JCQ access arrangements and special considerations regulations and guidance relating to candidates who are eligible for adjustments in examinations
- liaises with the Reprographics Technician when scripts are to be enlarged or copied onto another colour as per Awarding Body advice and maintains the security of the original script and copies
- follows JCQ guidance reading the interactive PDF files and computer readers
- liaises with the Vice Principal (Students) regarding Special Consideration applications where appropriate
- ensures that the examination timetable adheres to the published duration of each examination paper
- identifies and manages examination timetable clashes
- ensures that students and staff are aware of the published "contingency day" so that, should it be required by an awarding body, students will be available (Tuesday 29 June 2021)
- accounts for income and outgoings relating to all examination costs/charges
- organises the recruitment, training and monitoring of a team of examination invigilators responsible for the conduct of examinations
- ensures that accurate registers of examination attendance are kept and that any students who are not present at the start of an external examination are contacted
- reports to the MIS & Funding Manager, indicating where future procedural improvements might be made
- dispatches and tracks coursework and stores returned coursework/non-examination assessments and any other material required by the appropriate awarding bodies correctly and on schedule
- arranges for dissemination of examination results and certificates to candidates and forwards, in consultation with SLT/HoDs, any appeals or review of marking requests
- administers all post-results services requests
- maintains systems and processes to support the timely entry of candidates for their examinations.

- investigates and reports any concerns regarding an actual or possible security breach to the MIS & Funding Manager and Vice Principal (S&R) or Vice Principal (C&Q).
- must declare if s/he is related to any candidate so that appropriate arrangements can be put in place as per JCQ regulations
- ensures that staff authorised by the Principal to have access to the secure storage are accompanied by a keyholder at all times
- declares any other Conflict of Interests

***Office Manager and Reception Staff***

- ensure that Reception is staffed between 08:30 and 15:30 during term time
- receive and record deliveries of confidential examination/assessment material and record this on the log provided by the Examinations Officer
- immediately take any delivery to the Examinations Office to ensure its security
- log the dispatch of completed scripts/non-examined assessment material to the awarding bodies using the log provided.
- declare any Conflict of Interests

***Divisional Leaders, Heads of Department and Course Leaders:***

- in collaboration with the Vice Principal (Curriculum & Quality) decide on the awarding body and specification for particular courses
- ensure that all coursework and non-examination assessments are planned and scheduled appropriately through the scheme of work
- ensure that coursework and non-examination assessments are conducted and marked by staff having the appropriate skills, knowledge and understanding
- ensure that all coursework/non-examination assessments are marked consistently according to the mark-scheme, marking criteria and are internally standardized/verified as required.
- confirm unit/module/paper entry codes and estimated entries with the Examinations Officer by the internal deadline
- ensure that class entry lists are completed by teachers and returned to the Examination Officer by the internal deadline
- publicize the dates of external and internal examinations to students and staff within the department/course
- ensure the accurate completion of coursework, its marking and the completion of authentication declaration sheets and retain these until the review of marking deadline has passed, or any appeal, malpractice or other enquiry is complete.
- guide students who are unsure about examination entries (e.g. resits) or amendments to entries
- review final examination papers either on line, or hard copy (with the students' consent) following the publication of final external examination results
- advise students with regard to post-results services such as a review of marking
- make arrangements for the secure and confidential storage of live non-examined controlled assessments, coursework and portfolios whilst in staffs' possession
- liaise with students and the Examinations Officer in post-results procedures (Enquiries About Results)
- ensure a staff presence at the start of all subject examinations and report to the SLT member present
- ensure that all College and Awarding Body procedures relating to examinations and assessments are followed
- assist the Examinations Officer in contacting students who have not arrived at the start of an examination
- declare any Conflict of Interests

***Teachers:***

- complete, amend where required and check class entry lists and return these to the Head of Department by the required deadline
- comply with College and Awarding Body procedures and deadlines relating to examinations and assessments
- remind students of their responsibility to comply with Awarding Body regulations with respect to coursework completion, plagiarism and the use of social media, the security of their own work, regulations relating to re-draft, resubmissions and deadlines
- ensure that any non-examined assessment:
  - is solely the work of the student
  - has been completed under the required conditions
  - is completed with an authentication sheet signed by the student and teacher<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> If, during external moderation, it is found that work has not been properly authenticated, the awarding body will set the marks awarded by the College to 0.

- mark or assess coursework and non-examination assessments accurately and according to Awarding Body standards and criteria, annotate appropriately and engage in internal standardization exercises
- submits candidates' coursework marks to the Awarding Body by the published deadline
- contribute to internal standardization and verification processes
- ensure the secure and confidential storage of live non-examined controlled assessments, coursework and portfolios whilst in their possession and not must not share live work of candidates with other candidates
- should advise students of their non-examination assessment marks within a sufficient window in order to allow time for any internal appeal to be concluded prior to the submission of centre marks
- must make it clear that non-examination assessment marks which have been submitted to the awarding body are subject to change through the awarding body moderation process.
- refer students, who appear to require access arrangements, or other support to the Learning Support Manager (LSM) as soon as possible in the academic year and by the internal deadlines stated in the College calendar and Learning Support Handbook
- provide the LSM with evidence of the student's need for this access arrangement. This may include internal test marks showing the application of extra time and comments/observations from teachers explaining why the access arrangement is required and how the student will benefit from it.
- teaching staff who are examiners or moderators etc must not inform students or parents of this role. Staff who are aware that their colleagues are examiners or moderators must NOT inform students or parents and this. If a member of staff is contracted by an awarding body they must inform the Principal via a Declaration of Interest Form (see Appendix 12) via the HR Manager, this will be kept on file. These forms will be completed on an annual basis.
- declare any Conflict of Interests

#### ***Progress Tutors:***

- monitor student attendance and attainment across all subjects
- provide general guidance and specific guidance regarding conduct in examinations
- distribute individual statements of entry and examination timetables to students when requested to do so
- declare any Conflict of Interests

#### ***Learning Support Manager:***

- receives referrals for students who may require access arrangements and assesses those students' for access arrangements in accordance with the College Assessment, Support and Access Arrangements Procedures
- updates the College Assessment, Support and Access Arrangements Procedures annually
- ensures that s/he is aware of any updates in the JCQ publication: Adjustments for candidates with disabilities and learning difficulties Access Arrangements and Reasonable Adjustments, published each September.
- maintain appropriate records of and assessment leading to the award of access arrangements. This includes:
  - evidence/picture of need, including referrals and evidence from teachers, of the student's normal way of working
  - diagnostic assessments of reading, writing and processing etc
  - diagnoses of a learning difficulty
  - diagnoses of a medical conditions
  - appropriately completed JCQ documentation (e.g. Form 8)
  - signed data protection/candidate data personal consent form
- arranges the timely input of access arrangements online to JCQ deadlines
- retains appropriate evidence and documentation relating to the assessment, award or non-award of access arrangements in line with JCQ requirements
- provides additional support (spelling, reading, mathematics, dyslexia or essential skills, hearing impairment, English for Speakers of Other Languages, IT equipment) to help students achieve their course aims through the use of assistive technology or 1 to 1 support etc
- attends Patoss or Communicate-ed training or conferences in order to ensure the College practice is up to date and adheres to the JCQ: Access Arrangements & Reasonable Adjustments regulations
- liaises with the JCQ Inspector during the annual access arrangements inspection visit
- ensures that all evidence required by the JCQ Inspector is available – even in the event of an IT systems failure
- ensures, in liaison with the Examinations Officer, that Learning Mentors are appropriately trained to facilitate access arrangements such as acting as readers or scribes and maintains records of such training
- declares any Conflict of Interests

#### ***Learning Mentors:***

- support students in class who are assessed by the LSM as requiring additional support



- act as readers or scribes as and when required during both internal and external assessments
- may, after receiving training, invigilate external examinations
- declare any Conflict of Interests

**Lead Invigilator and Invigilators:**

- collect examination papers and other material from the Examinations Office before the start of the examination and keep these secure at all times
- Lead Invigilators will assist the Examination Officer in the checking and opening of paper packets prior to the examination
- set up the hall/rooms before each session including:
  - JCQ notices
  - ensure that a clock is visible to all students and that it shows the actual time
  - a notice showing the
    - Centre number
    - Subject title
    - Paper number
    - Actual start and end times
    - Date of the examination
- supervise the entry of students to the hall/room and check student identities
- ensure students are sitting in the correct place and complete the examination register
- make the required announcements at the start and end of the examination
- make appropriate checks that no unauthorised material, or equipment, has been brought into the examination room, including all watches, MP3/4 players, mobile phones, ipods etc and drink labels
- supervise students during the examination
- collect all examination papers in the correct order at the end of the examination and return them to the examinations office
- report any concerns regarding an actual or possible security breach to the Examinations Officer
- may only give a 5-minute warning to candidates, but consideration should be given to other students whose examination may finish at a different time
- ensures that their mobile phone is on silent and only used when summoning help when they are the sole invigilator
- declare any Conflict of Interests
- the College will ensure that under no circumstance will a teacher, a tutor or a senior member of College staff who teaches the subject being examined, be an invigilator during the examination

**Students:**

- complete all course work and non-examination assessments by the required deadline
- check their statement of entry is accurate
- ensure their understanding of examination and coursework regulations: plagiarism and the use of social media, the security of their own work, regulations relating to re-draft, resubmissions and deadlines
- sign a declaration that authenticates the coursework as their own
- punctually attend all examinations
- bring photographic ID to all external examinations
- not bring unauthorized materials, notes, smart-watches, phones, iPods, wrist watches that have data storage and ensure that any water bottles are label free and calculators do not have lids.
- be aware of the procedures if they are late to an external examination

**Escalation Process (Internal governance arrangements)**

In the absence of the Principal, the Vice Principal (S&R) will assume the Principal's responsibilities with regard to examinations. In the absence of both the Principal and Vice Principal (S&R) the Vice Principal (C&Q) will assume the Principal's responsibilities with regard to examinations.

**Public liability**

The College complies with local health and safety rules which are in place and the College is adequately covered for public liability claims.

**Qualifications offered**

The Principal, Vice Principal (Curriculum & Quality) and Divisional Leaders determine the curriculum offered at St John Rigby College.

The qualification types currently offered are GCSE, A-level, Level 3 Extended Project, Functional Skills, BTEC (Entry Level 3 to Level 3), and a small range of certificated coaching, enrichment and first-aid courses. From September 2022 the College will offer T-levels.

The subjects offered for these qualification types in any academic year may be found in the College's prospectus and web site. If there has been a change of syllabus from the previous year, the Examinations Officer must be informed by the end of the previous summer term by the Vice Principal (C&Q).

Examination seasons, timetables and clashes

### ***Examination seasons***

External examinations are scheduled in from October to June.

Cross College mock examinations for GCSE, A-level courses and externally assessed BTEC units are scheduled in the autumn (Y13 only) spring terms. These are generally in the Sports Hall. Arrangements are made to meet any examination concessions for students concerned. During mock examinations the normal College timetable is suspended for those students involved. For the Year 2021-22 these arrangements will be confirmed or changed in the light of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Internal examinations are not held at the same time and in the same venue as external examinations. Mock examination papers are not kept in the secure examinations storage.

### ***External examination timetables and clashes***

The Examinations Officer will circulate an annual examinations calendar showing all external examinations scheduled for the coming year. Personal examination timetables will be distributed to students and Progress Tutors once all de-clashing, rooming and seating has taken place. No examination dates or times will be given to students or parents by the Examinations Officer until personal examination timetables have been published. Before such time, HoDs/CLs will be responsible for publicizing to classes the examination dates for individual units.

Each personal examination timetable will give the date and time, room and seat of all the student's examinations. These will be issued no less than three weeks before any examination season.

Entry for Examinations/BTEC Registrations

### ***Entry and Registration Details***

At the start of their time at St John Rigby College, students will sign a Learning Agreement specifying the qualifications they are aiming for. This commits the College to entering or registering students for these examinations and courses unless:

- the student changes course or leaves College or
- the student's attendance is less than 90% in which case the student may be required to pay a deposit against their examination entries. This deposit will be re-funded if the student achieves their target grade.
- the student wishes to re-sit a unit. In this case the re-sit entry will only be made upon receipt of the entry fee.

The Learning Agreement commits the student to following these procedures.

The Examinations Officer is responsible for ensuring that the College is following up-to-date Awarding Body policies regarding entries, registrations and withdrawals. The Examinations Officer and VP (C & Q) will also ensure that any regulatory requirements for the qualification are observed.

The HOD/CL will ensure that the Examinations Officer is fully aware of the precise course, aggregation, examination/paper/modules codes etc, for which their students should be entered and/or registered. Although the Examinations Officer will produce subject entry lists by class, the HOD/CL has the prime responsibility for ensuring their accuracy and appropriateness. Heads of Department/CLs will ensure that entries or registrations for their subject are correct and appropriate for the student, and that students are fully aware of their entry in that subject. Having checked the lists, the Head of Department/CLs will return them, signed, to the Examination Officer by the internal deadline (previously issued by the Examinations Officer).

Statements of Entry and Personal Examination Timetables, issued by the Examinations Officer, will be distributed to students by email and/or Progress Tutors. This information is also available via the MIS system and the SJR Portal. Where such distribution is not possible, students can collect their entry statements/timetables from the Reception.

The Examinations Officer is responsible for communicating entries/registrations to the Awarding Bodies by the appropriate external deadlines.

See Appendix 3 for specific details of BTEC Registrations.

The College will only enter staff for external examinations as a last resort. If a member of staff wishes to sit an external examination then an alternative centre should be sought. Should a member of staff be entered for an external examination, then the Examinations Officer will ensure that the staff member does not have access to examination material and does not receive any preferential treatment.

#### *Late Entries and Registrations*

Late entries or registrations are authorised by the individual Head of Department/Course Leader and Examinations Officer. Should the College be required to pay late examination or registration fees, such fees will be paid by the area responsible: for example, if a subject misses an internal deadline, any late entry fees will be taken from that subject's capitation. If the fault lies with the examination department, the examination department will pay any late fees; and if the student is responsible, the student will pay. The Examinations Officer will always give a reasonable deadline, although this will often be determined by the Awarding Bodies. The entry deadlines will be publicized by the Examinations Officer in the Examinations Calendar and return dates will be clearly stated on class entry forms etc.

The Examinations Officer will accept entry amendments and withdrawals up to the dates set by the Awarding Bodies.

#### ***Resits of modules/external tests***

There are limited opportunities for re-sits for the reformed GCSE, A-level and BTEC specifications. Heads of Department or Course Leaders, in conjunction with the subject teachers should discuss with students the appropriateness of taking a resit and where there are issues of workload for the student, the Progress Tutor should also be consulted.

Students will pay the fee for any re-sits they take. If payment is not made by the deadline issued by College, they will not be entered for the re-sit. All re-sit applications will be made online via ParentPay by students, except in exceptional circumstances when the Examinations Officer will be responsible for making appropriate arrangements. The Examinations Officer will ensure that re-sit application information, procedures and deadlines are regularly conveyed to students and teachers. Re-sit fees will be reviewed by the Examinations Officer annually, and will be posted on the staff information system and student intranet.

In cases of genuine financial hardship the Examinations Officer may waive resit fees on approval from a member of the Senior Leadership Team.

#### ***Examination and Registration Fees***

Full time students at St John Rigby College are not charged for their first registration or entry to an examination, unless such a charge has been agreed as part of College review procedures (for example, in the case of inadequate attendance at College).

Students will pay for re-sit examinations. The College reserves the right not to make entries if re-sit fees are not paid by the College deadline. Late re-sit applications may be accepted at the discretion of the Examinations Officer and will be subject to late entry fee charges.

The College reserves the right to seek re-imburement from students who miss examinations, or do not meet coursework requirements, without medical or other mitigating circumstances.

#### **The Equality Act 2010 and Access Arrangements**

The Equality Act 2010 harmonises, consolidates and replaces previous legislation, consolidating equality legislation with respect to nine protected characteristics, including disability. The Act sets out the types of discrimination, which in the context of disability include direct and indirect discrimination, discrimination arising from disability, harassment, victimization and failing to make a reasonable adjustment. For further general information, please refer to the Student Disability Policy available on SIS under Student Policies) which outlines how the College seeks to comply with the Equality Act 2010.

The Equality Act requires that reasonable adjustments are put in place for candidates who are disabled within the meaning of the Act, would be at a substantial disadvantage in comparison to candidates who are not disabled. The principal way of implementing reasonable adjustments is by putting in place “access arrangements”. The Vice Principal (Students), Examinations Officer and Learning Support Manager are responsible for ensuring that access arrangements and special consideration procedures are consistent with the law. Where the College is under a duty to make a reasonable adjustment there will be no charge or additional fee or charge made to the student (or parents/carers) in relation to the adjustment.

Failure to consider putting arrangements in place (which may be a failure to comply with the duty to make reasonable adjustments) or putting in place arrangements that have not been approved or putting in place arrangements that are not supported by appropriate evidence may be considered as malpractice (See Appendix 9).

The individual requirements of some students may necessitate special arrangements. In these cases, the Examinations Officer will liaise with the Learning Support Officer and Learning Support Manager so that the JCQ deadlines for access arrangements are met.

The Learning Support Manager will inform the Examinations Officer, Heads of Departments/CLs, subject teachers, Senior Tutors and Progress Tutors of students with special educational needs or disabilities. These students are identified through the admissions and enrolment process. The Learning Support Manager will liaise with the Examinations Officer with regards to the application for appropriate access arrangements. The Learning Support Manager will inform the Examinations Officer of the access arrangements required by each student so that these can be put in place in accordance with the College Assessment, Support and Access Arrangements Procedures.

If a teacher suspects that a student has an undiagnosed learning difficulty, they may make a referral to the Learning Support Department with supporting evidence via the “Check list regarding student’s normal way of working. Additional evidence to support Access Arrangements” form. Such students should be identified as early as possible and certainly within their first year at College. The evidence provided to the Learning Support Department will be assessed and a diagnostic assessment make take place.

Diagnostic assessments to determine the need and extent of access arranges are carried out by the Learning Support Manager and one other suitably qualified specialist teacher.

The Vice Principal (S&R) will, by the 30<sup>th</sup> September each year, check that the specialist qualifications held by these staff are still current and fit for purpose.

It is essential the Examinations Officer is informed of these arrangements before the process of rooming, seating and planning invigilation commences.

Submitting completed access arrangement applications to the awarding bodies is the responsibility of the Learning Support Officer. Late referrals will be accommodated if practicable.

One of the Specialist Teachers must attend annual staff development via Communicate-ED/Patoss conferences and disseminate the information to the other Specialist Teachers.

Diagnostic Assessments for purposes of Examination Access Arrangements will only be accepted from:

- The Specialist Teachers at St John Rigby College
- The Sensory Impairment Service, Wigan
- A registered Optician

The use of third parties to deliver courses or parts of courses

Where the College uses a third party to deliver any part of a qualification, it maintains oversight of, and responsibility for, the delivery of the qualification in accordance with JCQ regulations and awarding body requirements. The College will have in place a written agreement with the third party, a copy of which will be available for inspection if requested by the awarding body.

Attendance at External Examinations

### **Arrival**

Students will only be allowed access to the examination room on production of a College ID badge or other form of photographic ID (driving license, passport, current photo bus pass). This ensures that external invigilators can verify the identity of the students, in accordance with JCQ requirements, and complete accurate attendance registers.

All students are responsible for ensuring that they sit in the correct seat, as detailed on the examination seating plan and on each student's personal examination timetable, and that they are sitting the correct paper. Seating lists will be posted outside each examination room.

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

### ***Late Arrival***

Students are responsible for their prompt arrival at examinations. If a student realises that they are going to miss, or be late to, an examination, they should contact Reception immediately and make their way to College as quickly as possible. On arrival they should report to the Sports Hall or the College Reception. Please see Appendix 10 for further information regarding late arrival at examinations. Instructions with regard to late arrival are printed on the bottom of the Examination Timetable issued to students and are also available in the Exams FAQ via the College intranet and website.

### ***Non-Attendance***

Students who do not attend examinations and fail to provide an appropriate justification for absence, will be subject to a charge to cover the cost of the missed examination. In cases where extenuating circumstances apply, e.g. illness, bereavement, the Examinations Officer will use discretion in the levying of fees. The Examinations Officer will apply to the Awarding Bodies for entry fee refunds when possible.

All cases of non-arrival should be reported to the Vice Principal (Curriculum & Quality) for consideration of withdrawal from the qualification because of incomplete final assessment.

## **Managing Invigilators and External Examination Days**

### ***Managing invigilators***

Wherever possible the College will use external paid invigilators to supervise external examinations. The Examinations Officer is responsible for co-coordinating the work of these invigilators, for organising and communicating their times of duty, and for ensuring that they are following College and Awarding Body policy regarding the conduct of examinations. The Examinations Officer will liaise with the Human Resources Officer regarding recruitment, hours worked and payment of external invigilators.

Where external invigilators are not available, or where there are insufficient numbers, College staff will invigilate. This will be arranged by the Examinations Officer and Vice Principal (S&C).

Once authorised by the Principal, the recruitment of invigilators is the responsibility of the Examinations Officer assisted by the Human Resources Officer.

Securing the necessary Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) clearance for new invigilators is the responsibility of the HR department. DBS fees for securing such clearance are paid by the College, see the Staff Recruitment & Selection Policy Appendix 1: DBS Policy. Invigilators' rates of pay are set by the Principal.

### ***External Examination Days***

The Examinations Officer is responsible for the organisation of examination accommodation, in accordance with Awarding Body regulations and the College Health and Safety procedures. The Central Services Manager and the Premises Team will use information provided by the Examinations Officer to set up rooms appropriately.

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

The Examinations Officer or lead invigilator will start all examinations in the Sports Hall or Theatre in accordance with JCQ guidelines. The allocated external invigilator will start examinations in other classrooms in accordance with JCQ guidelines.

In practical examinations subject teachers should be on hand in case of any technical difficulties, but should remain outside the room unless asked to enter by the invigilator.

Papers will be distributed to HoDs at the end of the examination session. Please refer to Appendix 6: Examination Protocols.

## Managing students, clash students and special consideration students

### **Students**

The Examinations Officer is responsible for ensuring that students are fully aware of procedures to be followed in examinations. This will usually take the form of written instructions, which will be distributed by Progress Tutors and also made available on the intranet (Exams FAQs), and by announcements at the start of each examination session.

The JCQ rules on candidates' use of mobile phones and other electronic devices apply at all times and the normal standards of student co-operation and behaviour, as specified in the Student Charter, continue to apply during examination periods. Students who do not adhere to JCQ guidelines and procedures will be dealt with in accordance with the JCQ 'Suspected Malpractice in Examinations and Assessments' procedures.

Students' personal belongings remain their own responsibility and the College accepts no liability for their loss or damage. Students should ensure that their mobile phone and other electronic equipment is switched off and placed in their bag. Bags will be left at the back of the main examination rooms, and in an appropriate place in other rooms.

Head-phones should not be worn in the examination. Students who wear a head covering for religious reasons will be asked to show an invigilator/staff member of the same gender that there are no head-phones concealed beneath. This will take place outside the main examination room. Other students will be asked to remove hats/caps or scarfs that cover their ears.

Students must remove wrist watches. These should be placed on the desk and be visible to the invigilator.

Students may leave the examination room for a genuine purpose requiring an immediate return to the examination room (e.g. to use the toilet), in which case a member of staff/invigilator must accompany them.

### **Clash students**

The supervision of escorts, identifying a secure venue and arranging overnight supervision (including the completion of JCQ form Timetable variation and confidentiality declaration for overnight supervision) is the responsibility of the Examinations Officer. The Examinations Officer will follow the JCQ guidance regarding overnight supervision.

### **Special Consideration and temporary access arrangements**

Special Consideration is a post examination adjustment to a candidate's mark or grade to reflect temporary injury, illness or other indisposition at the time of the examination/assessment.

Students will be eligible for special consideration if they have been fully prepared and have covered the whole course but performance in the examination, or in the production of controlled assessment, coursework or non-examination assessment, is materially affected by adverse circumstances beyond their control. These include:

- temporary illness or accident/injury at the time of the assessment
- bereavement at the time of the assessment (where whole groups are affected, normally only those most closely involved will be eligible)
- domestic crisis arising at the time of the assessment
- serious disturbance during an examination, particularly where recorded material is being used
- accidental events at the time of the assessment such as being given the wrong examination paper, being given a defective examination paper or CD, failure of practical equipment, failure of materials to arrive on time
- participation in sporting events, training camps or other competitions at an international level at the time of certification
- failure by the College to implement previously approved access arrangements for that specific examination series.

For detailed guidance see the JCQ publication: 'A guide to the special consideration process General and Vocational qualifications.'

The Examinations Officer will process applications for special consideration/temporary access arrangements in line with the JCQ and awarding body procedures and deadlines using Form 10 – JCQ/SC, at the time of the assessment. Applications will be signed by a member of the SLT, usually the Vice Principal (Students) or the Principal. Supporting evidence will be retained until the publication of results.

Students who miss the deadline for non-examined assessment for the reasons given above may be eligible for an extension of no more than 10 days. This will be at the discretion of the Awarding Body.

For students who miss timetabled examinations for acceptable reasons the Awarding Body may make an adjustment to the final grade depending on the total amount of assessment that has been completed. Please refer to Section 4.3 in the publication listed above.

Students who may be eligible for special consideration will be advised by the Vice Principal (Students) and the Examinations Officer.

### Coursework/non-examination assessment

Heads of Department will ensure that

- all coursework and non-examination assessments are planned and scheduled appropriately through the scheme of work
- coursework and non-examination assessments are conducted and marked by staff having the appropriate skills, knowledge and understanding
- all coursework/non-examination assessments are marked consistently according to the mark-scheme, marking criteria and is internally standardized as required.
- all coursework is marked and/or dispatched at the correct time. The HOD will keep a record of what has been sent, when and to whom

Students should ensure that they complete all coursework/assessment by the required submission dates and that they declare any content that is not their own work.

Also see

[Appendix 1b: Management issues and potential risks associated with non-examination assessments / coursework](#)

[Appendix 2: Review of Marking: College Assessed Marks](#)

### Certification

For all A-level and Level 3 BTEC programmes, certification will be made at the end of the two-years of study. In exceptional cases, a student may take an A-level or BTEC Extended Certificate in one year.

All pre-level 3 courses will be certificated after one year of study, unless agreed by the VP(C&Q) for specific individuals.

For specific details of BTEC certification please see: [Appendix 3: BTEC Registration and Certification Procedures.](#)

### Study Leave

Dates for study leave and holidays are published in the College Calendar, which is available in the Staff Handbook.

Study leave is granted for internal “mock” examinations held in November and March. Students taking subjects holding examinations in these sessions will only be required to attend that subject for their examination. BTEC Diploma and Extended Diploma classes will continue as normal.

#### ***Y13 Students***

Study leave arrangements for Y13 students will be decided on an annual basis by SLT on return from the Easter vacation.

#### ***Y12 Students on 1 Year Programmes***

These classes continue until either all course work has been completed and submitted to the Awarding Body or any GCSE/Functional Skills examinations have been completed.

#### ***Y12 Students on Advanced Programmes***

Y12 Advanced students who may be re-sitting a GCSE subject will not be granted study leave except for the morning before an afternoon examination.

All Year 12 level 3 lessons continue as normal until the end of the summer term as published in the College calendar.

## **November GCSE Mathematics and English Re-sit Examinations**

The College will enter students for November GCSE re-sit examinations as follows:

- all Year 13 students who have yet to achieve a grade 4
- any Y12 student who has progressed between levels (e.g. from level 2 to level 3) and has improved to a grade 3

Students taking November entries will be required to continue attending GCSE lessons until the publication of results in January and securing a grade 4. The College will enter November re-sitters who do not achieve a grade 4 for the summer series and will pay for the entry.

All other students will be entered for the summer series. Any requests for exceptions to this will be considered by the VP (C&Q).

### **Financial Procedures**

The Examinations Officer is responsible for ensuring that the correct entries/registrations are made by the relevant deadline and, by liaising with the Finance Department, that the correct payment of examination/ registration fees is made to the Awarding Bodies.

The Examinations Officer is responsible for the ordering and secure storage of examination papers, stationery and will liaise with the Director of Funding, Finance and Estates with regard to suitable furniture/storage.

The Examinations Officer is responsible for providing appropriate information to *ParentPay* in order that the online re-sit application and payment system is kept up to date.

### **Results, Enquiries about Results (EARs) and Access to Scripts (ATS)**

#### **Results**

The Examinations Officer and the MIS & Funding Manager are responsible for the initial processing of examination results. The MIS & Funding Manager will produce results in appropriate forms, as requested by the Senior Leadership Team.

The Vice Principal (Students), Examinations Officer, MIS & Funding Manager are responsible for ensuring that the College is appropriately staffed on results days for the collation and distribution of examination results.

The Vice Principal (Students) is responsible for ensuring that students are fully aware of procedures for collecting their results.

The Principal is responsible for the dissemination of results to the media and for subsequent contact with them.

Wherever possible, results will be given individually and sensitively to students. In the event of the need to maintain social distancing and/or limit the number of people on site, consideration will be given to the electronic distribution of results.

The Examinations Officer will provide information regarding the Post Results Services, deadlines and costs to students and staff via the College intranet, these will be completed by 30<sup>th</sup> October of each year.

The Examinations Officer will provide hard-copy information regarding the Post Results Services, deadlines and costs to students and staff on results days.

The College's internal appeals procedure regarding enquiries about results and re-marks is available via the College intranet site and Appendix 7.

All results received will be distributed to students on results days. The College will not withhold provisional results from students under any circumstances.

If a student is unable to attend on the day s/he can collect their results from the Main Reception or the Examinations Office in the days following. Results may be collected by a proxy only when authorised by the Examinations Officer following written notification from the candidate.

A member of the Senior Management Team and the Examinations Officer/MIS & Funding Manager will be on site on the days immediately following the publication of results.

#### **Enquiries about Results (EARs)**



Enquiries about Results (EARs) for general qualifications may be requested by Heads of Departments or candidates if there are reasonable grounds for believing there has been an error in marking. When the College does not support an EAR, the student may apply to have an enquiry carried out. If a student requires this against the advice of subject staff, they will be required to pay the appropriate fee.

#### *Access to Scripts (applicable to general qualifications only)*

After the release of results of general qualifications, the College may, with the consent of relevant students, request the return of papers/copies within the deadlines published on results day. Students may also request the return/copy of their own paper but they will be required to pay the appropriate fee.

If the College wishes to challenge marking, the Examinations Officer in conjunction with teaching staff or the Principal will investigate the feasibility of applying for a re-mark at the College's expense.

Heads of Departments may also, with consent of the relevant students, request scripts for development/teaching purposes (charged to Departments).

#### Certificates

Final certificates are collected after they have arrived in College. All certificates must be signed for.

Certificates may be collected on behalf of a student by a third party, provided they have been authorised to do so in advance and bring proof of identify.

Certificates may only be withheld from candidates with prior approval from the Awarding Body.

The College will retain certificates for 3 years after completion. Uncollected certificates will be disposed of in line with Awarding Body guidelines.

#### General Points

The College will follow all relevant Awarding Body policies.

Normally the College will not act as a Centre for external/private students.

Some examinations that involve a very large number of students may necessitate amendments to the College timetable.

#### Complaints

Any informal complaints concerning the conduct and administration of examinations should be directed in the first instance to the Examinations Officer. Copies of the formal College complaints procedure and complaints forms may be obtained from the College's Reception or via the College website.

#### Examinations Contingency Plans

The JCQ requires all centres to have a written Examinations Contingency Plan. This is included in Appendix 8.

#### Monitoring these procedures

This policy will be reviewed each September/October by the VP (S&R) and as appropriate throughout the examination cycle. New arrangements are being introduced continually by Awarding Bodies, and changes may need to be made to accommodate these.

## *Appendix 1: Non-examination Assessment Procedures*

### **Introduction**

It is a requirement of the Joint Council for Qualifications (JCQ) that all examination centres have procedures for non-examination assessment.

This policy affects the delivery of subjects of reformed GCE and GCSE qualifications, which contain a component(s) of non-examination assessment. It is based on the annual JCQ publication: Instructions for conducting non-examination assessments (new GCE & GCSE specifications), referred to below as NEA.

“The regulator’s definition of an examination is very narrow and in effect any type of assessment that is not ‘externally set and taken by candidates at the same time under controlled conditions’ 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’.”

For further information, please see the JCQ publication: Instructions for conducting non-examination assessments–

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

The roles and responsibilities of staff for each stage are defined below:

### **General Principles**

#### **Principal/Vice Principal (S&R)**

- Ensures that the centre’s non-examination assessment policy is fit for purpose
- Ensures the centre’s internal appeals procedures clearly detail the procedure to be followed by candidates (or their parents/carers) appealing against internally assessed marks

#### **Vice Principal (C&Q)**

- Ensures the correct conduct of non-examination assessments which comply with NEA and awarding body subject-specific instructions
- Ensures the centre-wide calendar records assessment schedules by the start of the academic year

#### **Assistant Principals (Curriculum)**

- Confirm with subject heads that appropriate awarding body forms and templates for non-examination assessments are used by teachers and students
- Ensure appropriate procedures are in place to internally standardise/verify the marks awarded by subject teachers in line with awarding body criteria
- Ensure appropriate centre-devised templates are provided to capture/record relevant information given to students by subject teachers
- Ensure 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.

#### **Head of Department/Course Leader**

- 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

- 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 Examinations Officer is provided with relevant entry codes for subjects (whether the entry for the internally assessed component forms part of the overall entry code or is made as a separate unit entry code) to the internal deadline for entries

### **Examinations Officer**

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

### **Conflicts of Interest**

The College will make every effort to avoid situations where a student is assessed by a person who has a close personal relationship with the student, 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, the College will declare the possible conflict of interest to the relevant awarding body and submit the marked work for moderation whether or not it is part of the moderation sample.

### **Task setting**

#### **Head of Department/Course Leader/Subject teacher**

- Selects tasks from a choice 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**

#### **Head of Department/Course Leader/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 requirements for legacy specification tasks and new specification tasks are distinguished

### **Task taking**

#### **Supervision**

#### **Head of Department/Course Leader/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
- 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
- Before the submission of work for formal assessment, remind students to always keep their work secure and not to publicise their work such as posting it on social media.

- Ensures candidates are aware and understand the following JCQ documents:
  - Information for candidates - non-examination assessments
    - [https://www.jcq.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/IFC-NE\\_Assessments\\_FINAL.pdf](https://www.jcq.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/IFC-NE_Assessments_FINAL.pdf)
  - Information for candidates - Social Media
    - <https://www.jcq.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/08/DD2489-JCQ-Social-Media-Information-for-Candidates.pdf>

### ***Advice and feedback***

#### **Head of Department/Course Leader/Subject teacher**

- As relevant to the subject/component, advises candidates on relevant aspects before candidates begin working on a 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***

#### **Head of Department/Course Leader/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 conditions for any formally supervised sessions are understood and followed by candidates
- Ensures candidates understand that they are not allowed to introduce improved 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***

#### **Head of Department/Course Leader/Subject teacher**

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

### ***Collaboration and group work***

#### **Head of Department/Course Leader/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***

#### **Head of Department/Course Leader/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 enquiries about 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 the Examinations Officer
- 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, e.g. in a competition, provided that the originals are stored securely by the College. Any material which is not required for moderation purposes (or any subsequent review) may also be freely used by the student. Where original work is used for moderation, as in Art & Design, a teacher must be present if, during this period:
  - assessed work is exhibited
  - a candidate takes assessed work to an interview
  - the work is removed from secure storage for any other reason.

### ***Presentation of work***

#### **Head of Department/Course Leader/Subject teacher**

- 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***

#### **Head of Department/Course Leader/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 the closing date for enquiries about results or until the outcome of an enquiry or any subsequent appeal has been conveyed to the centre
- 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
- Liaises with the Network Manager to ensure that appropriate arrangements are in place to restrict access between sessions to candidates' work where work is stored electronically

#### **Central Services/Network Manager**

- Ensures appropriate arrangements are in place to restrict access between sessions to candidates' work where work is stored electronically

### ***Task marking – externally assessed components***

For assessment that is taken in College but sent to an external Awarding Body assessor for marking.

### ***Conduct of externally assessed work***

#### **Head of Department/Course Leader/Subject teacher**

- Liaises with the Examinations Officer regarding arrangements for the conduct of any externally assessed non-examination component of a specification
- Liaises with the Visiting Examiner where this may be applicable to any externally assessed component

#### **Examinations Officer**

- Arranges timetabling, rooming and invigilation where 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
- Conducts the externally assessed component according to the JCQ publication Instructions for conducting examinations

### ***Submission of work***

#### **Head of Department/Course Leader/Subject teacher**

- Provides the attendance register to a Visiting Examiner

#### **Examinations Officer**

- Provides the attendance register to the subject teacher where the component may be assessed by a Visiting Examiner
- Ensures the awarding body's attendance register for any externally assessed component is completed correctly to show candidates who are present and any who may be absent
- Where candidates' work must be dispatched to an awarding body's examiner, ensures the completed attendance register accompanies the work
- Keeps a copy of the attendance register until after the deadline for enquiries about results for the exam series
- Packages the work as required by the awarding body and attaches the examiner address label
- Dispatches the work to the awarding body's instructions by the required deadline

### ***Task marking – internally assessed components***

For assessment that is taken in College and marked by College staff according to Awarding Body standards.

### ***Marking and annotation***

#### **Head of Department/Course Leader/Subject teacher**

- 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 in a timely manner to enable an internal appeal to be submitted by a candidate and the outcome known before final marks are submitted to the awarding body

### ***Internal standardisation***

#### **Assistant Principals (Curriculum)**

Ensure that internal standardisation of marks across assessors and teaching groups takes place as required

#### **Head of Department/Course Leader/Subject teacher**

- Indicates on work (or cover sheet) the date of marking
- Marks to common Awarding Body standards

### ***Submission of marks and work for moderation***

#### **Head of Department/Course Leader/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
- 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 Examinations Officer to the internal deadline

- 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

#### **Examinations Officer**

- 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

#### ***Storage and retention of work after submission of marks***

#### **Head of Department/Course Leader/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 until after the deadline for enquiries about results
- Takes steps to protect any work stored electronically from corruption and has a back-up by storing material on one of the College servers rather than a 'local' PC. In subjects such as Music Technology, Music, Graphics, Photography, Media and Film staff should liaise with the Central Services Manager and Network Manager
- Retains evidence of work where retention may be a problem (for example, photos of artefacts etc.)

#### **Examinations Officer**

Ensures any sample returned after moderation is logged and returned to the subject teacher for secure storage for required retention period.

#### ***External moderation - feedback***

VP(C&Q), AP/Head of Department/Course Leader

- Checks moderator reports and ensures that any remedial action, if necessary, is undertaken before the next examination series

#### **Examinations Officer**

- Accesses or copies moderator reports to relevant staff [VP(C&Q), AP, HoD/CL]
- Takes remedial action, if necessary, where feedback may relate to centre administration

#### ***Access arrangements***

#### **Head of Department/Course Leader/Subject teacher**

- Works with the Learning Support Manager to ensure any access arrangements for eligible candidates are applied to Assessments

#### **Learning Support Manager**

- Follows the regulations and guidance in the JCQ publication *Access Arrangements and Reasonable Adjustments*
- 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***

#### **Head of Department/Course Leader/Subject teacher**

- Understands that a candidate may be eligible for special consideration in assessments in certain situations (See Special Consideration section above)
- Liaises with the Vice Principal (Students) and Examinations Officer when special consideration may need to be applied for a candidate taking assessments

#### **Examinations Officer**

- Process a claim for special consideration according to the JCQ and Awarding Body regulations and timescales.

### ***Malpractice***

- See Appendix 9

### ***Enquiries about results***

#### **Principal**

- Ensures the College has a policy regarding Internal Appeals and Enquiries about results (See Appendices X and Y)

#### **Head of Department/Course Leader/Subject teacher**

- Provides relevant support to students (or subject teachers) making decisions about enquiries about results

#### **Subject teacher**

- Provides advice and guidance to candidates on their results and the post-results services available
- Provides the Examinations Officer with the original sample or relevant sample of candidates' work that may be required for an enquiry about results to the internal deadline
- Collects candidate consent

#### **Examinations 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 for 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***

#### **Principal**

- Provides a signed declaration as part of the National Centre Number Register Annual Update, 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

#### **Head of Department/Course Leader/Subject teacher**

- Confirms understanding of the *Practical Skills Endorsement for the A Level Sciences designed for use in England*
- Undertakes 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 the monitoring visit
- Ensures all the requirements in relation to the endorsement are known and understood



- Ensures the required arrangements for practical activities are in place
- Provides all the required centre record
- 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

#### **Examinations Officer**

- Follows the awarding body's instructions for the submission of candidates *Pass* or *Not Classified* assessment

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

##### **Principal**

- Provides a signed declaration as part of the National Centre Number Register Annual Update, 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

##### **Assistant Principal**

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

##### **Head of Department/Course Leader**

- Confirms understanding of the *Spoken Language Endorsement for GCSE English Language specifications designed for use in England*
- 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

##### **Examinations Officer**

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

Appendix 1a: Management of issues and potential risks associated with non-examination assessments / coursework

Issue/Risk	College actions to manage issue/mitigate risk	Action by
<b>Task setting</b>		
Awarding Body set task: IT failure/corruption of task details where set task details accessed from the Awarding Body online	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	VP(S&R) Central Services Manager / Network Manager / Examinations Officer (EO)
College set task: Subject teacher fails to meet the assessment criteria as detailed in the specification	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 College set task	Assistant Principals / HoDs and CLs
Students do not understand the marking criteria and what they need to do to gain credit	A simplified version of the awarding body's marking criteria described in the specification that is not specific to the work of an individual student or group of students is produced for students Records confirm all students understand the marking criteria Students confirm/record they understand the marking criteria	HoDs and CLs / Subject Teacher (ST)
Subject teacher long term absence during the task setting stage	VP (S&R) and HR Manager to contact agencies to find suitable long term supply cover. Consider re-timetabling Department to allocate College staff to groups approaching external examinations. HoD/CL to closely manage and monitor the work of external supply staff.	Principal, VP (S&R), HR Manager, AP, HoD/CL
<b>Issuing of tasks</b>		
Task for legacy specification given to students undertaking new specification	Ensures subject teachers take care to distinguish between requirements/tasks for legacy specifications and requirements/tasks for new specifications Awarding Body guidance sought where this issue remains unresolved	Assistant Principals / HoDs and CLs
Awarding Body set task not issued to students on time	Awarding Body key date for accessing set task as detailed in the specification noted prior to start of course Course information issued to students contains details when set task will be issued and completion date Set task accessed well in advance to allow time for planning, resourcing and teaching	Assistant Principals / HoDs and CLs
The wrong task is given to students	Ensures course planning and information taken from the awarding body's specification confirms the correct task will be issued to students Awarding Body guidance sought if this issue remains unresolved	Assistant Principals / HoDs and CLs
Subject teacher long term absence during the issuing of tasks stage	See above	Principal, VP (S&R), HR Manager, AP, HoD/CL
<b>Task taking</b>		
<b>Supervision</b>		
Planned assessments clash with other College or student activities	Assessment plan identified for the start of the course / year and in light of whole College Calendar	Assistant Principals / HoDs and CLs
Rooms or facilities inadequate for students to take tasks under appropriate supervision	Timetabling organised to allocate appropriate rooms and IT facilities for the start of the year Staggered sessions arranged where IT rooms insufficient for number of students IT room timetables visible on REMS and bookable through MIS Whole cohort to undertake written task in large exam venue at the same time (exam conditions do not apply) if this applies	VP (C&Q) and VP (S&R) HoDs and CLs MIS & Funding Manager

Insufficient supervision of students to enable work to be authenticated	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 students Confirm subject teachers understand their role and responsibilities as detailed in the College's non-examination assessment policy	Assistant Principals / HoDs and CLs
A student is suspected of malpractice prior to submitting their work for assessment	Instructions and processes in the current JCQ publication Instructions for conducting non-examination assessments (Malpractice) are followed An internal investigation and where appropriate internal disciplinary procedures are followed	VP (C&Q), VP (S&R), Assistant Principals / HoDs and CLs
Access arrangements were not put in place for an assessment where a student is approved for arrangements	Staff are signposted to the special consideration process within the Examinations Policy (in line with JCQ regulations) to determine the process to be followed to apply for special consideration for the student	VP (S), Learning Support Manager, Examinations Officer, HoDs and CLs
<b>Advice and feedback</b>		
Student claims appropriate advice and feedback not given by subject teacher prior to starting on their work	Subject teachers to record all information provided to students as appropriate to the subject and component before work begins as part of the College's quality assurance procedures Student confirms/records advice and feedback given prior to starting on their work Regular monitoring of subject teacher completed records and sign-off to confirm monitoring activity	VP (C&Q), Assistant Principals / HoDs / CLs and subject teachers
Student claims no advice and feedback given by subject teacher during the task-taking stage	Subject teachers to record all advice and feedback provided to students as appropriate to the subject and component during the task-taking stage as part of the College's quality assurance procedures Regular monitoring of subject teacher completed records and sign-off to confirm monitoring activity Student confirms/records advice and feedback given during the task-taking stage	VP (C&Q), Assistant Principals / HoDs / CLs and subject teachers
A third party claims that assistance was given to students by the subject teacher over and above that allowed in the regulations and specification	The Suspected Malpractice in Examinations and Assessments Policy is followed. Records as detailed above are provided to confirm all assistance given Where appropriate, a suspected malpractice report is submitted to the awarding body	Principal, VP (C&Q), VP (S&R), Assistant Principals, EO
Student does not reference information from published source	Student is instructed to reference information before work is submitted for formal assessment Student is referred to the JCQ document Information for students: non-examination/coursework assessments Student's detailed record of his/her own research, planning, resources etc. is regularly checked to ensure continued completion	HoDs / CLs and subject teachers
Student does not set out references as required	Student is advised at a general level to review and re-draft the set out of references before work is submitted for formal assessment Student is again referred to the JCQ document Information for students: non-examination assessments. Student's detailed record of his/her own research, planning, resources etc. is regularly checked to ensure continued completion	HoDs / CLs and subject teachers
Student joins the course late after formally supervised task taking has started	A separate supervised session(s) is arranged for the student to catch up	HoDs / CLs and subject teachers
Student moves to another College during the course	Awarding Body guidance is sought to determine what can be done depending on the stage at which the move takes place	EO
<b>Resources</b>		

A student augments notes and resources between formally supervised sessions	Preparatory notes and the work to be assessed are collected in and kept secure between formally supervised sessions Where memory sticks are used by students, these are collected in and kept secure between formally supervised sessions Where work is stored on the College's network, access for students is restricted between formally supervised sessions	Central Services Manager / Network Manager HoDs / CLs and subject teachers
A student fails to acknowledge sources on work that is submitted for assessment	Student'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  Awarding Body guidance is sought on whether the work of the student should be marked where student's detailed records acknowledges sources appropriately Where confirmation is unavailable from student's records, Awarding Body guidance is sought and/or a mark of zero is submitted to the Awarding Body for the student	VP (C&Q), VP (S&R) Assistant Principals / HoDs / CLs/subject teachers
<b>Word and time limits</b>		
A student is penalised by the Awarding Body for exceeding word or time limits	Records confirm the Awarding Body specification has been checked to determine if word or time limits are mandatory Where limits are for guidance only, students are discouraged from exceeding them Students confirm/record any information provided to them on word or time limits is known and understood	VP (C&Q), Assistant Principals / HoDs / CLs/Subject teachers
<b>Collaboration and group work</b>		
Students have worked in groups where the Awarding Body specification states this is not permitted	Records confirm the Awarding Body specification has been checked to determine if group work is permitted Awarding Body guidance sought where this issue remains unresolved	VP (C&Q), Assistant Principals / HoDs / CLs/Subject teachers
<b>Authentication Procedures</b>		
A teacher has doubts about the authenticity of the work submitted by a student for internal assessment	Records confirm subject staff have been made aware of the JCQ document Teachers sharing assessment material and students' work Records confirm that students have been issued with the current JCQ document Information for students: non-examination / coursework assessments Students 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	VP (S&R), VP (C&Q), Assistant Principals HoDs / CLs/Subject teachers
Student plagiarises other material	Information for students: non-examination assessments An investigation is completed in line with the Suspected Malpractice in Examinations & Assessments Policy The student's work is not accepted for assessment A mark of zero is recorded and submitted to the awarding body	
Student does not sign their authentication statement/declaration	Records confirm that students have been issued with the current the JCQ document Information for students: non-examination/coursework assessments Students confirm/record they understand what they need to do to comply with the regulations as outlined in the JCQ document Information for students: non-examination assessments Declaration is checked for signature before accepting the work of a student for formal assessment	Assistant Principals HoDs / CLs/Subject teachers
Subject teacher not available to sign authentication forms	Ensures a College-wide process is in place for subject teachers to sign authentication forms at the point of marking students work as part of the College's quality assurance procedures	VP (C&Q), Assistant Principals HoDs / CLs/Subject

<b>Presentation of work</b>		
Student does not fully complete the awarding body's cover sheet that is attached to their worked submitted for formal	Cover sheet is checked to ensure it is fully completed before accepting the work of a student for formal assessment	VP (C&Q), Assistant Principals HoDs / CLs/Subject teachers
<b>Keeping materials secure</b>		
Students work between formal supervised sessions is not securely stored	Records confirm subject teachers are aware of and follow current JCQ publication Instructions for conducting non-examination assessments Regular monitoring ensures subject teacher use of appropriate secure storage	VP (C&Q), Assistant Principals HoDs / CLs/Subject
Adequate secure storage not available to subject teacher	Records confirm adequate/sufficient secure storage is available to subject teacher prior to the start of the course Alternative secure storage sourced where required	VP (S&R), VP (C&Q), Assistant Principals HoDs / CLs/ Central Services Manager
<b>Task marking – externally assessed components</b>		
A student is absent on the day of the examiner visit for an acceptable reason	Awarding Body guidance is sought to determine if alternative assessment arrangements can be made for the student If not, eligibility for special consideration is explored and a request submitted to the Awarding Body where appropriate	VP (C&Q), Assistant Principals HoDs / CLs / EO
A student is absent on the day of the examiner visit for an unacceptable reason	The student is marked absent on the attendance register	VP (C&Q), Assistant Principals HoDs / CLs / EO
<b>Task marking – internally assessed components</b>		
A student submits little or no work	Where a student submits no work, the student is recorded as absent when marks are submitted to the awarding body Where a student 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	VP (C&Q), Assistant Principals HoDs / CLs/Subject Teachers
A student is unable to finish their work for unforeseen reason	Relevant staff are referred to the Special Consideration section of this policy to determine eligibility and the process to be followed for a shortfall in work	VP (C&Q), Assistant Principals HoDs / CLs / EO
The work of a student is lost or damaged	Relevant staff are referred to the Special Consideration section of this policy to determine eligibility and the process to be followed for a shortfall in work	VP (C&Q), Assistant Principals HoDs / CLs / EO
Student malpractice is discovered	Instructions and processes in the current JCQ publication Instructions for conducting non-examination assessments (chapter 9 Malpractice) are followed Investigation and reporting procedures in the current JCQ publication Suspected Malpractice in Examinations and Assessments are followed Appropriate internal disciplinary procedures are also followed	VP (S&R), VP (C&Q), Assistant Principals
A teacher marks the work of his/her own child	At enrolment, timetabling efforts are made to ensure that teachers do not teach their own children. Where this is unavoidable, a conflict of interest is declared by informing the Awarding Body that a teacher is teaching his/her own child at the <b>before entries are made.</b>  Marked work of said student is submitted for moderation whether part of the sample requested or not	VP (S&R), VP (C&Q), Assistant Principals HoDs / CLs/ EO
An extension to the deadline for submission of marks is required for a legitimate reason	Awarding Body is contacted to determine if an extension can be granted Relevant staff are referred to the Special Consideration section of this policy to determine eligibility and the process to be followed for non-examination assessment extension	VP (C&Q), Assistant Principals HoDs / CLs/ EO

After submission of marks, it is discovered that the wrong task was given to students	Awarding Body is contacted for guidance Relevant staff are signposted to the JCQ publication A guide to the special consideration process (chapter 2), to determine eligibility and the process to be followed to apply for special consideration for students	VP (C&Q), Assistant Principals HoDs / CLs/ EO
A student wishes to appeal the marks awarded for their work by their teacher	Students are informed of the marks they have been awarded for their work prior to the marks being submitted to the awarding body Records confirm students have been informed of their marks Students are informed that these marks are subject to change through the awarding body's moderation process Students are informed of their marks at least four weeks prior to the external deadline for the submission of marks Through the College intranet, students are made aware of the College's internal appeals procedures and timescale for submitting an appeal prior to the submission of marks to the awarding body	VP (C&Q), Assistant Principals HoDs / CLs/ EO
Deadline for submitting work for formal assessment not met by student	Records confirm deadlines given and understood by students at the start of the course Students confirm/record deadlines known and understood 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 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 student	VP (C&Q), Assistant Principals HoDs / CLs
Deadline for submitting marks and samples of students work ignored by subject teacher	Internal/external deadlines are published at the start of each academic year Reminders are issued through Assistant Principals as deadlines approach Records confirm deadlines known and understood by subject teachers Where appropriate, internal disciplinary procedures are followed	VP (C&Q), Assistant Principals HoDs / CLs
Subject teacher long term absence during the marking period	Teaching agencies approached source appropriately experienced and qualified individuals to mark non-examined assessment / course work, or to free existing staff in order for them to mark student work Ex-members of staff approached for help in marking Other colleges approached for assistance in finding suitably experienced and qualified individuals	Principal, VP (S&R), VP(C&Q), Assistant Principals, HoDs and HR Manager

## Appendix 2: Review of marking: College Assessed Marks

St John Rigby College is committed to ensuring that whenever staff mark candidates' work this is done fairly, consistently and in accordance with the Awarding Body's specification and subject-specific associated documents.

Candidates' work will be marked by staff who have appropriate knowledge, understanding and skill, and who have been trained in this activity. St John Rigby College is committed to ensuring that work produced by candidates is authenticated in line with the requirements of the Awarding Body. Where a number of subject teachers are involved in marking candidates' work, internal moderation and standardisation will ensure consistency of marking.

Where a teacher is teaching, preparing and assessing a candidate with whom he/she has a close 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) the College will declare the possible conflict of interest to the relevant awarding body and submit the marked work for moderation, whether or not it is part of the moderation sample.

- St John Rigby College will ensure that candidates are informed of their centre-assessed marks so that they may request a review of the College's marking before marks are submitted to the Awarding Body. **2021-22: By 17/03/22**
- St John Rigby College will ensure that candidates are aware that centre-assessed marks are subject to moderation by the Awarding Body and may go up, or down.
- St John Rigby College will inform candidates that they may request copies of materials to assist them in considering whether to request a review of the College's marking of the assessment. **2021-22: By 21/03/22**
- St John Rigby College will, having received a request for copies of materials, promptly make them available to the candidate. **2021-22: By 23/03/22**
- St John Rigby College will provide candidates with sufficient time in order to allow them to review copies of materials and reach a decision.
- Requests for reviews of marking **must** be made in writing. **2021-22: By 30/03/22**
- St John Rigby College will ensure that the review of marking is carried out by an assessor who has appropriate competence, has had no previous involvement in the assessment of that candidate and has no personal interest in the review. This may involve staff from another Centre.
- St John Rigby College will instruct the reviewer to ensure that the candidate's mark is consistent with the standard set by the Awarding Body.
- St John Rigby College will allow sufficient time for the review to be carried out, to make any necessary changes to marks and to inform the candidate of the outcome. **2021-22: By 29/04/22**
- The candidate will be informed in writing of the outcome of the review of the College's marking. **2021-22: By 29/04/22**
- St John Rigby College will inform the Awarding Body if the candidate does not accept the outcome of the review

### Appendix 3: BTEC Registration and Certification Procedures

The Examinations Officer will liaise with Heads of Department and the Vice Principal (Curriculum & Quality) at the end of the summer term and start of the autumn term, in order to gather information regarding which BTEC programmes will be required, and record estimated numbers for each course.

The Examinations Officer will ensure that the appropriate qualification approvals are valid and in place before the BTEC registration deadline (1 November).

The Examinations Officer will process BTEC Registration and Results File entries for courses starting in September no later than the deadline of 1 November. Registrations for courses starting after 1 November (e.g. short courses) will be processed within a month of the starting date.

MIS will liaise with the Examinations Officer with regard to withdrawn students.

The Examinations Officer will process BTEC Registration deletions/withdrawals as follows:

- clearance forms received in the Examinations Office before 31 January, a deletion request will be sent via EDI.
- clearance forms received after 31 January, the Examinations Officer will request information from Heads of Department to ascertain whether the student has any unit grades to claim. A withdrawal of the registration OR 'Fallback' claim will be made online by the Examinations Officer as appropriate.

All award claims will be made within each department no later than the published internal deadline published in the Staff Handbook (early June). Award claims should preferably be entered by two colleagues working together, in order to facilitate checking and accuracy.

The Examinations Officer will receive all BTEC certificates and issue check sheets to Heads of Department.

If all grades are correct, sheets will be signed and dated and returned to the Examinations Officer as soon as possible. In any grades are incorrect, the SA16 form will be fully completed and signed by the appropriate teacher/Head of Department, then returned to the Examinations Officer who will record the required amendment and send the form (and incorrect certificate) to Edexcel.

Amended grades will be checked as above.

Overall BTEC results files will be received by EDI and imported into the MIS by the Examinations Officer in liaison with the MIS & Funding Manager and appropriate results documentation issued to Heads of Department for final checking.

BTEC certificates will be issued to students once they have arrived in College. Students will be responsible for reporting any printing errors to the Examinations Officer, who will apply to Edexcel for replacements.



## Appendix 4: BTEC Verification / Moderation of Assessment

Assessment is carried out impartially by competent assessors and recorded to meet the requirements of awarding bodies, partner institutions and professional bodies.

For more information, please refer to the BTEC Centre Handbook (on G-Drive).

### *Internal Verification*

Any qualification with an element of internal assessment is subject to internal verification. Internal verification should not be seen as something that takes place at the end of a course, but should take place at appropriate stages during the course. The College requires lead internal verifiers to oversee the process of standardisation/verification. Lead internal verifiers can be the HoD or any subject tutor delivering on the course and where necessary be subject to OSCA (Online Support for Centre Assessors) accreditation. Their work involves but is not limited to:

- Acting in an advisory capacity, providing feedback to assessors at all stages of the verification process
- Monitoring assessment tasks and the way they are carried out
- Ensuring the validity of internal assessments, checking that they conform to awarding body requirements
- Sampling assessed work in accordance with awarding body requirements to ensure the quality of feedback and consistency of grading decisions
- Assuring national standards are met
- Amending the outcome of grades/marks awarded, as necessary
- Cascading information to relevant parties
- Confirming records are accurate and authentic
- Ensuring quality assurance systems and associated procedures are in place
- Facilitating the process of successfully meeting external verification requirements.

The flow chart in [Appendix 4a](#) outlines the process.

### *External Verification*

Lead internal verifiers facilitate the process of successfully meeting external verification requirements. For BTEC courses, the lead internal verifier will generally be the HOD/Course Leader who has successfully been through the Lead Internal Verifier training and achieved OSCA accreditation where necessary. Awarding Bodies put external verification in place to ensure:

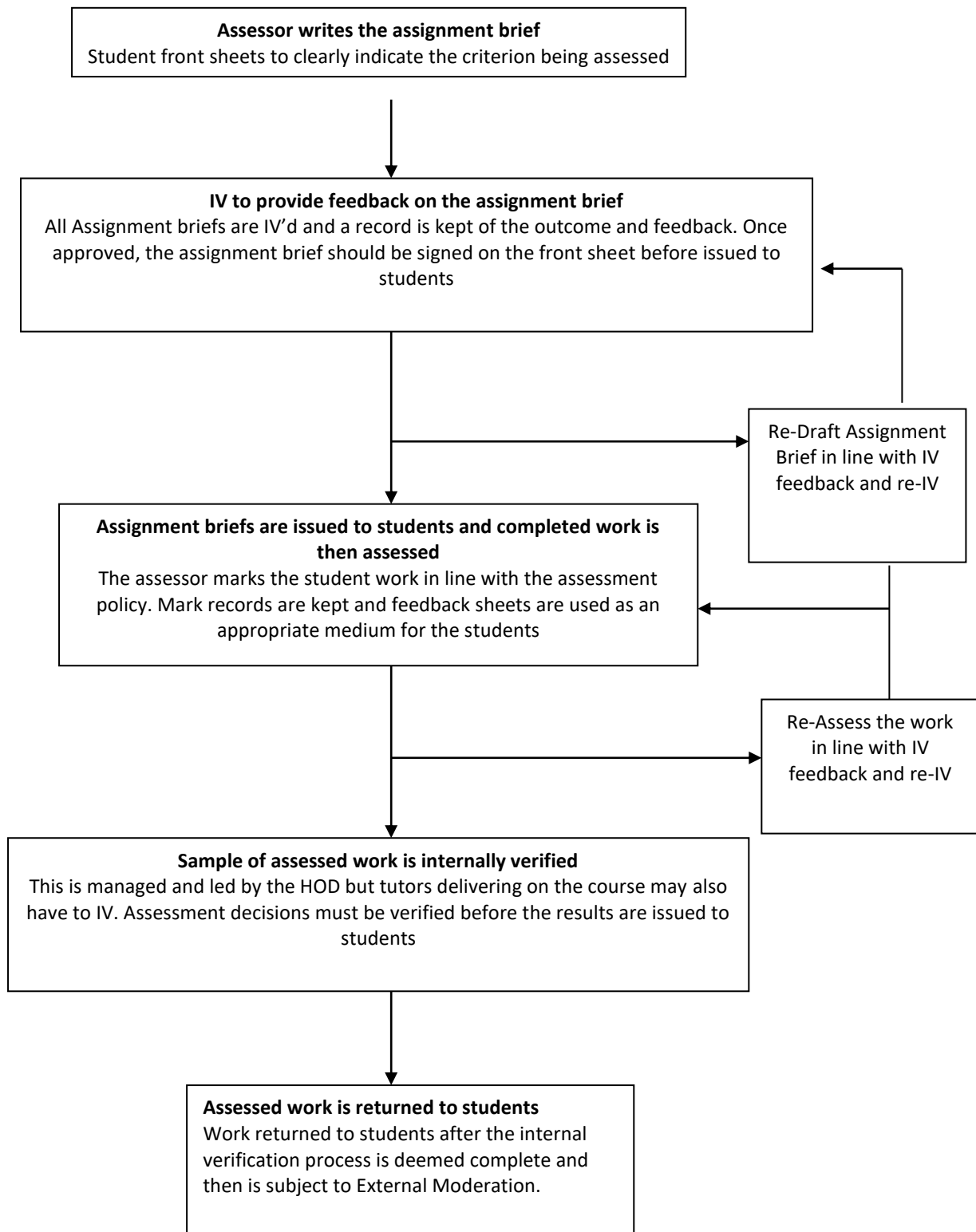
- There is fitness for purpose for all our assessment and verification arrangements
- There are high levels of quality and consistency for all our assessment decisions and practices
- There is an audit of records
- That agreed actions have been carried out

Assessment decisions, including grades/marks awarded by the internal assessors and/or verifiers, may be subsequently amended as a result of external verification / standards moderation by the awarding body, partner institutions exam board or a professional body.

### *Monitoring of Internal and External Verification*

Heads of Department are responsible for ensuring up-to-date internal verification and moderation records are kept in their central course files. For BTEC courses, HODs should make sure they use the correct documentation provided for them on SIS. The Assistant Principal (Teaching, Learning & Assessment) is the BTEC Quality Nominee and oversees this process.

Appendix 4a Internal Verification Process (a continual process throughout the course)



## Appendix 5: EXAMINATIONS FIRE ALARM AND EVACUATION PROCEDURE

The JCQ Centre Inspection Service requires the College to have a clear printed procedure for the evacuation of an examination room in case of emergency. Please make sure that you are familiar with the procedure outlined below.

If the fire alarm sounds while an examination is in progress, please follow steps below.

**The student safety and the security of examinations must be maintained at all times.**

### **FOR ALL EXAMINATIONS:**

- *Ask students to stop writing immediately, put down their pens, close their papers and to put their work face down in a neat pile on their desk.*
- *Make a note of the exact time that the examination was stopped.*
- *Remind candidates that examination conditions must be maintained and that they should remain silent until further instructions are received. Reassure candidates not to worry!*

#### **FOR EXAMINATIONS IN THE SPORTS HALL BUILDING:**

- *The Vice Principal (Curriculum and Quality) or the Principal in their absence will go to the Fire Panel in the **Main Reception** in order to ascertain whether the Sports Hall needs to be evacuated. Premises Staff will identify the source of the alarm.*
- *The Vice Principal (Curriculum and Quality) will then go to the Sports Hall. Unless there is a clear threat within the Sports Hall itself. If the Sports Hall is under clear threat, the Lead Invigilator has the authority to evacuate the Sports Hall. Otherwise the Lead Invigilator should keep candidates seated and under examination conditions and await further instructions from the Examinations Officer or member of Vice Principal (Curriculum and Quality).*
- *If it is necessary to evacuate, papers must be left on desks and examination conditions maintained as far as possible, even outside. Please evacuate according to the instructions on the reverse of this sheet.*

#### **FOR EXAMINATIONS IN ROOMS OTHER THAN THE SPORTS HALL:**

- *Please evacuate according to the instructions on the reverse of this sheet. **Rooms other than the Sports Hall must be evacuated if the fire alarm sounds.***
- *If you are in a separate room with an individual candidate, take the question and answer papers with you and accompany the candidate to the appropriate fire assembly point as detailed overleaf.*
- *Restart the examination only when the alarm has been silenced and students are seated. **Please check ID cards against the seating plan before restarting the examination, to ensure all students are in their original seats with their own papers.** Make a note of the time and recalculate the finishing time, ensuring all candidates are aware of this.*
- *Please remember that safety and security are our two main concerns. The candidates must be **SAFE** and their examinations must be **SECURE**. If we cannot maintain the usual level of examination security then students' results will be jeopardised.*

### **E-BLOCK: SPORTS HALL BUILDING:**

Evacuate via the two fire doors that lead onto the field. Escort candidates to the right hand side of the field (next to the all weather pitch, next to the rugby posts). The lead invigilator should check all students and staff have left the hall. **Students must remain silent at all times.**

### **THEATRE (D009):**

Evacuate via the fire door in the corner of the theatre. Escort candidates directly to the grassed area next to the entrance to the all-weather pitch (by the floodlights). The lead invigilator should check all students and staff have left D009. **Students must remain silent at all times.**

***A-BLOCK / B-BLOCK / C-BLOCK / D-BLOCK/ F-BLOCK/ G-BLOCK/ H-BLOCK:***

Evacuate by the nearest fire exit and escort candidates directly to the **nearest** of the following two locations:

- the grassed area next to the entrance to the all-weather pitch (between E and H blocks)
- the 'drive' down to the all-weather pitch from the student car-park

Each invigilator must keep their candidates in a separate group away from other students. **Students must remain silent at all times.**

## Appendix 6: Examination Protocols

The College is allowed to approve staff other than invigilators and the examination officer to be present at the start of examinations.

This is limited to members of the Senior Leadership Team and the Divisional Leaders (where there is no conflict of subjects taught and the examination being taken).

Heads of Departments/Course Leaders must ensure that a nominated member of staff is present at the start of each subject paper. On arrival at the Sports Hall, please remain in the foyer.

However, the JCQ have very clear rules relating to the role that staff can perform. Teaching staff may (and I ask you to do so):

- assist with the identification of candidates – outside the examination room;
- deal with any disciplinary matters – outside the examination room;
- the senior member of staff present may ask you to confirm:
  - that candidates have been issued with the correct question paper, particularly where optional or tiered papers
  - that candidates have the appropriate equipment and materials for the examination
  - that the correct set text, recording etc has been issued.

Teaching staff must not:

- be present at the start of the examination and then read the examination question paper before leaving the exam room;
- enter the exam room, uninvited, with the sole intention of accessing the examination question paper;
- have access to the examination question paper unless this is specifically requested by either the Examinations Officer or an invigilator. For example, a possible printing error has been identified and, in the absence of an erratum notice, the Examinations Officer or lead invigilator needs this verified by the relevant subject Head before reporting the issue to the awarding body;
- give any indication of their opinion of a question paper to candidates, verbally or otherwise, having been asked to inspect the content;
- communicate with candidates. This constraint extends to the reading of the question paper rubric to candidates, coaching candidates, reminding candidates which section(s) of the question paper to answer or which questions they should answer;
- enter the examination room and approach candidates, either to prompt them to make an attempt at the examination or to provide support and encouragement;
- enter the examination room and read candidates' scripts.

Support and encouragement may be offered at any point up until candidates enter the examination room. From that moment onwards they are under examination conditions and the protocols above must be strictly adhered to.

Exam question papers will only be available from the Exams Office at the end of the day – when all candidates have completed the paper and **after the published finishing time** – this may be after 5:00pm.

**Dominic Jones**  
**Vice Principal (S&R)**

## Appendix 7: Internal Appeals Policy: Enquiries about results and review of marking

The Joint Council Code of Practice requires centres offering their examinations to:

- have a published appeals procedure relating to enquiries about results and review of marking
- make this document available and accessible to candidates

The College will always process enquiries from students about results and review of marking requests submitted to the Examinations Officer as long as:

- payment has been received by the published deadline and where this enquiry and
- the re-mark does not require the re-moderation of a cohort of students' work (e.g. Art, Graphics and Photography or EPQ).
- the student has given express permission for the post results service

Where College staff request a review of marking, access to scripts, an appeal etc this will only be done with the student's express permission.

## Appendix 8: Examination Disruption Contingency Plan

### Introduction

In case of localised disruption to the College, or more widespread disruption to the Examination System, the following actions are to be taken. They are based upon the 'Joint contingency plan in the event of widespread disruption to the examination system in England, Wales and Northern Ireland' issued by OFQUAL (13<sup>th</sup> February 2015).

This plan outlines the College's response to a number of scenarios described in the OFQUAL document.

<b>Scenario 1: Disruption of teaching time – College closed for an extended period</b>	
Impact on:	Students, teachers, parents/carers
Criteria for implementation of the plan:	College closed for an extended period of time (eg. fire, flood, epidemic etc) during term time interrupting normal teaching time.
Actions:	Implement the Business Continuity Plan Teachers to use TEAMS as learning delivery platform
Specific Communications:	Information for students and parents will be available via the College website, email and text. Also see the Adverse Weather Closure Procedure (Restricted document – see SLT member).  Awarding Bodies to be informed of any closures that threaten examination periods.
<b>Scenario 2: Students unable to take examinations because of a crisis – College remains open</b>	
Impact on:	Students, teachers, parents/carers
Criteria for implementation of the plan:	Large numbers of students unable to attend to sit examinations in College (eg. Fire, flood, epidemic).
Actions:	Liaise with students to identify whether the examination can be sat at an alternative venue in agreement with the relevant awarding organisations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• hold students in “isolation” to avoid a breach of examination security so that the examination can be held at an alternative centre at a later time that day if possible</li> <li>• offer candidates an opportunity to sit any examinations missed at the next available series</li> <li>• apply to awarding organisations for special consideration for candidates where they have met the minimum requirements</li> </ul> <p>Note: students are only eligible for special consideration if they have been fully prepared and have covered the whole course but are affected by adverse circumstances beyond their control. If a student chooses not to sit an examination for other reasons they should be aware that special consideration rules will not apply.</p>
Specific Communications:	Information for students and parents will be available via the College website, email and text.  Awarding Bodies to be informed of any situation developing that may impact on examinations and to agree alternative examination venues.
<b>Scenario 3: Disruption in the distribution of examination papers</b>	
Impact on:	Awarding Body staff, Examinations Officer and MIS & Funding Manager. Students
Criteria for implementation of the plan:	In the event that there is a disruption to the distribution of examination papers to centres in advance of examinations (eg. courier delivers incorrect papers)
Actions:	Examinations Officer to maintain log of papers delivered against expected.  Examinations Officer to alert the MIS & Funding Manager and Vice Principal (Curriculum & Quality) & Quality. Examinations Officer to alert awarding body and to arrange electronic access to examination papers via secure portal.  Examinations Officer to arrange secure copying of paper in College.  Copy may be faxed if electronic transfer not possible. Examinations Officer to ensure secure reception of faxed copies.
Specific Communications:	Examinations Officer to communicate with Awarding Bodies if incorrect papers received.

	Examinations Officer to communicate with Awarding Bodies if no papers are received for particular examination.
<b>Scenario 4: Disruption to the transportation of completed examination scripts</b>	
Impact on:	Courier staff, Examinations Officer and MIS & Funding Manager. Awarding Body staff.
Criteria for implementation of the plan:	In the event that there is a delay in normal collection arrangements for completed examination scripts (eg. courier contacts the College to report a problem about the collection of completed scripts).
Actions:	Examinations Officer to seek advice from the normal collection agency regarding collection.  Examinations Officer to alert the MIS & Funding Manager and Vice Principal (Curriculum & Quality) & Quality.  Examinations Officer to seek advice from Awarding Body if scripts will not be collected that day by the normal courier.  Examinations Officer to ensure secure storage of completed examination scripts until collection.
Specific Communications:	Examinations Officer to communicate with relevant awarding organisations at the outset to resolve the issue.
<b>Scenario 5: College is unable to open as normal during the examination period</b>	
Impact on:	Students, teachers, parents/carers. Awarding Body staff.
Criteria for implementation of the plan:	College closed for any period of time (eg. fire, flood, epidemic etc) during examination series.
Actions:	Implement the Business Continuity Plan  The College will: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• open for examinations and examination candidates only, if possible</li> <li>• use more venues in College to enable more social distancing and minimise the risk of COVID transmission</li> <li>• use alternative venues in agreement with relevant awarding organisations (e.g. share facilities with other centres or use other public buildings if possible)</li> <li>• apply to awarding organisations for special consideration for candidates where they have met the minimum requirements (see Scenario 3)</li> <li>• offer candidates an opportunity to sit any examinations missed at the next available series, if possible</li> </ul>
Specific Communications:	Information for students and parents will be available via the College website, email and text.  Examinations Officer to alert all Awarding Bodies which examinations are due to be taken as soon as the decision to close has been taken by the Principal.  Contact with alternative venues to be made.
<b>Scenario 6: Assessment evidence is not available to be marked</b>	
Impact on:	Students, teachers, parents/carers. Awarding Body staff.
Criteria for implementation of the plan:	In the event of large scale damage to, or destruction of, completed examination scripts or assessment evidence before it can be marked (e.g. fire destroys completed scripts/coursework.)
Actions:	Awarding organisations generate candidate marks for affected assessments based on other appropriate evidence of candidate achievement, as defined by the awarding organisations in consultation with the regulators  Students may be required to retake the assessment that has been affected at a subsequent assessment window.
Specific Communications:	Examinations Officer to alert Awarding Bodies of what has been lost.  College to inform students and parents/carers of what has been lost and Awarding Body actions.
<b>Scenario 7: College unable to distribute results as normal</b>	
Impact on:	Students, teachers, parents/carers. Awarding Body staff.
Criteria for implementation of the plan:	In the event that College is unable to access or manage the distribution of results to candidates (eg. fire, flood)
Actions:	College to make arrangements to access results at an alternative site.



Specific Communications:	Examinations Officer to contact awarding organisations about alternative site for distribution of results. Information for students and parents will be available via the College website, email and text.
<b>Scenario 8: Examinations Officer unable to attend work</b>	
Impact on:	Students, teachers. Awarding Body staff.
Criteria for implementation of the plan:	In the event that the Examinations Officer is unable to attend work during the preparation for, or during an Examination Series (e.g. illness)
Actions:	MIS & Funding Manager to “act-up” as Examinations Officer with support from the Vice Principal (Curriculum & Quality)  Specific systems support to be sought from Civica as required  Examinations Officer and <a href="mailto:Examinations@sjr.ac.uk">Examinations@sjr.ac.uk</a> emails to be checked by MIS & Funding Manager/Vice Principal (Curriculum & Quality)
Specific Communications:	MIS and Funding Manager to contact awarding organisations if password re-sets etc are required.
<b>Scenario 9: IT systems compromised/cyber-attack</b>	
Impact on:	Students/parents, teachers. Awarding Body staff.
Criteria for implementation of the plan:	IT systems failure at: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• final entry deadline</li> <li>• during examination preparation</li> <li>• during an examination (word processor students)</li> <li>• results release time</li> </ul>
Actions:	Network Manager and team to identify the problem and work with IT support company (Chess) to resolve the issue as quickly as possible.  Examinations Officer to contact Awarding Bodies to discuss alternatives with regard to entry submission/results, this may include working from an alternative centre.  Examinations Officer to submit special consideration to awarding bodies for candidates interrupted during the examination.
Specific Communications:	Principal to contact students and parents if results distribution is threatened.
<b>Scenario 10: Insufficient invigilators available to invigilate exams</b>	
Impact on:	Students, teachers, parents/carers. Awarding Body staff.
Criteria for implementation of the plan:	In the event of large scale numbers of invigilators unable or unavailable to attend work during an examination series.
Actions:	Specialist, JCQ exam trained Agency staff to be sought.  Seek alternative rooming configurations to enable students to be invigilated by as many JCQ trained invigilators as available. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review invigilation ratios in line with current JCQ guidance.</li> <li>• Use subject teachers as invigilators in line with current JCQ guidance.</li> </ul> Liaise with students to identify whether the examination can be sat at an alternative venue in agreement with the relevant awarding organisations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• hold students in “isolation” to avoid a breach of examination security so that the examination can be held at an alternative centre at a later time that day if possible</li> <li>• offer candidates an opportunity to sit any examinations missed at the next available series</li> <li>• apply to awarding organisations for special consideration for candidates where they have met the minimum requirements</li> </ul>
Specific Communications:	Information for students and parents will be available via the College website, email and text.  Awarding Bodies to be informed of any examinations which have been invigilated by JCQ untrained staff during examination periods.
<b>Scenario 11: Insufficient accommodation available to room exams</b>	
Impact on:	Students, teachers, parents/carers. Awarding Body staff.

Criteria for implementation of the plan:	College accommodation is insufficient to room students during an examination series.
Actions:	<p>Seek alternative rooming configurations to enable students to be invigilated by as many JCQ trained invigilators as available.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Use of classrooms to accommodate groups of students</li> <li>• Use of the Exam Hall for shorter exams and small groups of students with separate invigilation together</li> </ul> <p>Liaise with students to identify whether the examination can be sat at an alternative venue in agreement with the relevant awarding organisations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• hold students in “isolation” to avoid a breach of examination security so that the examination can be held at an alternative centre at a later time that day if possible</li> <li>• offer candidates an opportunity to sit any examinations missed at the next available series</li> <li>• apply to awarding organisations for special consideration for candidates where they have met the minimum requirements</li> </ul>
Specific Communications:	<p>Information for students and parents will be available via the College website, email and text.</p> <p>Awarding Bodies to be informed of any examinations which have been invigilated by JCQ untrained staff during examination periods.</p>

<b>Examination Board Contact Details:</b>	
AQA Devas Street Manchester M15 6EX www.aqa.org.uk Tel 0800 197 7162	OCR 1 Hills Road Cambridge CB1 2EU www.ocr.org.uk Tel 01223 553311
Pearson One90 High Holborn London WC1V 7BH www.qualifications.pearson.com Tel 0844 463 2535	WJEC/Eduqas 245 Western Avenue Cardiff CF5 2YX www.wjec.co.uk Tel 029 2026 5000

## Appendix 9: Suspected Malpractice in Examinations & Assessments Policy

### 1.0 Policy Statement

'Malpractice', which includes maladministration, means any act, default or practice which is a breach of the Joint Council for Qualifications (JCQ) regulations or specific awarding body regulations or which:

- compromises, attempts to compromise or may compromise the process of assessment, the integrity of any qualification or the validity of a result or certificate and/or
- damages the authority, reputation or credibility of any awarding body or the College or any officer, employee or agent of any awarding body or the College.

St John Rigby College does not tolerate actions (or attempted actions) of malpractice by either students or staff and will investigate all suspected cases of such malpractice according to the procedures outlined in the JCQ *Suspected Malpractice in Examinations & Assessments* document (available from <http://www.icq.org.uk/exams-office/malpractice>).

Students or staff found guilty of malpractice, or attempted malpractice, in an examination or other assessment will be subject to appropriate disciplinary procedures.

### 2.0 Student Malpractice

Student malpractice means malpractice by a candidate in the course of any examination or assessment, including the preparation and authentication of any controlled assessments or coursework, the presentation of any practical work, the compilation of portfolios of assessment evidence and the writing of any examination paper.

Examples of student malpractice include:

- the alteration of any result document, including certificates
- a breach of the instructions or advice of an invigilator, supervisor, or the awarding body in relation to the examination or assessment rules and regulations
- failing to abide by conditions of supervision designed to maintain the security of the examinations or assessments
- collusion: working collaboratively with other candidates, beyond what is permitted
- copying from another candidate (including the use of ICT to aid the copying)
- disruptive behaviour in the examination room or during an assessment session (including the use of offensive language)
- disruptive behaviour in the examination room by a group of candidates
- plagiarism: unacknowledged copying from published sources or incomplete referencing
- theft of another candidate's work
- the selling of assessments to third parties
- bringing into the examination room or assessment situation unauthorised material, for example: notes, study guides and personal organisers, own blank paper, calculators, dictionaries (when prohibited), personal stereos, mobile phones or other similar electronic devices
- behaving in a manner as to undermine the integrity of the examination or other assessment

This list is not exhaustive; other instances may arise and be classified by the College as malpractice and will be dealt with under this policy. For specific examples, please see JCQ *Suspected Malpractice in Examinations & Assessments* (published each September).

### 3.0 Staff Malpractice

Staff malpractice means:

- malpractice committed by a member of staff or contractor (whether employed under a contract of employment or a contract for services) at the College; or
- malpractice committed by an individual appointed in another capacity by the College such as an invigilator, an Oral Language Modifier, a practical assistant, a prompter, a reader, a scribe or a Sign Language Interpreter etc.

Examples of staff malpractice include:

- tampering with candidates' scripts or coursework after collection and before despatch to the awarding body

- breach of security
- assisting candidates in the production of controlled or other assessments
- assisting candidates in the production of answers
- fabricating assessment and/or internal verification records or authentication statements
- manufacturing evidence of competence against national standards
- poor invigilation
- failing to conduct a proper investigation into suspected malpractice
- disclosure of confidential examination material

Specific examples of staff malpractice are set out in JCQ *Suspected Malpractice in Examinations & Assessments*. These examples are not an exhaustive list and as such do not limit the scope of the definitions set out in this policy. Other instances of malpractice may be identified and considered by the College or awarding bodies.

#### **4.0 Internal College Procedure**

Any student who suspects that malpractice in an examination or assessment has been attempted should report this to any member of staff (including external invigilators).

Any member of staff who suspects that malpractice in an examination or assessment has been attempted, or has received information from a student or other person, should report the matter immediately to the Vice Principal (Quality & Curriculum), or in her/his absence, the Examinations Officer. The Vice Principal (Quality & Curriculum) or Examinations Officer will report the allegation to the Principal (Head of Centre).

If the suspicion implicates either the Vice Principal (Quality & Curriculum) or the Examinations Officer the member of staff should report the matter directly to the Principal.

If the suspicion implicates the Principal the member of staff should report the matter to the Chair of the Governing Body via the Clerk to the Governing Body.

The Principal or Chair of the Governing Body will follow the JCQ procedure and:

- notify the appropriate awarding body at the earliest opportunity all suspicions or actual incidents of malpractice
- complete Form JCQ M1 (suspected candidate malpractice) or Form JCQ M2 (suspected malpractice/maladministration involving centre staff) to notify an awarding body of an incident of malpractice (both available from <http://www.icq.org.uk>)
- supervise personally all investigations resulting from an allegation of malpractice
- complete form JCQ M3 reporting the outcome of the internal investigation
- ensure that if it is necessary to delegate an investigation to a member of staff, the member of staff chosen is independent, and not connected to the department/area involved in the suspected malpractice. This is to avoid conflicts of interest which can otherwise compromise the investigation. This investigating officer will, in normal circumstances, be the Vice Principal (Quality & Curriculum) unless he/she is implicated. Delete: or the Assistant Principal (Teaching, Learning & Assessment, BTEC Quality Nominee) unless he/she is implicated
- respond speedily and openly to all requests for an investigation into an allegation of malpractice. This will be in the best interests of staff, students and any others involved
- co-operate and ensure staff co-operate fully with an awarding body enquiry into an allegation of malpractice, whether the College is directly involved in the case or not
- inform staff members and students of their individual responsibilities and rights as set out in the JCQ guidelines
- pass on to the individuals concerned any warnings or notifications of penalties and ensure compliance with any requests made by the awarding body as a result of a malpractice case.

When conducting a College investigation, in addition to interviews, any students and staff involved will be required to give a written commentary on the events concerned and their actions. These will form part of the College's report to the awarding body.

Once the investigation is complete the Principal will submit a full written report to the awarding body and also submit a completed JCQ/Form 2b.

This report will include, as appropriate:

- a statement of the facts, a detailed account of the circumstances of the alleged malpractice, and details of any investigations carried out by the College
- written statement(s) from the invigilator(s), assessor, internal verifier(s) or other staff who are involved

- written statement(s) from the student(s)
- any mitigating factors
- information about the College's procedures for advising candidates of the awarding bodies' regulations
- seating plans showing the exact position of candidates in the examination room
- unauthorised material found in the examination room
- any work of the candidate and any associated material (e.g. source material for coursework) which is relevant to the investigation
- any other relevant documentation

The Principal will provide any accused student(s) or staff with a completed copy of the report including forms JCQ/M1, JCQ/M2a and/or JCQ/Form 2b and/or a letter sent by the College to notify the awarding body of the suspected malpractice.

The College will store safely and securely non-examination assessments, including controlled assessments, coursework or portfolios, retained in, or returned to, the centre until any malpractice investigation has been resolved.

### **5.0 Awarding Body investigations which may require the involvement of students or College staff**

Once reported to the awarding body, it may be necessary for the awarding body to interview a student during its investigation. If the student is a minor or a vulnerable adult, and if the interview is to be conducted face to face, the awarding bodies undertake to do this only in the presence of the Principal, or other senior member of staff (Vice Principal or Assistant Principal), or the student's parent/carer, with the permission of the Principal or parent/carer. Interviews may also be conducted over the telephone.

When it is necessary for a member of the awarding body staff to conduct an interview with a staff member, the member of staff being interviewed may be accompanied by a work colleague or Trade Union representative.

If the individual being interviewed wishes to be accompanied by a legal advisor, the other parties must be informed beforehand to give them the opportunity to be similarly supported.

The College will make available an appropriate venue for such interviews; this may be off the College site.

The individual being interviewed may also be requested, by the awarding body, to provide a written statement.

### **6.0 Rights of the accused individuals**

When, in the view of the Principal, there is sufficient evidence to implicate a student or staff member in malpractice, the Principal will provide the individual with:

- written notification of the allegation made against him or her
- a copy of JCQ publication *Suspected Malpractice in Examinations and Assessments: Policies and Procedures* (available from <http://www.jcq.org.uk>) and a copy of this policy
- copies of the report and other documentation submitted by the College to the awarding body so that the individual is aware of the evidence there is to support the allegation
- the possible consequences should malpractice be proven
- an opportunity to consider their response to the allegations (if required);
- an opportunity to submit a written statement
- an opportunity to read the submission and make an additional statement in response, should the case be put to an awarding body Malpractice Committee<sup>2</sup>
- an opportunity to seek advice (as necessary) and to provide a supplementary statement (if required)
- the applicable appeals procedure, should a decision be made against him or her. The individual will be provided with a copy of the JCQ publication *A guide to the awarding bodies' appeals processes*

In such circumstances, the Principal will advise any person involved in administering, teaching or completing examinations/assessments where malpractice is suspected or alleged that their personal data may be shared with other awarding bodies, the qualifications regulator or professional bodies in accordance with the JCQ publication '*Suspected Malpractice in Examinations and Assessments – Policies and Procedures*.'

<sup>2</sup> In order to determine the outcomes in cases of alleged malpractice awarding bodies may appoint a Panel or Committee composed of external members experienced in examination and assessment procedures. Alternatively, this function may be allocated to a named member or members of awarding body staff. In this document the Committee (or awarding body personnel responsible for making decisions in malpractice cases) is referred to as the "Malpractice Committee".

In certain circumstances it may be necessary for the Principal to exercise discretion, in the light of all the circumstances of the case, as to the timing and the means by which an allegation of malpractice and the supporting evidence is presented to the individual(s) involved.

### **7.0 Sanctions and Penalties imposed by Awarding Bodies**

The details of sanctions and penalties that may be imposed by the awarding bodies against students, the College and individual College staff may be found in the JCQ publication *Suspected Malpractice in Examinations and Assessments: Policies and Procedures*.

### **8.0 Sanctions and Penalties imposed by the College**

Students and staff found to be guilty of malpractice will be subject to the relevant Disciplinary Policy and sanctions therein.

### **9.0 Appeals to the Awarding Bodies against sanctions imposed**

The awarding bodies have established procedures for considering appeals against penalties arising from malpractice decisions. Details of these can be found in the JCQ documents *Suspected Malpractice in Examinations and Assessments: Policies and Procedures* and *A guide to the awarding bodies' appeals processes*.

It should be noted that:

The Principal can appeal against sanctions imposed on:

- the College
- College staff
- students

College staff may appeal directly to the awarding body against sanctions imposed on them personally.

Students and/or their parents/carers are not entitled to appeal directly to the awarding body. Representations may be made to the Principal who will decide whether to appeal on behalf of the student.

### **10.0 Appeals to the College against sanctions imposed**

These will be dealt with according to the relevant Disciplinary Policy.

### **11.0 Awarding Bodies – Further Information**

AQA: <http://www.aqa.org.uk/exams-administration/exams-guidance/malpractice>

Eduqas: <http://www.wjec.co.uk/exam-officers/during-the-examinations/malpractice.html>

OCR: <http://www.ocr.org.uk/administration/stage-3-assessment/malpractice/>

Pearson: <http://qualifications.pearson.com/en/support/support-topics/exams/examination-guidance/malpractice-and-plagiarism.html>

Pearson (BTEC): <http://qualifications.pearson.com/content/dam/pdf/Support/policies-for-centres-learners-and-employees/Centre%20Guidance%20dealing%20with%20malpractice.pdf>

### **12.0 Related documents**

Examination Procedures  
Student Support and Disciplinary Policy  
Staff Disciplinary Policy  
Staff Code of Conduct  
Whistleblowing Policy  
Data Protection Policy

## Appendix 10: Late Arrival to External Examinations Policy

The Examinations Officer or subject staff will contact the parent/carer of any candidate absent at the start of an exam. The parent/carer will be advised to keep the candidate under supervision at all times until the candidate is handed over to a member of the centre staff. In these circumstances the parent/carer and the candidate will be asked to sign an appropriate statement to confirm the supervision arrangements which were put in place.

A candidate who arrives after the start of the examination will be allowed to enter the examination room and sit the examination. The candidate will be allowed the full time.

The awarding body will consider each case individually in light of statements from the parent/carer, the candidate and the centre.

Students who arrive very late for the exam, namely after candidates may have been allowed to leave the examination room, will be allowed to sit the exam. However, unless they have been supervised during that time, the awarding body is unlikely to be able to accept the work.

A candidate will be considered very late if they arrive:

- more than one hour after the published starting time for an examination, which lasts one hour or more, i.e. after 10.15 am for a morning examination or after 2:00 pm for an afternoon examination.

For an examination that lasts less than one hour, a candidate will be considered very late if they arrive:

- after the awarding body's published finishing time for the examination.

7. When a candidate arrives very late for an examination, the following will be undertaken:

The script will be sent to the awarding body/examiner in the normal way.

Form JCQ/VLA (Report on candidate admitted very late to examination room) will be completed by the Examinations Officer within 7 days of the examination taking place. This is available on the Centre Admin Portal.

The candidate will be warned that the awarding body may not accept their work.

If a candidate arrives in the afternoon for a paper that had been re-arranged for a morning session, the candidate may be allowed to take the paper at the published time as long as he/she has not had any contact with any candidate who sat the paper earlier. The awarding body will then decide whether or not to accept the script.

The Examinations Officer/Vice Principal (Students) will liaise with candidates and their parents/carers who persistently arrive late for examinations.

## Appendix 11: Word Processor Policy

### Introduction

This policy on the use of word processors in examinations and assessments is reviewed and updated annually, on the publication of updated JCQ regulations and guidance contained in the publications Access Arrangements and Reasonable Adjustments and Instructions for conducting examinations.

References to 'AA' relate to the annual JCQ publication: Access Arrangements and Reasonable Adjustments and 'ICE' to the annual JCQ publication: Instructions for conducting examinations.

### Purpose

This policy details how St John Rigby College (the College) manages and administers the use of word processors (including laptops and tablets) in examinations and assessments.

### Principles for using a word processor

The College complies with AA Chapter 4 Adjustments for candidates with disabilities and learning difficulties regulations and guidance as follows:

#### (AA 4.2.1)

Candidates with access to word processors are allowed to do so in order to remove barriers for disabled candidates which prevent them from being placed at a substantial disadvantage as a consequence of persistent and significant difficulties. The use of word processors is only permitted whilst ensuring that the integrity of the assessment is maintained, at the same time as providing access to assessments for a disabled candidate.

#### (AA 4.2.2)

The use of a word processor will not be granted where it will compromise the assessment objectives of the specification in question.

#### (AA 4.2.3)

Candidates may not require the use of a word processor in each specification. As subjects and their methods of assessments may vary, leading to different demands of our candidates, the need for the use of a word processor is considered on a subject-by-subject basis.

#### (AA 4.2.4)

The use of a word processor is considered and agreed where appropriate:

- as soon as possible for one-year courses, ideally within the first term
- during the first year of a two year course having established a picture of need and a normal way of working.

Candidates are subsequently aware that they will have the use of a word processor for examinations and controlled assessments/coursework.

Candidates are made aware that they will have the use of a word processor for examinations and non-examination assessments (including controlled assessments/coursework).

However, 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 later in the course, access arrangements should be applied for as soon as is practicable.

#### (AA 4.2.5)

The use of a word processor for candidates is only granted if it reflects the support given to the candidate as their 'normal way of working', which is defined as support:

- in the classroom; or
- working in small groups for reading and/or writing; or
- literacy support lessons; or
- literacy intervention strategies; and/or
- in internal College tests and mock examinations

The only exception to this is where an arrangement may need to be put in place as a consequence of a temporary injury or impairment at the time of an exam or assessment.

### The use of a word processor



The College complies with AA chapter 5 Access arrangements available as follows:

(AA 5.8.1)

Provides a word processor with the spelling and grammar check facility/predictive text disabled (switched off).

Only grants the use of a word processor to a candidate where it is their normal way of working (see 4.2.5 above) within the College.

Grants the use of a word processor to a candidate if it is appropriate to their needs (for example, the quality of language significantly improves as a result of using a word processor due to problems with planning and organisation when writing by hand).

(The above also extends to the use of electronic braille and tablets).

(AA 5.8.2)

Provides access to word processors to candidates in non-examination assessments (including controlled assessments or coursework) components as standard practice unless prohibited by the specification.

(AA 5.8.3)

Allows candidates to use a word processor in an examination to type certain questions, i.e. those requiring extended writing, and hand-write shorter answers.

The College is aware that examinations which have a significant amount of writing, as well as those that place a greater demand on the need to organise thought and plan extended answers, are those where candidates will frequently need to type.

Examinations which require more simplistic answers are often easier to hand-write within the answer booklet. The candidate, therefore, avoids the difficulty of visually tracking between the question paper and screen.

(AA 5.8.4)

In all cases, the College ensures that a word processor cover sheet (Form 4) is completed and included with each candidate's typed script.

Ensures in Functional Skills English (Reading and Writing components) the use of a word processor with the spell check facility switched on is permitted for all candidates.

Does not simply grant the use of a word processor to a candidate because he/she prefers to type rather than write or can work faster on a keyboard, or because he/she uses a laptop at home.

### **Word processors and their programmes**

The College complies with ICE (14.26 onwards) Word processors instructions by ensuring:

- word processors are used as a type-writer, not as a database, although standard formatting software is acceptable
- word processors have been cleared of any previously stored data
- any portable storage medium used have been cleared of any previously stored data
- an unauthorised memory stick is not permitted for use by a candidate
- where required, candidates are provided with a memory stick, which has been cleared of any previously stored data, by a nominated member of centre staff
- word processors are in good working order at the time of the examination
- word processors are accommodated in such a way that other candidates are not disturbed and cannot read the screen
- where a candidate using a word processor is accommodated separately, a separate invigilator is used
- word processors are either connected to a printer so that a script can be printed off, or have the facility to print from a portable storage medium
- documents are printed after the examination is over
- candidates are present to verify that the work printed is their own
- word processed scripts are inserted in any answer booklet which contains some of the answers
- word processors are used to produce scripts under secure conditions, and if they are not then the centre is aware that they may be refused by the awarding body
- word processors are not used to perform skills which are being assessed
- word processors are not connected to an intranet or any other means of communication.
- candidates are not given access to other applications such as a calculator (where prohibited in the examination), spreadsheets etc when using a word processor
- graphic packages or computer aided design software is not included on a word processor unless permission has been given to use these
- predictive text software or an automatic spelling and grammar check is disabled unless the candidate

- has been permitted a scribe or is using voice recognition technology (the script must have a completed scribe cover sheet included), or the awarding body's specification permits the use of automatic spell checking
- voice recognition technology is not included on word processors unless the candidate has permission to use a scribe or relevant software
- word processors are not used on the candidate's behalf by a third party unless the candidate has permission to use a scribe
- candidates are reminded that their centre number, candidate number and the unit/component code must appear on each page as a header or footer
- candidates using Notepad or Wordpad software (which do not allow for the insertion of a header or footer) are instructed to handwrite their details as a header or footer once they have finished the examination and printed off their typed script; candidates are also supervised to ensure that they are solely performing this task and not re-reading their answers or amending their work in any way
- candidates are instructed to appropriately number each page
- candidates are instructed to use a minimum 12pt font and double spacing
- invigilators remind candidates to save their work at regular intervals
- candidates are present at the end of the examination when their script is printed off so they can verify that the work printed is their own

### **Laptops and tablets**

The College further complies with ICE instructions by ensuring:

- tablets used during examinations/assessments are designed to run for a long period of time once fully charged and are 'free-standing'
- the battery capacity of all laptops and/or tablets is checked before the candidate's examination(s) with the battery sufficiently charged for the entire duration of the examination
- where it is possible 'autosave' is set up on each laptop/tablet

### **Accommodating word processors in examinations**

Candidates using word processors (including laptops or tablets) are internally accommodated in the following manner: Where possible students using word processors will be accommodated in IT suites (mainly E101, B002 and B102 although other rooms may also be used).

Invigilation arrangements relating to the use of word processors include the following:

If housed within the main exam hall invigilators will be made aware of students using word processors and will be informed of the processes involved.

When in IT suites or separate rooms Network Technicians will be available at the start of the examination to check there are no technical or login problems.

For students in IT suites: At the end of the examination, students will print off their completed examination response, sign it and hand to the Lead Invigilator who will deliver the script to the Examinations Officer for dispatch to the awarding body with the rest of the cohorts completed papers.

For students in the main examinations hall or separate rooms where there is no printer available: At the end of the examination, students will be accompanied by the invigilator to the Examinations Office where their script will be printed, signed by the student.

Other arrangements relating to the use of word processors include:

A JCQ Form 4 will be handed over to the invigilator at the beginning of each exam for each student using a word processor.



St John Rigby College

**Declaration of Interest and Confidentiality Form: Awarding Bodies**

You should complete this form if you have any role with any awarding body such as:

- a) Marking public examinations but only see the question papers and scripts **AFTER** the examination has been taken by candidates (examiner, moderator, assessor)
- b) Assisting in the preparation of examination papers (question setter/paper constructor, paper/question vetting or reviewing etc), ie you see papers or questions **BEFORE** that examination has been taken by candidates.

Please complete a separate box for each role. You will be asked to update this form on an annual basis.

**Please enter your details:**

<b>Surname:</b>	<b>Forename:</b>
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<b>Awarding Body:</b>	<b>Role (including specification/units):</b>
<b>Start date:</b>	
<b>End date:</b>	

<b>Awarding Body:</b>	<b>Role (including specification/units):</b>
<b>Start date:</b>	
<b>End date:</b>	

<b>Awarding Body:</b>	<b>Role (including specification/units):</b>
<b>Start date:</b>	
<b>End date:</b>	

<b>Awarding Body:</b>	<b>Role (including specification/units):</b>
<b>Start date:</b>	
<b>End date:</b>	

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Please turn over:

## **College Code of Practice for Staff Employed by Awarding Bodies**

Please be advised that if you undertake awarding body duties you must follow the relevant practical measures below:

### **For markers and those assisting in the preparation of public examinations:**

Do not inform students or parents of your role.

Always cover the whole specification (where appropriate) never question spot

Do not use College IT resources for any awarding body work (including email)

Never complete awarding body work in College

### **For those assisting in the preparation of public examinations:**

Only set past examination questions, or questions that are publicly available sample papers

Never discuss future examinations with students, parents and / or colleagues

All internal assessment papers must be set by a member of the department not involved in setting public exam papers

Never give any indication of what is in a future paper by suggesting what, or what not to revise

Where students write essays, ensure there is an explicit and transparent mechanism for the choice of essay, e.g. essays chosen by pupils or other department staff

Examination advice given to students should be based only on material which is available to all centres (e.g. examiners' reports, mark schemes, etc.)

When providing advice to students on a revision schedule, please direct students to revise all relevant materials

I confirm that I have read and understand the guidance given around undertaking awarding body duties.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

## Appendix 13: Declaration of Conflict of Interest – All Staff

JCQ requires centres to manage Conflicts of Interest by informing the awarding bodies, before the published deadline for entries, of:

- any members of College staff who are taking qualifications at the College which include internally assessed components/units;
- any members of College 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

The Council also requires the College to maintain 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 College itself or other centres;
- College staff are taking qualifications at the College which do not include internally assessed components/units;
- College staff are taking qualifications at other centres.

The Principal must ensure that the records include details of the measures taken to mitigate any potential risk to the integrity of the qualifications affected.

The records may be inspected by a JCQ Centre Inspector and/or awarding body staff. They might be requested in the event of concerns being reported to an awarding body. The records must be retained until the deadline for reviews of marking has passed or until any appeal, malpractice or other results enquiry has been completed, whichever is later. For further information please refer to:

<https://www.jcq.org.uk/exams-office/general-regulations/general-regulations-for-approved-centres-2019-2020> page 11.

Please complete the following form and return it to the HR Office. You will be asked to complete this form on an annual basis.

**Please enter your details:**

<b>Surname:</b>	<b>Forename:</b>
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I have no Conflict of Interest as outlined by the bullet points above.

<b>Signed:</b>	<b>Date:</b>
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### Declared Conflict of Interest

I am taking the following qualifications at the College which <b>include</b> internally assessed components/units:	<b>Qualification(s)</b>
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I teach and prepare the following student(s) who is/are members of my family (which includes step-family, foster family and similar close relationships) <b>or</b> is/are the child of close friends for qualifications which include internally assessed components/units	<b>Student(s)</b>	<b>Qualification(s)</b>
	<b>Relationship to you</b>	

I am a member of the exams office staff and have members of my family (which includes step-family, foster family and similar close relationships) <b>or</b> close friends and their immediate family (e.g. son/daughter) being entered for examinations and assessments either at the College itself <b>or</b> other centres;	<b>Names of relation(s)</b>	<b>Qualification(s) at SJR</b>
	<b>Relationship to you</b>	<b>Other Centre:</b>  <b>Centre No:</b>

I am taking the following qualifications at the College which <b>do not include</b> internally assessed components/units:	<b>Qualification(s)</b>
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I am taking the following qualifications at another centre:	<b>Qualification(s)</b>	<b>Centre(s)</b>
		<b>Centre No:</b>

<b>Signed:</b>	<b>Date:</b>
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## **Other Policies and Procedures**

- Equality and Diversity Policy
- Student Disability Policy
- Health and Safety Policy
- Attendance Strategy
- Fees & Charging Policy
- Complaints Procedure
- Assessment, Support and Access Arrangements Procedures (See the Learning Support Handbook)
- Staff Recruitment & Selection Policy (Appendix 1 DBS Policy)
- Data Protection Policy
- Disaster Management Plan
- Lockdown Procedures