

# Samuel Cody Specialist Sports College

## Appeals Policy & Enquiries about Results

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### Appeals against Internally Assessed Marks

Samuel Cody Specialist Sports College is committed to ensuring that whenever its staff mark candidates' controlled assessment/coursework 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. Samuel Cody Specialist Sports 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.

If a candidate believes that this may not have happened in relation to his/her work, he/she may make use of this appeals procedure.

**N.B. a appeal may only be made against the assessment process and not against the mark submitted to the awarding body.**

1. Appeals should be made as early as possible in order to ensure that the internal appeals process is completed within the Exam Board prescribed timescales.
2. Appeals **must** be made in writing by the candidate's parent/carer to the examinations officer using the **Internal Appeals form** Appendix 1
3. The head of centre will appoint a senior member of staff, i.e Assistant Headteacher or Deputy Headteacher, to conduct the investigation. The senior member of staff will not have had any involvement in the internal assessment process for that subject.
4. The purpose of the appeal will be to decide whether the process used for the internal assessment conformed to the awarding body's specification and subject-specific associated documents.
5. The appellant will be informed in writing of the outcome of the appeal, including any relevant correspondence with the awarding body, and any changes made to internal assessment procedures.
6. The outcome of the appeal will be made known to the Headteacher and will be logged as a complaint. A written record will be kept and made available to the awarding body upon request. Should the appeal bring any irregularity in procedures to light, the awarding body will be informed.

After candidates' work has been internally assessed, it is moderated by the awarding body to ensure consistency in marking between centres. The moderation process may lead to mark changes. This process is outside of the control of Samuel Cody Specialist Sports College and is not covered by this procedure.

## Enquiries about Results - EARs

Any student who wants to query a mark/grade awarded by an Awarding Body upon issue of results should follow the following procedure:

- I. Contact the Examinations Officer by email as soon as possible [**but at least 5 working days before the published deadline for EARs\***]. The Examinations Officer will forward the query to the subject teacher and advise on the options available to query the mark/grade and the costs involved.
- II. Students should be aware that EARs can result in marks/grades being raised, confirmed or lowered. Students must sign a consent form to confirm that they understand the consequence of an EAR. Consent forms will be issued by the Examinations Officer.
- III. The subject teacher will review the student's marks/grades and discuss with the Head of Department to agree on the appropriate action taking into account the breakdown of marks, the grade boundaries and the student's predicted grades.

If the Department agrees to support the EAR:

- a. The request, together with the student's consent form, should be made to the Examinations Officer **one week before the published deadline for EARs\***. The cost of the enquiry may, in certain circumstances, be met by the departmental budget. If the EAR is successful, the fee will be refunded.

If the Department does not agree to support the EAR:

- b. The student may still proceed with the EAR but all costs involved will be paid by the student at the time the EAR is made. No EARs will be made until fees are paid. Requests must be made using the Internal Appeals form [Appendix 1] to the Examinations Officer **one week before the published deadline for EARs\***. If the enquiry is successful the fee will be refunded to the student.

- IV. Outcomes following EARs will be forwarded by the Examinations Officer to the student as soon as they have been received from the Awarding Bodies.

*\*<http://www.jcq.org.uk/exams-office/post-results-services>*

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

Where the head of centre remains dissatisfied after receiving the outcome of an EAR, an appeal will be made to the awarding body, following the guidance in the JCQ publications *Post-results services* <http://www.icq.org.uk/exams-office/post-results-services> and *A guide to the awarding bodies' appeals processes* <http://www.icq.org.uk/exams-office/appeals>

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

The **internal appeals form** should be completed and submitted to the centre within **10 calendar days** of the notification of the outcome of the enquiry. Subject to the head of centre's decision, this will allow the centre to process the appeal and submit to the awarding body within the required 14 calendar days. Awarding body fees which may be charged for the appeal must be paid by the appellant on submission of the internal appeals form. If the appeal is upheld by the awarding body, this fee will be refunded by the awarding body and repaid to the appellant by the centre.



### Appeal against the outcome of an enquiry about results

#### Appellant declaration

By signing here, I am confirming I understand that the grounds for my appeal must relate to the awarding body's procedures or the application of the post-result service procedures. I also understand that appeals do not generally involve further reviews of marking candidates' work. I also confirm that I will pay in advance any fees which may be charged by the awarding body for the appeal. I understand this fee will be refunded if the appeal is upheld.

Signature:

Date of signature:

The appellant declaration against the relevant appeal must be signed, dated and returned to the EO, on behalf of the head of centre, to the timescale indicated in the internal appeals procedure.

The internal appeals procedures for this centre have been produced to demonstrate compliance with the publications below.

[JCQ General Regulations for approved centres](http://www.jcq.org.uk/exams-office/general-regulations) <http://www.jcq.org.uk/exams-office/general-regulations>

#### Controlled Assessments, Coursework and Portfolios of Evidence

5.8 The centre agrees to

have in place, and be available for inspection purposes, a **written** internal appeals procedure relating to internal assessment decisions and to ensure that details of this procedure are made widely available and accessible to all candidates; (A centre may place its internal appeals procedure on the school/college website or alternatively, the document may be made available to candidates upon request.)

#### Post-Results Services and Appeals

5.14 The centre agrees to

have available for inspection purposes and draw to the attention of candidates and their parents/carers, a **written** internal appeals procedure to manage disputes when a candidate disagrees with a centre decision not to support an enquiry about results or an appeal; (A centre may place its internal appeals procedure on the school/college website or alternatively the document may be made available to candidates upon request.)

[JCQ Post-results services](http://www.jcq.org.uk/exams-office/post-results-services) <http://www.jcq.org.uk/exams-office/post-results-services>

#### 6.4 Submission of requests

Centres **must** have in place a published formal appeals procedure for use in cases where centres and candidates, or their parents/carers, cannot agree as to whether an enquiry about results should be submitted. The formal appeals procedure **must** be made widely available. Centres **must** therefore draw the appeals procedure to the attention of candidates and their parents/carers. In deciding whether to support an enquiry about results, centres should take account of all relevant factors and afford candidates or their parents/carers a reasonable opportunity to express their views. **Awarding bodies can only enter into discussions over enquiries about results with centres and private candidates.**

#### 1. Appeals

Centres **must** have in place a published formal appeals procedure for use in cases where centres and candidates, or their parents/carers, cannot agree as to whether an appeal should be submitted to the relevant awarding body. The formal appeals procedure **must** be made widely available. Centres **must** therefore draw the appeals procedure to the attention of candidates and their parents/carers. In

deciding whether to support an appeal, centres should take account of all relevant factors and afford candidates or their parents/carers a reasonable opportunity to express their views. **Awarding bodies can only enter into discussions over appeals with centres and private candidates.**

**However** in summer 2016, JCQ issued the following information in their [Notice to Centres – Post-Results Services and Appeals](#)

The JCQ publication Post-Results Services – Information and guidance to centres for examinations taken in June 2016 and November 2016 sets out common arrangements. Although the published information remains valid for the June 2016 examination series, this supplementary document clarifies some key points associated with the reform of post-results services and appeals.

Centres should also refer to awarding bodies' websites for further information as awarding bodies may offer additional post-results services.

**JCQ A guide to the awarding bodies' appeals processes** <http://www.jcq.org.uk/exams-office/appeals>

12. Please note that internal candidates and/or their parents/carers are not entitled to appeal directly to the awarding body. Representations must be made to the head of centre where the candidate was entered or registered. The head of centre's decision as to whether to proceed with an appeal is subject to the centre's internal appeals arrangements.

### **Ofqual GCSE, GCE, Principal Learning and Project Code of Practice**

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/gcse-gce-principal-learning-and-project-code-of-practice>

9.13 The awarding organisation must require centres offering its examinations to ensure that they have in place:

- iii.a formal, codified procedure for handling disputes when a candidate or carer disagrees with a decision by the centre not to support an enquiry.

Centres must be required to ensure that the procedures are published and made widely available and accessible to all candidates and their carers.

9.14 In deciding whether to support an enquiry or appeal, centres should take account of all relevant factors and afford candidates or their carers a reasonable opportunity to express their views.

**However** in summer 2016, JCQ issued the following information in the [Notice to Centres – Post-Results Services and Appeals](#)

Ofqual has announced that the Code of Practice in relation to GCE AS, A-level and GCSE qualifications will be withdrawn in August 2016, being replaced by Qualification Level Conditions. Centres may, however, continue to refer to the Code of Practice for the awarding bodies' provision of post-results services and appeals, June 2016 examination series.

Arrangements for the awarding bodies' provision of post-results services and appeals, November 2016 examination series, may be subject to change. Centres will be notified of any changes in due course.

**Appellants should consult the full information in the above publications to be fully informed when stating their grounds for appeal.**

Further information can be obtained from:

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

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

