

Internal Appeals Procedure 2022-2023

Certain GCSE and other qualifications contain components of non-examination assessment (or units of coursework) which are internally assessed by Wootton Academy Trust and internally standardised. The marks awarded which contribute to the final grade of the qualification are then submitted by the deadline set by the awarding body for external moderation.

This procedure confirms Wootton Academy Trust's compliance with JCQ's General Regulations for Approved Centres, (section 5.7) that the centre will

- have in place and be available for inspection purposes a written internal appeals procedure relating to internal assessment decisions and to ensure that details of this procedure are communicated, made widely available and accessible to all candidates.
- before submitting marks to the awarding body inform candidates of their centre assessed marks and allow a candidate to request a review of the centre's marking

Certain components of GCSE qualifications (GCSE non-examination assessments) and other qualifications (BTEC, Cambridge Nationals, WJEC Level 1/2) that contribute to the final grade of the qualification are internally assessed by the centre. The marks awarded are then submitted by the deadline set by the awarding body for external moderation.

Wootton Academy Trust is committed to ensuring that whenever its staff marks candidates' work this is done fairly, consistently and in accordance with the awarding body's specification and subject-specific associated documents.

Wootton Academy Trust ensures that all centre staff follow a robust Non-examination Assessment Policy (for the management of non-examination assessments). This policy details all procedures relating to non-examination assessments for GCSE, BTEC and Cambridge Nationals, including the marking and quality assurance/internal standardisation processes which relevant teaching staff are required to follow.

Candidates' work will be marked by staff who have appropriate knowledge, understanding and skill, and who have been trained in this activity. Wootton Academy Trust is committed to ensuring that work produced by candidates is authenticated in line with the requirements of the awarding body. Where more than one subject teacher/tutor is involved in marking candidates' work, internal moderation and standardisation will ensure consistency of marking.

On being informed of their centre assessed marks, if a candidate believes that the above procedures were not followed in relation to the marking of his/her work, or that the assessor has not properly applied the marking standards to his/her marking, then he/she may make use of the appeals procedure below to consider whether to request a review of the centre's marking.

1. Wootton Academy Trust will ensure that candidates are informed of their centre assessed marks so that they may request a review of the centre's marking before marks are submitted to the awarding body.
2. Wootton Academy Trust will inform candidates that they will need to explain on what grounds they wish to request a review of an internally assessed mark as a review will only focus on the quality of their work in meeting the published assessment criteria
3. Wootton Academy Trust will inform candidates that they may request copies of materials (generally, as a minimum, a copy of the marked assessment material (work) and the mark scheme or assessment criteria plus additional materials which may vary from subject to subject) to assist them in considering whether to request a review of the centre's marking of the assessment. This request must be made within 3 calendar days of receiving their marks.
4. Wootton Academy Trust will, having received a request for copies of materials, promptly make them available to the candidate (or for some marked assessment materials, such as art work and recordings, inform the candidate that the originals will be shared under supervised conditions) within 3 calendar days.
5. Wootton Academy Trust will inform candidates they will not be allowed access to original assessment material unless supervised.
6. Wootton Academy Trust will provide candidates with sufficient time in order to allow them to review copies of materials and reach a decision, informing candidates that if their decision is to request a review, they will need to explain what they believe the issue to be.
7. Wootton Academy Trust will provide a clear deadline for candidates to submit a request for a review of the centre's marking. Requests will not be accepted after this deadline.
8. Requests for reviews of marking must be made in writing within 5 calendar days of receiving copies of the requested materials by completing the internal appeals form.
9. Wootton Academy Trust will allow 4 calendar days for the review to be carried out, to make any necessary changes to marks and to inform the candidate of the outcome, all before the awarding body's deadline for the submission of marks.
10. Wootton Academy Trust will ensure that the review of marking is conducted by an assessor who has appropriate competence, has had no previous involvement in the assessment of that candidate for the component in question and has no personal interest in the outcome of the review.
11. Wootton Academy Trust will instruct the reviewer to ensure that the candidate's mark is consistent with the standard set by the centre.
12. The candidate will be informed in writing of the outcome of the review of the centre's marking.

The outcome of the review of the centre's marking will be made known to the head of centre who will have the final decision if there is any disagreement on the mark to be submitted to the awarding body. A written record of the review will be kept and made available to the awarding body upon request. The awarding body will be informed if the centre does not accept the outcome of a review.

The moderation process carried out by the awarding bodies may result in a mark change, either upwards or downwards, even after an internal review. The internal review process is in place to ensure consistency of marking within the centre, whereas moderation by the awarding body ensures that centre marking is in line with national standards. The mark submitted to the awarding body is subject to change and should therefore be considered provisional.

Appeals relating to centre decisions not to support a clerical check, a review of marking, a review of moderation or an appeal

This procedure confirms Wootton Academy Trust's compliance with JCQ's General Regulations for Approved Centres, section 5.13 that the centre will:

- 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 online application for a clerical re-check, a review of marking, a review of moderation or an appeal.

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

Candidates are also made aware of the arrangements for post-results services prior to the issue of results. Candidates are also informed of the periods during which senior members of centre staff will be available/accessible immediately after the publication of results so that results may be discussed, and decisions made on the submission of reviews of marking. Candidates are made aware in the Student Exams Handbook and via the Trust website.

If the centre or a candidate (or his/her parent/carer) has a concern and believes a result may not be accurate, post-results services may be considered.

The JCQ post-results services currently available are detailed below.

Reviews of Results (RoRs)

Service 1 (Clerical re-check)

This is the only service that can be requested for objective tests (multiple choice tests)

Service 2 (Review of marking)

Priority Service 2 (Review of marking)

This service is only available for some externally assessed components

Service 3 (Review of moderation)

This service is not available to an individual candidate

Access to Scripts (ATS):

Copies of scripts to support reviews of marking

Copies of scripts to support teaching and learning

Where a concern is expressed that a particular result may not be accurate, the centre will look at the marks awarded for each component part of the qualification alongside any mark schemes, relevant result reports, grade boundary information etc. when made available by the awarding body to determine if the centre supports any concerns.

For written components that contributed to the final result, the centre will:

1. Consider accessing the script by:

- (where the service is made available by the awarding body) requesting a priority copy of the candidate's script to support a review of marking by the awarding body deadline or
- (where the option is made available by the awarding body) viewing the candidate's marked script online to consider if requesting a review of marking is appropriate

2. Collect informed written consent/permission from the candidate to access his/her script

3. On access to the script, consider if it is felt that the agreed mark scheme has been applied correctly in the original marking and if the centre considers there are any errors in the marking

4. Support a request for the appropriate RoR service (clerical re-check or review of marking) if any error is identified

5. Collect informed written consent from the candidate to request the RoR service before the request is submitted

6. Where relevant, advise an affected candidate to inform any third party (such as a college or sixth form) that a review of marking has been submitted to an awarding body

Written candidate consent (informed consent via candidate email is acceptable) is required in all cases before a request for an RoR service 1 or 2 is submitted to the awarding body. Consent is required to confirm the candidate understands that the final subject grade and/or mark awarded following a clerical re-check or a review of marking, and any subsequent appeal, may be lower than, higher than, or the same as the result which was originally awarded. Candidate consent must only be collected after the publication of results.

For any moderated components that contributed to the final result, the centre will:

- Confirm that a review of moderation cannot be undertaken on the work of an individual candidate or the work of candidates not in the original sample submitted for moderation
- Consult the moderator's report/feedback to identify any issues raised
- Determine if the centre's internally assessed marks have been accepted without change by the awarding body – if this is the case, a RoR service 3 (Review of moderation) will not be available
- Determine if there are any grounds to submit a request for a review of moderation for all candidates in the original sample

Where a candidate disagrees with a centre decision not to support a clerical re-check, a review of marking or a review of moderation, the centre will:

- For a review of marking (RoR priority service 2), advise the candidate he/she may request the review by providing informed written consent (and the required fee) for this service to the centre by the deadline set by the centre
- For a review of marking (RoR service 1 or 2), first advise the candidate to access a copy of his/her script to support a review of marking by providing written permission for the centre to access the script (and any required fee) for this service to the centre to submit this request
- After accessing the script to consider the marking, inform the candidate that if a request for a review of marking (RoR service 1 or 2) is required, this must be submitted by the deadline set by the centre by providing informed written consent (and the required fee) for the centre to submit this request
- Inform the candidate that a review of moderation (RoR service 3) cannot be requested for the work of an individual candidate or the work of a candidate not in the original sample

If the candidate (or his/her parent/carer) believes there are grounds to appeal against the centre's decision not to support a review, an internal appeal can be submitted to the centre by completing the internal appeals form (Page 8) at least one week prior to the internal deadline for a review of results.

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

Following the RoR outcome, an external appeals process is available if the head of centre remains dissatisfied with the outcome and believes there are grounds for appeal. The JCQ publications Post-Results Services and JCQ Appeals Booklet (A guide to the awarding bodies' appeals processes) will be consulted to determine the acceptable grounds for a preliminary appeal. Wootton Academy Trust will submit the preliminary appeal to the awarding body within the published deadlines.

Where the head of centre is satisfied after receiving the RoR outcome, but the candidate (or

his/her parent/carer) believes there are grounds for a preliminary appeal to the awarding body, a further internal appeal may be made to the head of centre. Following this, the head of centre's decision as to whether to proceed with a preliminary appeal will be based upon the acceptable grounds as detailed in the JCQ Appeals Booklet. Candidates or parents/carers are not permitted to make direct representations to an awarding body.

Awarding body fees which may be charged for the preliminary appeal must be paid to the centre by the appellant before the preliminary appeal is submitted to the awarding body (fees are available from the exams officer). 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.