

Appeals procedure against internally assessed marks

Engaging Potential is committed to ensuring that whenever its staff marks candidates' work this is done fairly, consistently and in accordance with the regulations and 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. Engaging Potential is committed to ensuring that work produced by candidates is authenticated in line with the requirements of the awarding body. Where a number of subject teachers are involved in marking candidates' work, internal moderation and standardisation will ensure consistency of marking.

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

1. Appeals should be made as early as possible in order to ensure that the internal appeals process is completed prior to the submission of centre marks to the awarding body.
2. Appeals must be made in writing (using the **internal appeals form**)
3. The Head of centre will appoint a senior member of staff, e.g. The Centre Manager 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 Head of centre. 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 carried out by the awarding bodies may result in a mark change, either upwards or downwards, even after an internal review. The internal review process is in place to ensure consistency of marking within the centre, whereas moderation by the awarding body ensures that centre marking is in line with national standards. The mark submitted to the awarding body is subject to change and should therefore be considered provisional.

This process is outside the control of Engaging Potential and is not covered by this procedure.

Appeals procedure against centre decisions not to support an enquiry about results

Following the issue of results, the general qualification awarding bodies offer post-results services. Full details of these services, internal deadlines for requesting a service and fees charged are provided by the exams officer.

The service, enquiries about results (EARs), may be requested by centre staff or candidates (or their parents/carers). (EAR service 3 is not available to individual candidates). If a query is raised about a particular examination result, the exams officer, teaching staff and head of centre will investigate the feasibility of requesting an enquiry at the centre's expense.

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

If the candidate (or their parent/carer) believes there are grounds to appeal against the centre's decision not to support an enquiry, an appeal can be submitted to the centre using the **internal appeals form** at least **one week prior to** the internal deadline for submitting an EAR.

Appeals procedure following the outcome of an enquiry about results

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 can be obtained from the exams officer.

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

If the centre or a candidate (or his/her parent/carer) has a concern and believes a result may not be accurate, an enquiry about the result may be requested.

Enquiries about results (EARs) offers three services.

- ▶ Service 1 – clerical re-check
- ▶ Service 2 – review of marking
- ▶ Service 3 – review of moderation (this service is not available to an individual candidate)

Written candidate consent (informed consent via candidate email is acceptable) is required in all cases before a request for an EAR service 1 or 2 is submitted to the awarding body as with these services candidates' marks and subject grades may be lowered. Candidate consent can only be collected **after** the publication of results.

If a concern is raised about a particular examination result, the Lead Teacher and Head of Centre will look at the feasibility of making an enquiry, supported by the centre.

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

If the candidate (or his/her parent/carer) believes there are grounds to appeal against the centre's decision not to support an enquiry, an internal appeal can be submitted to the centre by completing the **internal appeals form** at least 10 calendar days prior to the internal deadline for submitting an EAR.

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

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

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

The **internal appeals form** should be completed and submitted to the centre within 10 calendar days of the notification of the outcome of the EAR. Subject to the head of centre's decision, this will allow the centre to process the preliminary appeal and submit to the awarding body within the required **30 calendar days** of receiving the outcome of the enquiry about results process. Awarding body fees which may be charged for the preliminary appeal must be paid to the centre by the appellant before the preliminary appeal is submitted to the awarding body (fees are available from the exams 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.]

Internal appeals form

This form should be completed in all cases to lodge an appeal.

Please tick to indicate what the appeal is against:

- internally assessed marks
- the centre decision not to support an enquiry about results
- the outcome of an enquiry about results

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

Please state the grounds for your appeal below:

Continue overleaf if necessary

Appeal against internally assessed marks

Appellant declaration

By signing here, I am confirming I understand the purpose of the appeal will be to decide whether the process used for the internal assessment conformed to the published requirements of the awarding body's specification and subject-specific associated documents. I also understand the appeal may only be made against the assessment process not against the mark to be submitted by the centre for moderation by the awarding body.

Signature:

Date of signature:

Appeal against the centre decision not to support an enquiry about results

Appellant declaration

By signing here, I am confirming I feel there are grounds to appeal against the centre's decision.

Signature:

Date of signature:

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>