

St. Columba's College Portaferry

Internal Appeals Policy

2020-21

This policy is reviewed annually to ensure compliance with current regulations

Prepared/Updated by	Georgina Burns
Title	Exams Officer
Approved by BOG	
Date of next review	November 2019

Key staff involved in internal appeals procedures

Role	Name(s)
Head of centre	Mr James Hay
SLT	Kathleen Dumigan
Exams Officer	Georgina Burns

1. Appeals against internal assessment decisions (centre assessed marks)

This procedure confirms St Columba's College's compliance with JCQ's *General Regulations for Approved Centres 2020-2021*, section 5.8 that the centre has in place "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" and that the centre "must inform candidates of their centre assessed marks as a candidate is allowed to request a review of the centre's marking before marks are submitted to the awarding body."

Certain components of GCSE controlled assessments and GCSE non-examination assessments that contribute to the final grade of the qualification are internally assessed (marked) by the subject teacher. The marks awarded (the internal assessment decisions) are then submitted by the deadline set by the awarding body for external moderation.

Deadlines for the submission of marks (Summer 2021 exam series)

Date	Qualification	Details

St Columba's College is committed to ensuring that whenever its staff mark candidates' work this is done fairly, consistently and in accordance with the awarding body's specification and subject-specific associated documents.

St Columba's ensures that staff follow a robust *Non-examination assessment policy* (for the management of GCSE non-examination assessments). This policy details all procedures relating to non-examination assessments, including the marking and quality assurance 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. St Columba's 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.

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. St Columba's College 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. St Columba's College will inform candidates that they may request copies of materials (for example, a copy of their marked work, the relevant specification, the mark scheme and any other associated subject-specific documents) to assist them in considering whether to request a review of the centre's marking of the assessment.
3. St Columba's College will, having received a request for copies of materials, promptly make them available to the candidate within 5 working days.
4. St Columba's College will provide candidates with sufficient time in order to allow them to review copies of materials and reach a decision.
5. Requests for reviews of marking **must** be made in writing within 2 working days of receiving copies of the requested materials to the Exams Office by completing the internal appeals form.
6. St Columba's College will allow 5 working 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.
7. St Columba's 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.

8. St Columba's College will instruct the reviewer to ensure that the candidate's mark is consistent with the standard set by the centre.

9. The candidate will be informed in writing of the outcome of the review of the centre's marking.

10. The outcome of the review of the centre's marking will be made known to the head of centre and will be logged as a complaint. A written record will be kept and made available to the awarding body upon request. Should the review of the centre's marking bring any irregularity in procedures to light, the awarding body will be informed immediately.

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 the control of St Columba's College and is not covered by this procedure.**

2. Appeals against the centre's decision not to support a clerical check, a review of marking, a review of moderation or an appeal

This procedure confirms St Columba's College's compliance with JCQ's *General Regulations for Approved Centres 2020-2021*, section 5.14 that the centre has in place *"a written internal appeals procedure to manage disputes when a candidate disagrees with a centre decision not to support a clerical check, a review of marking, a review of moderation or an appeal..."*

Following the issue of results, awarding bodies make post-results services available. Details giving internal deadlines for requesting a service will be issued with your results from the exams office.

Candidates are also informed of the arrangements for post-results services **before** they sit any exams and the accessibility of senior members of centre staff immediately after the publication of results via their Candidate Handbook issued in the Autumn term.

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 candidate must see their head of department in the first instance. The head of department would raise this concern with a member of the SLT before submitting the claim to the exams office.

Where the centre does not uphold a request from a candidate, St Columba's College agree that 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 4 working days prior to the internal deadline for submitting an EAR.

The appellant will be informed of the outcome of his/her appeal within 2 working days 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. *Exams / policies – Oct 2018*)

CDG REVIEW APRIL 2021 (CCEA , AQA, OCN)

- All candidates will have the right of appeal post issue of GCSE results 12 August 2021
- As per procedures outlined above Pgs 4-5 [steps 1-10]
- This year Services 1 and 3 will not be available Pg 6

Internal Assessments Appeals Process

Appeal Notification Form

Student name _____

DOB _____

Appeal Details	
Subject and course	
Assessment information (please include the module/unit title and the assessment title, teacher teaching and marking the assessment)	
Reason for appeal (please give brief notes regarding your reason for appeal)	
Signed (Student)	Date
Signed (Parent if student under 18)	Date
Please ensure this is sent to the Exams Officer. Once received, you will get confirmation that your appeal notification has been received.	

