



The
Thomas Hardy School

Internal appeals procedures

2017/18

These procedures are reviewed annually to ensure compliance with current regulations

Approved/reviewed by	
Date of next review	

Key staff involved in internal appeals procedures

Role	Name(s)
Head of centre	Mr M Foley
SLT members	To be appointed as required
Exams officer	Mrs C Boyles

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

This procedure confirms The Thomas Hardy School's compliance with JCQ's *General Regulations for Approved Centres 2017-2018*, 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 and GCE (GCSE controlled assessments, GCE coursework, GCE and GCSE non-examination assessments) and other qualifications that contribute to the final grade of the qualification are internally assessed (marked) by the centre. The marks awarded (the internal assessment decisions) are then submitted by the deadline set by the awarding body for external moderation.

The Thomas Hardy School 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.

The Thomas Hardy School ensures that all centre staff follow a robust *Non-examination assessment policy* (for the management of GCE and GCSE non-examination assessments). This policy details all procedures relating to non-examination assessments [for GCE, GCSE, Project qualifications and any other assessment that is not 'externally set and taken by candidates at the same time under controlled conditions' as defined by the JCQ], 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. The Thomas Hardy School 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.

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

1. The Thomas Hardy School 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. The Thomas Hardy School 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. The Thomas Hardy School will, having received a request for copies of materials, promptly make them available to the candidate **within 5 working days**.
4. The Thomas Hardy School will provide candidates with sufficient time in order to allow them to review copies of materials and reach a decision.
5. The Thomas Hardy School 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. Requests must be made in writing **within 5 working days of receiving copies of the requested materials by completing the **internal appeals form****.
6. The Thomas Hardy School 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. The Thomas Hardy School 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. The Thomas Hardy School will instruct the reviewer to ensure that the candidate's mark is consistent with the standard set by the centre.
9. The Thomas Hardy School will inform the candidate 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. A written record of the review will be kept and made available to the awarding body upon request.

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 line with national standards. The mark submitted to the awarding body is subject to change and should therefore be considered provisional.

A non- refundable administrative fee will be charged for this service – details can be found on the internal appeals form.

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 The Thomas Hardye School compliance with JCQ's *General Regulations for Approved Centres 2017-2018, 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. Full details of these services, internal deadlines for requesting a service and fees charged are provided by the exams officer and published on the school website.

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 – details will be made available on results days and via the school website and/or Exams Office.

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.

After receiving results subject leaders can request a remark of papers where they believe a clear error has been made. The permission of the student will be sought before the request for a remark is submitted and the costs will be borne by the subject area.

Where the centre does not uphold a request from a candidate they may wish to request an EAR service themselves. If a student wishes to initiate a remark of papers they should collect the relevant forms from the exams office within the published deadlines. The student will need to pay the fee demanded by the exam board, although this will be refunded if the remark results in an improved grade being awarded.

In the case where a student believes that a subject area should initiate a remark but the school believes the grade to be correct then the student should make a written appeal to the deputy headteacher responsible for exams by 1st September. They will make a decision within 5 working days based on the student's performance across the time of their course, including the consistency of their work under exam conditions, and also their other results in the examination series.

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 5 working 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

Please tick box to indicate the nature of your appeal and complete all white boxes on the form below

- Appeal against an internal assessment decision and/or request for a review of marking
- Appeal against the centre's decision not to support a clerical check, a review of marking, a review of moderation or an appeal

FOR CENTRE USE ONLY	
Date received	
Reference No.	

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

(If applicable, tick below)

- Where my appeal is against an internal assessment decision I wish to request a review of the centre's marking
If necessary, continue on an additional page if this form is being completed electronically or overleaf if hard copy being completed

Appellant signature:

Date of signature:

This form must be signed, dated and returned to the exams officer on behalf of the head of centre to the timescale indicated in the relevant appeals procedure, together with any fees payable.

Further guidance to inform and implement appeals procedures

JCQ

- ▶ General Regulations for Approved Centres
<https://www.jcq.org.uk/exams-office/general-regulations>
- ▶ Post-Results Services
<https://www.jcq.org.uk/exams-office/post-results-services>
- ▶ JCQ Appeals Booklet
<https://www.jcq.org.uk/exams-office/appeals>
- ▶ Notice to Centres - Reviews of marking (centre assessed marks)
<https://www.jcq.org.uk/exams-office/controlled-assessments>
<https://www.jcq.org.uk/exams-office/coursework>
<https://www.jcq.org.uk/exams-office/non-examination-assessments>
- ▶ Notice to Centres – informing candidates of their centre assessed marks
<https://www.jcq.org.uk/exams-office/non-examination-assessments>

Ofqual

- ▶ GCSE (9 to 1) qualification-level conditions and requirements
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/gcse-9-to-1-qualification-level-conditions>
- ▶ GCSE (A* to G) qualification-level conditions and requirements
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/gcse-a-to-g-qualification-level-conditions-and-requirements>
- ▶ GCE qualification-level conditions and requirements
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/gce-qualification-level-conditions-and-requirements>
- ▶ Pre-reform GCE qualification-level conditions and requirements
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/gce-qualification-level-conditions-for-pre-reform-qualifications>