

Examination Policy July 2020

Governors' Committee Responsible: Governor Lead: Nominated Lead Member of Staff: Status & Review Cycle: Next Review Date: Curriculum & Progress Committee Mrs Chris Borgars Ms L Seddon Annually September 2021

Fullbrook Examination Policy 2020-2021

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Fullbrook policies can be viewed in full here http://www.fullbrook.surrey.sch.uk/policies/

Purpose

The purpose of this examinations policy is:

- To ensure the planning and management of exams is conducted efficiently and in the best of interest of candidates.
- To ensure the operation of an efficient exam system with clear guidelines for all relevant staff.

Fullbrook is responsible for ensuring all students have the best possible chances of success in examinations and that students are not disadvantaged by organisational or curricular failures.

It is the responsibility of everyone involved in the Centre's exam processes to read, understand and implement this policy.

Fullbrook will follow Joint Council for Qualifications (JCQ) regulations or other relevant awarding body regulations throughout its public exams process.

- JCQ General Regulations for Approved Centres
- JCQ Access Arrangements and Reasonable Adjustments
- JCQ Instructions for Conducting Examinations (ICE)
- JCQ Instructions for Conducting GCSE & GCSE Modern Foreign Languages Listening Examinations
- JCQ Instructions for Conducting Non-examination Assessments
- ICQ Instructions for Conducting Coursework
- ICQ Suspected Malpractice in Examinations and Assessments

The Examinations Policy and all related documentation will be reviewed annually by the Senior Leadership Team (SLT) and the Examinations Officer.

I. Roles and Responsibilities Overview

Head of Centre

- Retains overall responsibility for the school as an exam centre.
- Confirms on an annual basis adherence to the latest version of JCQ regulations (Head
 of Centre declaration). This confirmation is part of the National Centre Number
 Register (NCNR).
- Confirms on an annual basis that BTEC Centre Engagement Document is accurate.
- Delegates responsibility to the Examinations Officer for the efficient and timely administration of the exam process.

Examinations Officer

- Operates within JCQ regulations for public exams.
- Informs SLT and relevant staff of ICQ regulations and other examination information.
- Completes/submits the National Centre Number Register annual update by the end of October each year.

- Co-operates with the JCQ Centre Inspection Service ensuring that all examinations venues, paperwork and secure storage facility are available for inspection.
- Supports the Head of Centre by collecting Fullbrook staff Conflicts of Interest declarations annually and ensures any mitigating steps are put in place and records maintained in accordance with JCQ regulations. Ensures that relevant exams boards are informed of any conflicts of interest.
- Advises exam boards of new courses.
- Maintains systems and processes to support the timely submission of exam entries and withdrawals to exam boards.
- Enters candidates under names that can be legally verified and with valid Unique Learner Numbers (ULN).
- Ensures candidates are fully aware of JCQ regulations and the expectations of them during the exam process.
- Ensures JCQ Mobile Phone and Warning to Candidate posters are displayed in a prominent place for all candidates to see prior to entering the exam room.
- Advises Heads of Faculty to ensure that necessary coursework is completed on time and in accordance with JCQ guidelines.
- Manages the communication of NEA marks and internal appeals procedures/reviews of centre marks to candidates.
- Produces and distributes exam timetables.
- Identifies and manages exam timetable clashes.
- Produces and distributes seating plans.
- Applies for EAA modified papers.
- Applies for EAAs not governed by JCQ.
- Provides suitable Exam Access Arrangements (EAA), such as rooming and specialised equipment, for students identified by Special Education Needs Assessor (SENCO) or Special Consideration.
- Receives, checks, tracks and securely stores all exam papers, pre-release material and exam stationery. Briefs other relevant centre staff where they may be involved in the receipt/dispatch of confidential exam materials on the requirements for maintaining the integrity and confidentiality of the materials. (Appendix I: Exam paper security)
- Handles encrypted material on day of examination, maintaining security of electronic question paper throughout the downloading, printing and collating process.
- Securely stores completed scripts and organises their dispatch for marking.
- Manages internal/external invigilators, including recruitment, training and monitoring to ensure responsible conduct during exams. Appoints Lead Invigilator(s) who may also deputise for the exams officer as part of contingency plan.
- Manages exams for Alternative Provision (AP) students.
- Makes emergency (usually broken hands or arms) EAA applications.
- Makes and tracks online applications for special considerations.
- Investigates and appropriately reports claims of suspected malpractice.
- Manages, in consultation with SLT and Heads of Faculty (HOF) any appeals, reviews of marking requests or malpractice claims.
- Organises dissemination of exam results and certificates to candidates.

- Ensures candidates/parents/guardians have a point of contact for all queries relating to exams.
- Accounts for income and expenditures relating to exam costs.

Head of Faculty (HOF)

- Inform Examinations Officer of current syllabus information e.g. syllabus codes and component numbers.
- Provide Examinations Officer with exam entry information before the appropriate deadlines.
- Check entry information provided by Examinations Officer and promptly report discrepancies and required changes.
- Inform Examinations Officer immediately of entry amendments or late entries.
- Ensure all students are given notification of non-timetabled/practical assessment dates and advise the Examinations Officer of these dates.
- Collate/submit to exam board copies of coursework marks as prepared by Heads of Department.
- Ensure necessary coursework/assessment documentation is completed and submitted on time via the Examinations Office and in accordance with JCQ guidelines and the Fullbrook Non Examined Assessment Policy and processes.
- Inform Examinations Officer of any anomalies regarding coursework/assessment.
- Ensure safe storage of coursework on return from moderator.
- Are involved in post-results procedures.

Senior Leaders (SLT)

- Are familiar with the contents, refer to and direct relevant centre staff to annually updated JCQ publications.
- Ensure that staff undertake key tasks as detailed in this policy, in accordance with JCQ regulations, within the exams process and meet internal deadlines regarding exams.
- Ensure teaching staff keep themselves updated with exam board subject and teacherspecific information to confirm effective delivery of qualifications (including attendance in relevant exam board training/update events).
- Ensure appropriate internal moderation, standardisation and verification processes are in place.
- There is a member of SLT with responsibility for examinations.

Head of Learning (HOL), Tutors and Teachers

- Ensure that they and their teams undertake key tasks as detailed in this policy, in accordance with JCQ regulations, within the exams process and meet internal deadlines regarding exams.
- Ensure that they keep themselves updated with exam board subject and teacherspecific information to confirm effective delivery of qualifications (including attendance in relevant exam board training/update events).

- Work with SENCO to establish 'normal way of working' for students who require Exam Access Arrangements (EAA), and provide supporting evidence from relevant subject area.
- Ensure EAAs are applied appropriately to coursework and controlled tasks.
- Provide any exam /coursework information required by the Head of Faculty
- Provide guidance to candidates regarding exam entries or amendments to entries.
- Prepare candidates for the exam, including their responsibilities during exam.
- Assist in getting candidates into exam room in the appropriate manner.
- Inform Examinations Officer of cases of special considerations as soon as possible.
- Securely keep returned coursework/controlled assessments under exam conditions to support applications for special considerations until enquiry about results (EAR) or appeals has passed.

Special Education Needs Assessor (SENCO)

- Complies with 2010 Disabilities Act and JCQ Regulations.
- Identifies candidates requiring Exam Access Arrangements and arranges appropriate testing to be carried out by the Centre's Specialist Assessor, during Year 9 or later.
- Specialist Assessor makes the applications for EAA by deadline dates.
- Informs Examinations Officer of required access arrangements, including exam adapted word processors (wp) where use of a wp is the student's normal way of working.
- Keeps detailed files ready for JCQ inspections.

Lead Invigilator/ Invigilators

- Know and follow JCQ regulations for conducting examinations at all times.
- Attend regular training sessions.
- Understand the emergency evacuation procedure related to exams.
- Assist in transportation of exam material to/from Examinations Office before/after exam and lay out exam rooms.
- Open and distribute exam papers and other materials to candidates. 2 members of the exam staff must check the day, time, subject and component/tier before a question packet is opened and complete the 'Second Pair of Eyes' JCQ paperwork.
- Ensure there is a working clock (2 in Sports Hall) that is visible to all candidates.
- Display full date, centre numbers, exam name and length, start and finish (including extra time) details on whiteboard.
- Maintain a fully annotated Seating Plan.
- Know the whereabouts and nature of candidates with EAAs.
- Read erratum notices and start / end examinations under the JCQ regulations.
- Supervise candidates in a quiet unobtrusive manner, including those that need to leave the exam room during an exam.
- Respond to candidates' queries and refer as necessary to the Lead Invigilator and the Examinations Officer.
- Report any instances of suspected malpractice to the Examinations Officer.
- Record any incidents that occur in the Exam Room Incident Log.

- Collect exam papers in correct order at the end of the exam, complete Attendance registers and return exam materials to Examinations Office.
- Supervise clash candidates between exams.
- Dismiss candidates from exam room in the appropriate manner ensuring exam conditions are maintained.

Candidates

- Check exam timetables to ensure their personal details and entries are correct, and inform the Examinations Officer of any changes required.
- Immediately refer any queries to teachers, tutors or the Examinations Officer.
- Understand coursework/assessment regulations, complete work by deadlines given and sign a declaration that authenticates the coursework/assessment as their own.
- Understand ICQ regulations and the expectations of them during the exam process.
- On the day of the exam, arrive at stipulated time, before the scheduled start time of exam.
- Inform school of any difficulties attending exams, such as unexpected late arrival on the exam day, absence or disadvantage on the exam day due to illness or personal misfortune.
- Bring all the required equipment to the exam.
- Ensure personal conduct in in accordance with stated exam conditions.

2. Statutory Tests, Examinations and Qualifications Offered

The statutory tests and qualifications offered at Fullbrook are decided by the Head of Centre and Senior Leaders. Decisions on which subjects and associated exams a candidate should take will be made in consultation with the candidate, parents/carers, SENCO, Subject Teachers, Heads of Department and Heads of Year.

The academic and vocational qualifications offered include:

- GCSE
- GCE AS/ A Levels
- BTEC (Edexcel)
- Cambridge Technicals
- Cambridge Nationals
- VTCT (Hairdressing and Beauty)
- NCFE (Sport)
- Entry Level Awards/Certificates
- Functional Skills
- Extended Project Qualification (AQA)

Exam timetables

External exams are scheduled in:

- September (Year 7 baseline tests).
- October (2020 only) GCEs and Entry Level Certificate in Maths (on demand testing 3 times per year).
- November 2020 GCSEs (including re-takes for GCSE Maths and English Language) and Cambridge Assessment Tests for University Entrance Exams.
- January (Cambridge Technicals, Cambridge Nationals, BTECs, online Hair & Beauty VTCT, Entry Level Certificate in Maths (on demand testing 3 times per year)).
- April Entry Level Certificate in Maths (on demand testing 3 times per year).
- May/June (Summer exam series) dates to be confirmed.
- Vocational paper-based / online tests may be on demand.
- November, February & April (UKMT Maths Challenges).

The exam board publish which exams are available during each series. Head of Faculty (HOF) will decide which exam series to enter candidates for and which academic tier students will take (Foundation/Higher). This information should be passed to the Examinations Officer before the appropriate deadline. Once final exam timetables are available from the exam board, the Examinations Officer will produce and distribute these.

Internal exams are scheduled in:

- Autumn term: Year 13 additional mock examinations for 2020 and Year 11 mock examinations. Year 12 mini mock examinations.
- Spring term: Year 13 mock examinations and Year 11 core mock examinations.
- Summer term: Year 9 core subject tests. Year 10 end of year tests, Year 12 entry into Year 13 examinations.

3. Exam Contingency Plan

The full exams contingency plan can be viewed in Appendix 2. The Covid-19 Contingency and Exam Adaptations plan can be viewed in Appendix 7.

4. Complaints Policy

All complaints should follow the GEP Complaints Policy and Procedures.

Linked Policies: GEP Complaints Policy

Complaints form: https://www.gepacademies.com/complaints/

5. Data Protection & Privacy

Linked Policy: GEP Data Protection / Privacy Notice

6. Safeguarding/Child Protection Policy

Linked Policy: Fullbrook School Child Protection & Safeguarding Policy (GEP Child

Protection and Safeguarding Policy 2020-2021)

Covid-19 addendum to Safeguarding Policy

7. Equalities Policy & Exam Access Arrangements

Fullbrook complies with the 2010 Equalities Act. Observation from subject teachers and evidence from internal exams reinforces the diagnostic testing carried out by the Educational Psychologist.

Factors which might reasonably be expected to have a substantial adverse effect include:

- Persistent and significant difficulty in reading and understanding written material where
 this is in the person's native language, for example because of a mental impairment, a
 learning difficulty or a sensory or multi-sensory impairment;
- Persistent distractibility or difficulty concentrating;
- Difficulty understanding and following simple verbal instructions;
- Physical impairment-for example, difficulty operating a computer because of physical restrictions of using a keyboard.
- Visual impairment.

Students on Alternative Provision (AP)

- Fullbrook will endeavour to enable students to be entered for as many qualifications as the student is able to sit. Alternative qualifications will be sourced where extended periods out of the education environment prohibit entry for public examinations.
- Entry to public examinations is decided prior to the final exam board entry deadlines Decisions on which examinations an AP student should be entered for are made in discussion between: the classroom teachers; HOF; the AP team and provider; the student; parent/ carer. Where the examinations will be sat and invigilator requirements will be decided at the same time.
- Students receiving AP have the same opportunity to apply for Exam Access Arrangements (EAA) with the same requirements for testing and evidence of every day practice in lessons as full time students. Applications for EAA need to be submitted as early as possible to enable processing of requests to take place prior to the public examination period (May-July).
- Students who cannot attend school for pubic examinations will be provided with an external invigilator to sit the examination off site. There will be a document identifying a further adult who must be present. This will be organised by the AP team and Examinations Officer.

Access Arrangements

SENCO identifies candidates requiring Exam Access Arrangements and arranges appropriate testing by the Educational Psychologist.

The Specialist Assessor will:

- Conduct relevant testing to establish need.
- Ensure Data Protection notices are signed by students to permit sharing of personal information with exam boards.
- Collect and store supporting evidence of need and proof of regular way of working for access arrangements from teaching staff.
- Complete relevant documentation.
- Process applications with Access Arrangements Online, or if necessary, write applications to appropriate exam boards by exam board deadlines.
- Ensure EAA records are available for inspection by JCQ Centre inspectors.
- Inform the Examinations Officer of candidates who require modified papers and which modifications are required.
- Before the main exam series, have written agreement from students/parents for exam concessions that have been granted.

The Exams Officer is responsible for emergency EAAs needed for a physical disability.

Word Processor Policy

A separate policy and statement can be viewed in Appendix 3.

Special Considerations

Special Considerations can be submitted for:

- Candidates who are present for assessment but disadvantaged by illness or misfortune
- Candidates who are absent for a timetabled component/unit for acceptable reasons

The Examinations Officer is responsible for ensuring that applications for Special Consideration are made to the appropriate awarding body, as soon as it is known that this is required. All applications must be made by the deadline imposed by awarding bodies.

Candidates are responsible for informing the Centre of any factors preventing the candidate from attending an exam, any factors which may affect or may have affected the candidate's performance during an exam. Centre staff notified of such cases must inform the Examinations Officer immediately.

Medical evidence from a professional may be required to support an application for Special Consideration, if it is due to health needs, particularly if a candidate is absent for an exam. If a candidate is ill at the time of their exam, the Examinations Officer, where possible, will endeavour to provide access arrangements as appropriate.

Linked Policies: Accessibility Plan (December 2018 – December 2021)

Equality Policy

SEND Policy March 2020 - March 2021

Word Processor Policy October 2020 – October 2021 (Appendix 3)

8. Entries, Late Entries and Private Entries

Entries

- Subject teachers and HOFs will decide which candidates to enter for exams and, if relevant, at which tier. Details of this must be submitted to the Examinations Officer within the deadlines given.
- All school entries will be collated by the Examinations Office. Subject teachers and HOFs will be required to check these entries by the given deadlines.
- Late entries incur penalty fees.

Private Entries

Fullbrook accepts private entries from external candidates who are ex-Fullbrook students. An administration charge will be levied against the candidate in addition to the cost of each exam component/qualification fee(s).

9. Exam Fees

Fullbrook will pay all normal exam fees on behalf of candidates. "Normal exam fees" are one GCSE or GCE entry per candidate per subject. Fullbrook will pay late entry or amendment fees resulting from changes requested by teaching staff.

Candidates may be liable for fees resulting from entries or changes to entries which are against the advice given by the Centre and result in additional fees or where Candidates have not met the appropriate deadlines. Candidates will be charged the full qualification fee if they do not attend all examinations without authorisation from the Examinations Office (in conjunction with SLT).

Candidates will not be charged for withdrawals or amendments made by the proper procedures provided these are made within the time allowed by the awarding bodies.

The Centre will pay for the November resits in GCSE English and Maths. Following guidance issued by government and Ofqual, Fullbrook will pay for entries for the Autumn 2020 additional public exam series providing that candidates meet the terms and conditions of entry.

10. Irregularities and Suspected Malpractice in Examinations and Assessments

(See Appendix 4)

This Centre will follow and adhere to the JCQ or other exam board Suspected Malpractice in Examinations and Assessments Policies and Procedures. Full details contained in Appendix 4

The Head of Centre ensures (as required by an awarding body) any cases of alleged, suspected or actual incidents of malpractice or maladministration before, during or after examinations/assessments (by centre staff, candidates, invigilators) are investigated and reported to the awarding body immediately, by completing the appropriate documentation.

Managing behaviour in the exam room

Where a candidate is being disruptive, the invigilator must warn the candidate that he/she may be removed from the examination room. The candidate must also be warned that the awarding body will be informed and may decide to penalise them, which could include disqualification.

The invigilator must record what has happened in the exam room incident log book. All incidents or irregularities (for example but not limited to; late/very late arrival, suspected malpractice, candidate illness or needing to temporarily leave the exam room, disruption or disturbances in the exam room, emergency evacuation).

The head of centre has the authority to remove a candidate from the examination room, but should only do so if the candidate would disrupt others by remaining in the room.

Students of Fullbrook/Internal candidates also adhere to the Fullbrook Conduct Policy http://www.fullbrook.surrey.sch.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/07/Code-of-Conduct-Policy-March-2020.pdf

II. Managing Invigilators and Exam Days

Managing Invigilators

- The Examinations Officer is responsible for recruiting new invigilators and (with HR) for ensuring that they complete and provide the necessary documents for a Disclosure & Barring Service (DBS) application. The associated fee is paid by the Centre.
- All Invigilators will undertake regular training, including Safeguarding Children, which must be documented for ICQ inspection.
- Invigilators must work once every 3 months to maintain an active DBS with Fullbrook.

Exam Days

- The Examinations Officer will source all venues suitable for exams.
- Candidates requiring access arrangements will be roomed accordingly to the guidelines as set out by the JCQ.
- The Examinations Officer will inform the Premises team of venues required, dates and provide seating plans.
- Premises team is responsible for the setting up desks and chairs for exams.
- The Examinations Officer will make question papers, exam stationery and any other materials required available to the Invigilating team for distribution to candidates.
- For the purposes of identifying candidates within the examination room named photos of all internal candidates will be held in the main exam room. Any external candidates must present photographic identification and display this on their exam desk.
- The Examinations Officer will ensure there are sufficient trained invigilators to conform to JCQ regulations.
- Invigilators must sign the "Second Pair of Eyes" check in accordance with the JCQ regulations, before opening exam packets.

- Teaching staff may be present before start of the exam, but must leave before rubric is read. Teaching staff must not read exam papers nor remove exam papers from the exam venue. Senior members of centre staff approved by the HOC and who have not taught the subject being examined may be present at the start of the examination(s) in accordance with the JCQ 'The People Present in the Examination Room' documentation.
- All staff involved in exams must sign a Conflict of Interest and Confidentiality declaration.

The JCQ Centre Inspection Service and awarding body representatives may visit centres during exams to carry out permitted inspections. In doing so, they are authorised to enter the exam room and question Centre staff and Invigilators on exam arrangements.

12. Candidates and Candidates with Exam Clashes

Candidates

- Candidates are expected to comply with the Centre's rules regarding dress and behaviour.
- This Centre follows JCQ guidelines regarding conduct during exams. Candidates who are disruptive may be subject to penalties or sanctions with the awarding bodies.
- Candidates are responsible for bringing any equipment required to complete the exam.
 The Centre will only supply exam board materials.
- Candidates are not permitted to have on them any unauthorised items such as, but not limited to, calculator case and instructions leaflets, mobile phones, Smart watches or MP3/4 players. Unauthorised items brought into the exam room must be handed in to an invigilator.
- Personal belongings remain the responsibility of candidates and the Centre accepts no liability for their loss or damage.
- Candidates are only permitted to leave exam room for genuine purposes and must be appropriately supervised. Candidates who leave the exam room are not permitted to have contact with anyone outside of the exam room or have access to any unauthorised items. Early unauthorised leave may constitute malpractice.
- The candidate is responsible for ensuring they know which exams they have been entered for and when the exam is scheduled.
- Candidates who arrive late for an exam will be handled in accordance with JCQ guidelines. Candidates will be allowed the full time for the exam. However, the awarding body has the right not to accept the script. In making their decision the awarding body will consider the extent to which the security of the exam can be guaranteed.
- Candidates who are absent from an exam due to illness will need to provide a Doctor's note/letter and/or complete ICQ Form.
- Private candidates must always sign in at Reception and be escorted whilst on the premises. External candidates must show valid photographic identification and display this on their exam desk.

Candidates with Exam Clashes

The Examinations Officer is responsible for making arrangements for supervising candidates required to take an exam at a different time to other candidates. Candidates will be advised of the arrangements individually by the Examinations Office.

Where the length of clash exams (including extra time or permitted rest breaks) is 3 hours or less, exams take place in the timetabled session with a minimal supervised break between. Exams exceeding 3 hours may take place in a different session. The student remains under exam conditions at all times. In exceptional circumstances, this may include overnight supervision arrangements.

13. Coursework, Controlled Assessment, Non Examination Assessment

Coursework

- Candidates required to prepare coursework must do so by the deadline imposed by the subject teacher.
- Heads of Department/Subject Leaders are responsible for ensuring coursework is completed according to exam board's instructions and JCQ regulations.
- The Examinations Officer is responsible for forwarding to Heads of Faculty/Department any correspondence received from awarding bodies relating to coursework.
- Heads of Faculty/Department must follow the internal procedures for issuing marks to students and inform the Examinations Office of all key dates in the process within the required timeframe.
- The Examinations Office is responsible for communicating centre assessed marks to students and managing the process of reviews in accordance with the 'Review of Marking of centre assessed marks for GCE and GCSE Non-Examination Assessment Policy 2020-21'.
- Heads of Faculty must provide copies of marks for all internally assessed work to the Examinations Officer.
- Heads of Faculty must ensure all coursework is dispatched on time and a record of posting obtained. A record must be kept of what is sent, when and by whom.
- Cases of suspected malpractice will be investigated by Heads of Faculty/Subject Leaders/Examinations Manager in accordance with JCQ regulations. (See Appendix 4.)

Non -Examination Assessment

Non-examination assessment applies control over internal assessment at 3 points - task setting, task taking and task marking.

Responsibilities

- Head of Centre, Examinations Officer and relevant teaching staff to be familiar with and adhere to JCQ Instructions for Conducting Non-Assessment Assessment.
- Subject leaders to obtain confidential tasks, and make arrangements for the security of non-examination assessment materials.

- Subject leaders to ensure they use the correct task for the year of submission.
- SENCO to test and apply for EAA.
- Subject leaders to supervise assessments using the correct Access Arrangements and at the specified level of control.
- Subject staff may supply general feedback and allow students to redraft work but may not supply model answers or answer frameworks.
- Subject staff to retain work securely between assessment sessions.
- Students and subject staff to complete authentication forms on completion of the assessment.
- Subject staff to mark assessments using awarding body mark schemes. Annotation should be used to provide evidence to indicate how and why marks have been allocated.
- HOF to ensure appropriate standardisation occurs.
- The Examinations Office will manage the communication of issuing marks to students in accordance with JCQ regulations and the 'Review of Marking for Non-Examination Assessment Policy 2020-21'. When issuing centre assessed marks to students it is made clear that the external moderation process may result in changes to marks. The date for this will allow sufficient time for an internal review of marking, if requested, prior to submission of marks to the examination board.
- Subject staff to enter marks on awarding body exam sites.
- Subject staff to submit samples where required by the exam boards in accordance with JCQ regulations and exam board guidance and in conjunction with / via the Examinations Office.
- The Centre adheres to the Non Examination Assessment policy where internal assessment is the only valid means of assessing essential knowledge/ skills that cannot be tested by timed written papers.
- Teaching staff are aware of and meet the requirements in terms of retention of NEA/coursework and subsequent disposal of candidates' work.

Linked Policies:

Review of Marking of centre assessed marks for GCE and GCSE Non-Examination Assessment Policy 2020-21 (Appendix 5)

Internal Appeals Procedure / Policy (Appendix 6)

I4. Results, Summer Season Results, Post Results - Enquiries about Results (EAR), Access to Scripts (ATS) and Appeals

Results

The Examinations Officer is responsible for:

- Informing candidates of the Centre's summer results days' procedure.
- Ensuring Centre receives results on scheduled day. There will be an early results embargo on all staff except for Head of Centre (and SLT with examinations responsibility), Data Manager and IT Network.
- Reviewing results for completeness and preparing for distribution to appointed Centre staff and candidates.
- Investigating any issues relating to results.

Exam candidates will be invited to collect results in person from centre. Candidates unable to attend in person and who want to receive results via an alternative method must provide written authority to the Examinations Office (using the appropriate form) to; give the results to a named third party, to email the results, or provide a stamped addressed envelope for postage.

Enquiries about Results (EAR)

A number of EARs services are available. It is the responsibility of the Examinations Officer to inform Centre staff and candidates what services are available and their associated deadlines and cost. The JCQ post-results services currently available are detailed below.

Reviews of Results (RoRs):

- Service I (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 externally assessed components of GCE A-level specifications (an individual awarding body may also offer this priority service for other qualifications). For use where a university/college place is pending.
- 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
- Centre staff or candidates may request EAR if there are reasonable grounds for believing there has been an error in marking. A request for EAR must be immediately passed to the Examinations Officer in accordance with the deadlines published by the ICQ.
- Candidates seeking an EAR must request this in writing (using the appropriate form)
 and provide the full cost of the service to the Centre before the Centre can process
 the request with the relevant awarding body.
- Candidates will be informed should the centre not support their request for a review or other EAR service. In this instance, candidates may follow the Internal Appeals Procedure.

- Before an individual EAR is submitted to the awarding body, the candidate must provide written authorisation to request the review as grades can be affected and adjusted upwards or downwards. Candidates must accept the EAR outcome.
- The Examinations Office aims to collect the permission signature at the same time as students collect their results.
- Signatures are not required for a full cohort controlled assessment review of marking.
- The result of an EAR is communicated by the awarding body to the Centre and the Centre will inform the candidate.
- Candidates will be informed about the appeals processes for the specific exam board at the point of issuing EAR outcomes.
- All changes to results will be reflected on the various school systems.

Access to Scripts (ATS)

- Staff and candidates are able to request access to scripts either online or a photocopy or an original. All requests require the student's written consent and must be made by the Examinations Office.
- The candidate will be liable for any charges for ATS if teaching staff do not have a need for the script to be returned.
- Centre staff may request scripts for teaching purposes. The candidate must provide written consent. Personal details must be removed before the script may be used. The cost for ATS for teaching and learning purposes will be passed to the requesting Faculty.
- Scripts which are subject to an EAR will not be sent to the Centre until after the enquiry is complete.
- Scripts, no longer required by the Centre, must be destroyed securely.
- If a candidate has requested the return of an original script a review of marking cannot be made.
- The Edexcel exam board provide access to scripts online to staff with permission to
 use Script Viewer. There is no charge for this service but the student must provide
 written consent for the script to be accessed or downloaded. All other clauses apply
 as above. The Examination Office aims to collect this permission signature at the same
 time as students collect their results.

Appeals against RoR Outcomes and the Internal Appeals Procedures

This procedure should be used for appeals against the centre's decision not to support a clerical re-check, review of marking, review of moderation or an appeal.

In the first instance following the issue of results, candidates should follow the procedures outlined for EAR and post-results services using the appropriate form(s) for EAR requests. Full details of these services, internal deadlines for requesting a service and fees charged are provided by the exams office. Candidates are informed of the arrangements for post-results services and the availability of senior members of centre staff prior to the publication of results.

Fullbrook will consider each request for EAR individually based on (but not limited to); the marks awarded for each component part of the qualification alongside any mark schemes, relevant result reports, grade boundary information, exam scripts and correct application of the mark scheme, to determine if the centre supports any concerns. In cases where the centre do not believe that there are grounds for EAR, candidates will be informed.

Where a candidate disagrees with a centre decision not to support a request for EAR (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 I 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) for 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 I 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 this service) 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 of results, 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 a request for a review of results.

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

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.

The internal appeals form should be completed and submitted to the centre within 7 calendar days of the notification of the outcome of the RoR. 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 review of 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.

15. Security of Exam Materials

Full details are contained in Appendix I

16. Certificates

- For the summer series, certificates are dispatched by awarding bodies to arrive at the Centre by mid –November, for distribution from December.
- For students returning to Fullbrook, certificates will be available during a collection window from the F6 building. Appointments may be necessary and students should check the exams page of the school website for full details. A signature of receipt will be required.
- Ex-students will be able to collect examination certificates during a designated collection period. The Examinations Office will publish full details on the exams page of the school website. Candidates will be asked for proof of identify before certificates will be released. Alternatively, candidates can nominate another individual to collect on their behalf, again proof of identify will be required. If students would like certificates posted, a charge of £5 is payable for these to be sent by recorded delivery. All requests for alternative arrangements for certificates should be communicated to the Examinations Office in advance and using the appropriate form.
- Certificates issued before the result of an EAR requiring re-issue, due to a change in grade, will be replaced without charge by awarding body. The original certificate will need to be returned to the Examinations Office for forwarding.
- Lost certificates will only be replaced if the candidate agrees to pay the cost incurred. It is the candidate's responsibility to initiate replacement certificates directly with the exam boards. Some exam boards do not issue replacements and may only be able to provide a Certifying Statement of Results. Where it is proven the Centre has mislaid a certificate, the Centre will be liable for the cost.
- The Examinations Office will provide a letter confirming exam boards and grades which is acceptable to employers and most further education establishments.
- The Centre must retain any uncollected certificates for one year after which they may be securely destroyed.

17. Emergency Planning

Emergencies during the Exam

- In the event of an emergency during an exam requiring candidates to leave the exam room e.g. a fire alarm, candidates should follow the instructions of the invigilating team.
- Invigilators are responsible for leading candidates out of the building to the designated assembly point. In large venues all exam materials and personal belongings must be left in the exam room.
- The lead invigilator must take with them the exam register so it is known which students are present.
- Invigilators must supervise candidates as closely as possible to prevent any discussion about the exam.
- Candidates who fail to follow instructions of invigilators may not be allowed to complete the exam or may have subsequent work disregarded.
- Invigilators must record time of the incident and its duration. Candidates are allowed the full working time set for the exam.
- When permitted back into the building invigilators are required to settle candidates as quickly as possible. Candidates must record on their scripts the point at which the interruption occurred.
- The Examinations Officer prepares a full report of incident and action taken. This is retained on file and will only be disposed of after all EAR are completed. Where applicable the Examinations Officer will apply for special consideration.
- Where an exam cannot continue due to a major incident the Centre's Examinations Contingency Plan will be followed.

Major Incidents affecting Exams

In the event of an incident, whether limited to the Centre or not, e.g. a viral outbreak within the Centre or a pandemic outbreak, the Centre will follow guidance provided by the Department for Education (DfE) together with relevant JCQ and Centre Policies. The JCQ have a designed summer exam contingency day.

This policy will be reviewed annually. Date of next review October 2021.

Linked Policy: Emergency Evacuation Policy – Exams (Appendix 8)

Covid-19 Contingency and Exam Adaptations (Appendix 7)

Appendix I: Exam Paper Security

- Confidential materials are only handed over to those authorised by the head of centre.
- Only persons authorised by the head of centre and the exams officer are allowed access to the centre's secure storage facility as one of the two to six key holders.
- The examinations office has a process in place and maintains records to demonstrate the receipt, secure movement and secure storage of confidential exam materials within the centre.
- The integrity and security of any electronic question paper is maintained during the downloading, printing and collating process (ensuring printing is carried out in an area that can be controlled to prevent unauthorised personnel accessing live assessment materials and ensuring only authorised members of centre staff have access to electronic question papers)
- At point of delivery, envelopes and parcels are signed for by Reception staff who enter details in the tracking book. Reception alert Examination Office and contact Premises to arrange transport to the secure area. A second signature is required.
- Teaching staff and assessors adhere to the process to record the secure movement of confidential materials taken from or returned to secure storage throughout the time the material is confidential.
- The Examination Office is the Centre's secure area. There are solid bars on the window and an alarm system. It has a solid door with a mortise lock. Keys will be stored in a keysafe when not in active use by the examinations staff.
- The only work that may be carried out in the Examinations Office relates to examinations.
- Contents of boxes are checked against the dispatch advice and stored in date/session order inside barred and locked cabinets which are bolted to the walls at the rear of the Examinations Office. Only the Examinations Officer has access to these secure cabinets.
- Only live question papers and completed scripts awaiting despatch are stored in these secure cabinets. Past examination question papers, internal tests and mock examinations are not kept in the centre's secure storage cabinets.
- Mock examination papers are kept in the secure room (exams office) but not in the secure store cabinets.
- Examination stationery, e.g. answer booklets and formula booklets are stored in the secure room.
- A "second pair of eyes" is needed to check exam details, date and time before question paper packets are opened. Two signatures are required.
- Packaged scripts are recorded in the Examinations Despatch Log and taken to Reception prior to collection by Parcel Force Exams Department.

Appendix 2: Fullbrook Exams Contingency Plan

Aims of the Fullbrook Contingency Plan

This plan examines potential risks and issues that could cause disruption to the exams process at Fullbrook. By outlining actions/procedures to be invoked in case of disruption it is intended to mitigate the impact these disruptions have on our exam process.

Alongside internal processes, this plan is informed by the **Ofqual** Exam system contingency plan: England, Wales and Northern Ireland which provides guidance in the publication What schools and colleges and other centres should do if exams or other assessments are seriously disrupted and the **JCQ** Joint Contingency Plan in the event of widespread disruption to the Examination System in England, Wales and Northern Ireland.

This plan also confirms Fullbrook is compliant with the JCQ regulation (section 5.3, General Regulations for Approved Centres 2020-21) that the centre has in place a written examination contingency plan which covers all aspects of examination administration. This will allow members of the senior leadership team to act immediately in the event of an emergency or staff absence. The examination contingency plan reinforces procedures in the event of the centre being unavailable for examinations, or on results day, owing to an unforeseen emergency. The Contingency Plan is designed to ensure a consistent and effective response in the event of major disruption to the examination system affecting significant numbers of candidates across several awarding organisations.

The plan will be implemented in the event of major disruption to the system, such as but not limited to; widespread illness, travel disruption, bad weather, power failures or circumstances being faced, for example the police, Environment Agency or Health Protection Agency.

The priority when implementing contingencies will be to:

- deliver assessments to published timetables
- make entries to published deadlines
- deliver results to published timetables
- comply with ICQ regulatory requirements

In the event of major disruption, communication is a key factor in ensuring an effective and consistent response across the parties involved. This includes communications between the awarding bodies and stakeholders such as candidates, parents or carers, and possibly the public.

When producing the exams contingency plan and Covid-19 contingency (Appendix 7) the following guidance has been taken into consideration:

I.I Covid specific guidance:

- Guidance for schools Covid-19 from the Department for Education in England (subject to frequent updates as the situation changes)
- Responsibility for autumn GCSE, AS and A level exam series from the Department for Education in England

- Action for FE Colleges from the Department for Education in England
- <u>Public health guidance to support autumn exams</u> from the Department for Education

1.2 General contingency guidance

- Emergency planning and response from the Department for Education in England
- Opening and closing local-authority-maintained schools from the Department for Education in England
- <u>Procedures for handling bomb threats</u> from the National Counter Terrorism Security Office.

https://www.jcq.org.uk/exams-office/other-documents/jcq-joint-contingency-plan/

https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/exam-system-contingency-plan-england-wales-and-northern-ireland

The regulators, Ofqual in England, will share timely and accurate information, as required, with awarding organisations, government departments and other stakeholders.

The <u>Department for Education</u> in England, will inform the relevant government ministers as soon as it becomes apparent that there will be significant local or national disruption; and ensure that they are kept updated until the matter is resolved.

Awarding organisations will alert the <u>Universities and Colleges Admissions Service</u> (UCAS) and the <u>Central Applications Office</u> (CAO) about any impact of the disruption on their deadlines and liaise regarding student progression to further and higher education.

Awarding organisations will alert relevant professional bodies or employer groups if the impact of disruption particularly affects them.

GOV.UK

Emergency planning and response: Severe weather; Exam disruption www.gov.uk/guidance/emergencies-and-severe-weather-schools-and-early-years-settings

Opening and closing local-authority-maintained schools www.gov.uk/government/publications/school-organisation-maintained-schools

Dispatch of exam scripts guide: Ensuring the service runs smoothly; Contingency planning https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/dispatch-of-exam-scripts-yellow-label-service

National Counter Terrorism Security Office

Procedures for handling bomb threats www.gov.uk/government/publications/bomb-threats-guidance/procedures-for-handling-bomb-threats

Disruption of teaching time - centres are closed for an extended period

Criteria for the implementation of the plan

 Fullbrook is closed or candidates are unable to attend for an extended period during normal teaching or study supported time, interrupting the provision of normal teaching and learning. Guidance on emergency planning, with advice is available on the Department for Education website

Actions

- Where Fullbrook has to close and this is known in advance, teachers will set work for completion during the closure.
- Where Fullbrook has to close and this is not known in advance, students may be
 prepared for examinations through the remote learning platforms, website and
 email. For those families without internet connection, teachers will set work which
 will be sent home via Reprographics and Reception. Parent/carer will return work
 to Reception for distribution to teachers so assessment can continue as usual.
- A copy of the latest Remote Learning Plan can be viewed here http://www.fullbrook.surrey.sch.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/Remote-Education_FullbrookWebV01.pdf

Centres are unable to open as normal during examination periods

Criteria for implementation of the plan

- Fullbrook unable to open as normal for scheduled examinations. The responsibility for deciding whether it is safe for a centre to open lies with the head of centre. The head is responsible for taking advice, or following instructions from relevant local or national agencies in deciding whether they are able to open.
- A centre which is unable to open as normal for examinations must inform each awarding organisation with which examinations are due to be taken as soon as is possible.

Actions

- Fullbrook to open for examinations and examination candidates only, if possible.
- Fullbrook to use alternative venues in agreement with relevant awarding organisations (e.g. share facilities with other centres or use other public buildings, if possible).
- Examination Office to apply to awarding organisations for Special Consideration for candidates where they have met the minimum requirements.

Candidates unable to take examinations because of a crisis - centres remain open

Criteria for implementation of the plan

 Candidates are unable to attend examination centres to take examinations as normal.

Actions

- Fullbrook to liaise with candidates to identify whether the examination can be sat at an alternative venue in agreement with the relevant awarding organisations and JCQ guidance on alternative site arrangements.
- Examinations Officer to apply to awarding organisations for Special Consideration
 for candidates where they have met the minimum requirements. Candidates are
 only eligible for special consideration if they have been fully prepared and have
 covered the whole course but are affected by adverse circumstances beyond their
 control. If a candidate chooses not to sit an examination for other reasons they
 should be aware that special consideration rules will not apply.

Extended absence of Examinations Officer during the planning stage

Criteria for the implementation of the plan

• Annual data collection exercise not undertaken to collate information on qualifications and awarding body specifications being delivered.

Actions

- Lead Invigilator(s) act as Assistant Examinations Officer.
- HOF to collate data (course specifications, QANs, discount codes) and Data Manager to implement changes on SIMs prior to census.

Extended absence of Examinations Officer during the entry stage

Criteria for the implementation of the plan

- Exam basedata not imported into Exams Organiser.
- Awarding bodies not receiving estimated entries which trigger pre-release material.
- Awarding body deadlines missed incurring penalty fees.
- Incorrect personal data for examination candidates, incorrect tiers of entry or missing entries.

Actions

- Lead Invigilator(s) act as Assistant Examinations Officer.
- Data Manager or Network Office to implement download.
- Examinations Officer to have remote access to SIMs.
- Tutors to ensure candidate personal data is accurate.
- SLT liaise with Examinations Officers at GEP.
- HOF or Subject Leader to make entries via individual awarding body sites.

Extended absence of Examinations Officer during the pre-exam stage

Criteria for the implementation of the plan

- Sufficient invigilators not recruited and trained.
- Exam timetables, seating plans and invigilation schedules not prepared.
- Examination material not stored under secure conditions.
- Internal assessment marks and samples not submitted to awarding bodies and moderators.
- Insufficient quiet exam rooms or exam equipment (desks, chairs, clocks, notices).

<u>Actions</u>

- Lead Invigilator(s) act as Assistant Examinations Officer.
- SLT to liaise with Examinations Officers from GEP
- HOFs to make entries via awarding body websites.

Extended absence of Examinations Officer during exam time

Criteria for the implementation of the plan

- Exams and assessments not undertaken according to JCQ regulations. JCQ inspection will reveal inadequacies and remove permission for Fullbrook to be a GCSE/GCE exam centre.
- Exam Access Arrangements incorrectly implemented.

Actions

- Lead Invigilator(s) act as Assistant Examinations Officer.
- SENCO to oversee implementation of Access Arrangements during written or online exams

Extended absence of Examinations Officer during the results and post-results stage

Criteria for the implementation of the plan

- Access to results and subsequent distribution to students.
- Facilitation of post-results services.

<u>Actions</u>

- Lead Invigilator(s) act as Assistant Examinations Officer.
- Network Office and Data Manager to download results.
- HOFs or tutors to arrange distribution of results to students.
- Once student's permission is given, HOFs to apply for and distribute post-results outcomes.

Absence of Examinations Officer for other exams and results enquiries

Criteria for the implementation of the plan

- Year 7 baseline tests outstanding.
- University assessment tests outstanding.
- Year 9 Maths Awards outstanding.
- Year 9-13 mocks outstanding.
- Online BTEC and other vocational tests outstanding.
- Ex-students have mislaid results needed for further education or employment.

Actions

- Lead Invigilator(s) act as Assistant Examinations Officer.
- HOL to plan and organise all aspects of internal exams.
- Fullbrook 6 to organise and maintain security of University assessment tests.
- BTEC staff to enter and run BTEC -online tests.
- Maths Department to oversee entry via awarding body website and organisation of Year 9 Maths Awards.
- Head of Year 11 or Fullbrook 6 to write letter confirming results.

Absence of SENCO at key points in the exam cycle

Criteria for the implementation of the plan

- Candidates not assessed to identify potential access arrangements.
- Evidence of need/normal way of working not collated.
- Approval of Access Arrangements not applied for to the awarding body.
- Modified paper requirements not identified to enable ordering to meet external deadlines.
- Insufficient records to satisfy awarding body requirements.
- SEN staff providing support to Access Arrangement candidates not arranged for exam rooms.

<u>Actions</u>

- Teachers, Learning Support and Exams Office to work with SLT to identify students where Access Arrangement applications may be required.
- Testing to be done by outside agency or GEP SENCO.
- Invigilators trained to provide support.
- Access Arrangement paperwork subject to awarding body inspection.

Lack of appropriately trained or insufficient Invigilators

Criteria for the implementation of the plan

- Failure to recruit and train sufficient invigilators to conduct exams.
- Invigilator shortage on peak exam days.
- Invigilators absence on day of exam.
- DBS invalid/ out of date.

Actions

- Examinations Officer will review staffing prior to each exam session to ensure sufficient staff are recruited and trained. There should be at least one spare invigilator on peak exam days to act as a rover.
- Cover supervisors and teaching staff may be required to supplement invigilation team at short notice.
- Training is usually by the Exams Office or delivered remotely online. There are paid courses if necessary. Invigilators receive thorough training and a record kept of the times they have worked.
- SLT and Finance maintain records for DBS and hours worked.

Lack of appropriate exam rooms

Criteria for implementation of the plan

- Exams Office only to be used by Exams Staff.
- Exams Office does not have appropriate level of security.
- Exams Office unable to identify sufficient/appropriate rooms during exam timetable planning.
- Main exam room unavailable due to an unexpected incident at exam time.

Actions

- Confidential storage system subject to JCQ inspection.
- Exams Officer will organise rooming for examinations ensuring sufficient time is available to identify appropriate rooms and plan accordingly.
- In the event of a room being unavailable at very short notice, sufficient invigilation or cover staff will be made available to ensure the security of the

examination is not compromised whilst alternative rooming is sort. SLT will work with the Exams Officer.

Unresolved issue: Fullbrook closed (fire, gas leak, security alert) totally just before exam day. Other schools unlikely to have spare capacity, particularly on core subject days. Local theatre etc. probably already in use. Single church hall unlikely to be big enough. Would need to source replacement desks/ chairs and other exam equipment. Can download replacement paper but these would need to be printed. Would need to transport students. Would probably need extra invigilators. Exam security/ timings would need to be maintained.

Lack of/insufficient appropriate exam equipment

Criteria for implementation of the plan

- Insufficient exam desks and chairs for candidates.
- Insufficient working clocks for the number of exam rooms.
- Insufficient awarding body notices for exam rooms.
- Insufficient Word to Word dictionaries in languages identified by SENCO.
- Insufficient exam ready word processors (wp) available.
- Insufficient/ inadequate sound system for language oral or music exams.

Actions

- Premises to supply desk/chair numbers and reorder if necessary.
- Premises to replace batteries/ clocks/reorder sufficient clocks for each exam room.
- Invigilators to have more notices copied.
- Missing or faulty equipment warrant Special Consideration application.
- Network and Music Department to check sound equipment in full working order prior to exams.

Failure of IT systems

Criteria for implementation of the plan

- A2C secure access keys not updated/unavailable.
- MIS system failure at final entry deadline.
- MIS system failure during exams preparation.
- MIS system failure at results release time.
- MIS system failure during on-line tests or exams.

Actions

• Network Office to check A2C access key status, particularly at start of each exam entry and result session.

- Exams entries made before awarding body entry deadline.
- Reschedule on-line tests if possible.
- Seek awarding body advice.

Absence or Insufficient Network Staff

Criteria for implementation of the plan

- Inability to maintain hardware or software adequately.
- Inability to run/support on-line tests or exams.

Actions

- Recruit more IT staff.
- Reschedule on-line tests if possible.
- Use IT teachers.
- Seek awarding body advice

Absence or Insufficient Premises Staff

Criteria for implementation of the plan

- Exam desks/chairs not set out in the Sports Hall and other exam rooms.
- Exam desks/chairs not cleared from Sports Hall at end of day.
- Exam room lighting/heating inadequate.

<u>Actions</u>

- Sports Hall set up for exams for critical period and Sports Hall fitness sessions cancelled for the public.
- Desks/chairs to be cleared at the end of the day by Sports Hall staff.
- Check lighting/heating is working, particularly for winter exams.
- Move exam location where possible.
- Deploy portable heaters.

Absence of Data Manager

Criteria for implementation of the plan

- Year 9 cohort do not have ULNs.
- Census incorrect.
- Entry/ Results files not sent to DfE.

Actions

- Utilise Assistant Data Officer.
- Exam Officer to create ULNs.

- Network Office to create and add to MIS.
- Network Office to download and send to appropriate agencies.

Disruption in the distribution of examination papers

Criteria for implementation of the plan

• Disruption to the distribution of examination papers to centres in advance of examinations.

Actions

- Awarding bodies to reprint question papers and/or source alternative couriers for delivery of hardcopies.
- Awarding bodies to provide centres with electronic access to examination papers
 via a secure external network. Awarding organisations to fax examination papers
 to centres if electronic transfer is not possible. The Examinations Office would
 need to ensure that copies are received, made and stored under secure
 conditions. Should photocopying of the question paper be necessary, staff involved
 will be warned of the necessity of keeping the contents secure and fully trained,
 overseen by the Exams Officer.

Disruption to the transportation of completed examination scripts

Criteria for implementation of the plan

• Delay in normal collection arrangements for completed examination scripts.

Actions

- Examinations Officer to seek advice from awarding organisations and Parcel Force regarding collection.
- Completed examination scripts must be stored securely in the Examinations Office or school safe until collection.
- In the event of the last exam prior to half term, the Examinations Office may take the completed scripts to an examination approved Parcel Force depot.

Assessment evidence is not available to be marked or lost prior to sampling

Criteria for implementation of the plan

- Large scale damage to or destruction of completed examination scripts/assessment evidence before it can be marked
- Loss of individual assessment evidence after marking

Actions

- Awarding organisations to generate candidate marks for affected assessments based on other appropriate evidence of candidate achievement as defined by the awarding organisations in consultation with the regulators.
- Teacher to complete JCQ Lost Coursework Form for individual cases.

Awarding organisations unable to issue accurate results

Criteria for implementation of plan

• System error/failure or attack on systems means significant numbers of results cannot be validated as accurate or are issued and found to be inaccurate.

Actions

- Candidates, centres and stakeholders to be informed of any incorrect results
- e-validation of results from awarding bodies.
- Awarding organisations to re-issue results, via alternative format if necessary

Centres are unable to distribute results as normal

Criteria for implementation of plan

• Fullbrook is unable to access awarding body results due to system failure or manage the face to face distribution of results to candidates.

Actions

- Network Office to carry out any system upgrades well before Results days.
- Examination Office to make arrangements to access results at an alternative site.
- Network Office to have ability to send candidates' results securely. Exams Office to organise sending results electronically. Candidates advised that hard copies will be posted.

Appendix 3 - Word Processor Policy

Fullbrook Statement for the use of a word processor during exams - Policy 2020-2021

This policy is reviewed annually to ensure compliance with current regulations and guidance of the Joint Council for Qualifications (JCQ)

Approved/reviewed by: pending approval

Date of next review: October 2021

Fullbrook values good handwriting and imposes high standards on presentation of work, and expects that most students will handwrite in exams. However, there are exceptional circumstances, as identified by Fullbrook, where students may benefit from using a word processor and in these cases we will allow use of a word processor for class tasks, for homework, and for internal and public examinations.

Students with access to word processors in exams are allowed to do so in order that barriers to assessment are removed for disabled candidates, preventing them from being placed at a substantial disadvantage as a consequence of persistent and significant difficulties.

Fullbrook will allow students to use word processors in exams when they meet at least one of the following criteria:

- The student has a specific learning difficulty/disability (such as dyslexia, dyspraxia, ASD) and the use of a word processor is both appropriate to their needs and reflects their normal way of working;
- The student has a physical difficulty/medical condition such (such as hypermobility/juvenile arthritis) and the use of a word processor is both appropriate to their needs and reflects their normal way of working;
- The student has a sensory impairment (such as vision or hearing impairment) and the use of a word processor is both appropriate to their needs and reflects their normal way of working;
- The student has very poor handwriting and would lose marks due to the examiner finding his/her answers illegible;
- The student's quality of language <u>significantly</u> improves as a result of using a word processor due to problems with planning and organisation when writing by hand.

This use of a word processor also extends to the use of electronic tablets.

Students permitted to use word processors in public exams must have been using a word processor as their normal way of working for classes, homework, internal tests and internal exams. Students are asked to provide at least one sample piece of word processed work from every subject for which to use a word processor for exams.

It is not school policy to provide a word processor for a student solely on the basis that they prefer to type or that they can work faster on a keyboard because they use a laptop at home.

A student may also use a word processor on a temporary basis as a consequence of a

temporary injury.

Students who have permission to use a word processor in class are able to borrow a laptop

from the SEND Department if one is not available in the curriculum area.

Fullbrook will provide word processors with spelling and grammar checkers and predictive text facility removed for use in internal exams and public exams. These word processors are not able to connect to the internet. However, in very rare and exception circumstances, as set out in the ICQ regulations, where a student meets the criteria for a scribe, a student may have the spelling and grammar check enabled for exams. Where this occurs students are informed that they will not have access to marks awarded for spelling, grammar and

punctuation unless these are dictated.

The need for the use of a word processor is considered on a subject by subject basis. Students who have permission to use a word processor in exams do not have to use it in all exams, e.g. they may opt to use it in subjects with extended writing demands only. The

provision will be agreed with the SENCO during mock/practice exams.

Students may use their answer booklet in addition to the word processor if they wish to do so. For example, a student may type certain questions and handwrite shorter answers.

The use of a word processor is not granted where it will compromise the assessment

objectives of the specification in question.

Signed: Ms. E Williams

Role: Inclusion Manager

Dated: October 2020

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Appendix 4 - Malpractice Policy

This Centre will follow and adhere to the JCQ or other exam board Suspected Malpractice in Examinations and Assessments Policies and Procedures.

The Head of Centre ensures (as required by an awarding body) any cases of alleged, suspected or actual incidents of malpractice or maladministration before, during or after examinations/assessments (by centre staff, candidates, invigilators) are investigated and reported to the awarding body immediately, by completing the appropriate documentation.

Managing behaviour in the exam room

Where a candidate is being disruptive, the invigilator must warn the candidate that he/she may be removed from the examination room. The candidate must also be warned that the awarding body will be informed and may decide to penalise them, which could include disqualification.

The invigilator must record what has happened in the exam room incident log book. All incidents or irregularities (for example but not limited to; late/very late arrival, suspected malpractice, candidate illness or needing to temporarily leave the exam room, disruption or disturbances in the exam room, emergency evacuation).

The head of centre has the authority to remove a candidate from the examination room, but should only do so if the candidate would disrupt others by remaining in the room.

The policy can be viewed on the next page.



Fullbrook Exams Malpractice Policy 2020-2021

The aim is:

- To identify and minimise the risk of malpractice by staff or students.
- To respond to any incident of alleged malpractice promptly and objectively.
- To standardise and record any investigation of malpractice to ensure openness and fairness.
- To impose appropriate penalties and/or sanctions on student or staff where incidents (or attempted incidents) of malpractice are proven.

To protect the integrity of Fullbrook and external qualifications, the centre will:

- Seek to avoid potential malpractice by informing students of the both Fullbrook's and the awarding body's policy on malpractice and the penalties for attempted and actual incidents of malpractice.
- Show students the appropriate formats to record cited texts and other materials or information sources
- Ask learners to declare and sign that their work is their own
- Ask learners to provide evidence that they have interpreted and synthesised appropriate information and acknowledged any sources used.
- Ask staff to sign a declaration that the work is the students and was carried out in accordance with the exam body rules.
- Conduct an investigation in a form commensurate with the nature of the malpractice allegation. Such an investigation will be supported by the Head of Centre and all personnel linked to the allegation.

The misdemeanour will proceed through the following stages:

- Make the individual fully aware at the earliest opportunity of the nature of the alleged malpractice and of the possible consequences should malpractice be proven.
- Give the individual the opportunity to respond to the allegations.
- Inform the individual of the avenues for appealing against any judgment.
- Document all stages of any investigation. Where malpractice is proven, this centre will apply either the Fullbrook Conduct Policy or the Malpractice Policy of the relevant exam board.

This policy will be reviewed annually. Date of next review October 2021.

Appendix 5 - Non-Examination Assessment Policy

Review of marking of centre marks for GCE and GCSE nonexamination assessments Policy 2020-2021

Fullbrook 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.

Candidates' work will be marked by staff who have appropriate knowledge, understanding and skill, and who have been trained in this activity. Fullbrook 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.

It is the responsibility of the Head of Faculty to provide the Exams Office and Head of Centre with a timeline to include student deadlines, moderation dates, release of marks to students, review and outcome dates.

- I. Fullbrook will ensure that candidates are informed in writing of their centre assessed marks (not grades, as boundaries have not been established) so that they may request a review of the centre's marking before marks are submitted to the awarding body. The deadline for a written request for a review of marking is 5 calendar days from receipt of the centre assessed mark(s). Each Exam board may have a different deadline.
- 2. Fullbrook will issue a copy of the mark scheme to candidates with their centre assessed mark(s), to assist them in considering whether to request a review of the centre's marking of the assessment.
- 3. Fullbrook 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 (by completing the 'Internal Review of Centre Assessed Marks form') by students, together with written confirmation by parents/carers within 5 calendar days of receiving mark(s). The administrative cost of a review of marking is £25, which is **payable at the time of requesting the review**.
- 4. Fullbrook will allow sufficient time (5 working days where possible) 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.
- 5. Fullbrook 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.
- 6. Fullbrook will instruct the reviewer to ensure that the candidate's mark is consistent with the standard set by the centre.

- 7. Fullbrook will inform the candidate in writing of the outcome of the review of the centre's marking.
- 8. 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.

This policy will be reviewed annually. Date of next review is September 2021

A copy of the associated form is viewable on the next page.

Internal review of centre assessed marks for GCE and GCSE non-examination assessments 2020-21



Review of Marking

A review of marking is to ensure that the mark scheme/criteria has been applied correctly and that the candidate's mark is consistent with the centre's marking standard.

The student's and parent's/carer's signature is required as marks can go down. The administrative fee is £25, which is payable at the time of requesting the review (by cash or cheque made payable to 'Fullbrook'). The outcome of the review will go directly to the Exams Office. The Exams Office will notify the student directly by email.

F	FOR CENTRE USE ONLY
Date	
received	

If you wish to request a review of centre assessed marks, please complete all sections of the form.

Review of marking – centre assessed marks Deadline: 5 calendar days from receipt of mark(s)		
Student Name (print)		
Candidate Number		
Email address (for communicating information / outcome specific to this review request)		
Awarding Body (Exam Board)		
Subject		
Component code		
Grounds for requesting a review of marking of centre assessed marks. (If necessary, please continue on an additional page if this form is being completed electronically, or overleaf if hard copy is being completed)		
Fee enclosed		
Student Signature	Date:	
Parent/carer Signature	Date:	

This form must be signed, dated and returned to the exams office to the timescale indicated.

Appendix 6 – Internal Appeals Procedure and Policy 2020-2021

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

This procedure should be used for appeals against the centre's decision not to support a clerical re-check, review of marking, review of moderation or an appeal.

In the first instance following the issue of results, candidates should follow the procedures outlined for EAR and post-results services using the appropriate form(s) for EAR requests. Full details of these services, internal deadlines for requesting a service and fees charged are provided by the exams office. Candidates are informed of the arrangements for post-results services and the availability of senior members of centre staff prior to exams and the publication of results.

Fullbrook will consider each request for EAR individually based on (but not limited to); the marks awarded for each component part of the qualification alongside any mark schemes, relevant result reports, grade boundary information, exam scripts and correct application of the mark scheme, to determine if the centre supports any concerns. In cases where the centre do not believe that there are grounds for EAR, candidates will be informed.

Where a candidate disagrees with a centre decision not to support a request for EAR (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 I 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) for 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 I 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 this service) 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 of results, an internal appeal can be submitted to the centre by completing the internal appeals form at least 7 calendar days prior to the internal deadline for submitting a request for a review of results/marks.

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

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.

The internal appeals form should be completed and submitted to the centre within 7 calendar days of the notification of the outcome of the RoR. 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 review of 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.

This policy will be reviewed annually. Date of next review is September 2021

A copy of the associated form is viewable on the next page.

Internal appeals form 2020-2021



This form should be completed to make an internal appeal against the centre's decision not to support; a clerical re-check, review of marking, review of moderation or an appeal. This form should only be completed following the centre's notification that such a request has not been supported by Fullbrook.

The Exams Office will notify the student of the appeal outcome directly by email.

If you wish to submit an internal appeal, please complete all sections of the form.

7111			
F	OR CENTRE USE ONLY		
Date			
received			

Internal appeals against centre decisions: Deadline: at least 7 calendar days prior to the internal deadline for submitting a request for a review of results/marks		
Candidate Number		
Email address (for communicating information / outcome specific to this internal appeal)		
Awarding Body (Exam Board)		
Subject		
Component code		
Grounds for internal appeal against centre decision. (If necessary, please continue on an additional page if this form is being completed electronically, or overleaf if hard copy is being completed)		
Student Signature	Date:	
Parent/carer Signature	Date:	

This form must be signed, dated and returned to the exams office to the timescale indicated.

Appendix 7 - Covid-19 Contingency and Exam Adaptations

Fullbrook will follow the guidelines set by the government, DfE and Ofqual to ensure the safe operation of all examination processes during Covid-19.

Detailed risk assessments and guidance are published on the Fullbrook website for Covid-19 http://www.fullbrook.surrey.sch.uk/coronavirus/

GEP Covid-19 Risk Assessment

http://www.fullbrook.surrey.sch.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/08/I-GEP-C-19-Autumn20-Risk-Assessment-Checklist-Fullbrook V05.pdf

Student Guide for returning to school from September 2020

http://www.fullbrook.surrey.sch.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/07/Return-to-School-All-Year-Groups-.pdf

The Exams Office has provided additional training and issued full instructions to all invigilators for the safe operation of examinations and maintaining a Covid-19 secure environment in all exam rooms. Further details are available on request from the Exams Office.

In the event of one or more examination candidate being in isolation and unable to sit exam(s), the Exams Officer will notify the relevant exam board and follow their procedures and guidance in place at the time. Where a candidate(s) meets the requirements for special consideration, this will be applied for however, in the event of a candidate(s) not meeting the minimum threshold, they will need to enter for the next available exam series.

Fullbrook regularly consult the following guidance from the DfE and the Cabinet Office:

https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/responsibility-for-autumn-gcse-as-and-a-level-examseries/public-health-arrangements-for-autumn-exams

https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/actions-for-schools-during-the-coronavirusoutbreak/guidance-for-full-opening-schools

https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-maintaining-further-educationprovision/what-fe-colleges-and-providers-will-need-to-do-from-the-start-of-the-2020-autumn-term

https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/review-of-two-metre-social-distancing-guidance/review-oftwo-metre-social-distancing-guidance

Appendix 8 – Emergency Evacuation Policy - Exams

Fullbrook 64918

Emergency evacuation procedure for examinations

When dealing with emergencies you **must** be aware of any instructions from relevant local or national agencies.

Reference should also be made to the following document -

https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/bomb-threats-guidance/procedures-for-handling-bomb-threats

The invigilator must take the following action in an emergency such as a fire alarm or a bomb alert.

- Stop the candidates from writing.
- Collect the attendance register (in order to ensure all candidates are present).
- Evacuate the examination room in line with the instructions given by the appropriate authority.
- Advise candidates to leave all question papers and scripts in the examination room.
 Candidates must be advised to close their answer booklet.
- Candidates should leave the room in silence.
- Make sure that the candidates are supervised as closely as possible while they are out of the examination room to make sure there is no discussion about the examination.
- Make a note of the time of the interruption and how long it lasted.
- Allow the candidates the full working time set for the examination.
- If there are only a few candidates, consider the possibility of taking the candidates (with question papers and scripts) to another place to finish the examination.
- Make a full report of the incident and of the action taken, and send to the relevant awarding body