

* Appendix 1



ST. PATRICK'S COLLEGE'S

Policy on Internal Assessments for Qualifications with Awarding Bodies

In accordance with the Code of Practice for the conduct of external qualifications produced by the JCQ, St. Patrick's College is committed to ensuring that:

- Internal assessments are conducted by staff who have the appropriate knowledge, understanding and skills.
- Assessment evidence provided by candidates is produced and authenticated according to the requirements of the relevant Specifications for each subject.
- The consistency of internal assessment is assured through internal standardisation as set out by the Awarding Bodies.
- Staff responsible for internal standardisation and/or assessment attends any compulsory training sessions.

Written Appeals Procedure

Each Awarding Body publishes procedures for appeals against its decisions, and the Examinations Officer will be able to advise pupils and parents of these procedures.

Appeals may be made to St. Patrick's College regarding the procedures used in internal assessment, but not the actual marks or grades submitted by St. Patrick's for moderation by the Awarding Body.

A pupil or parent wishing to appeal against the procedures used in internal assessments should contact the Exams Officer, **Mr. G. Coyle**, as soon as possible to discuss the appeal, and a written appeal must be received by the School at least two weeks before the date of the last external exam in the subject.

On receipt of a written appeal, an enquiry into the internal assessment will be conducted by the Head of Centre and Exams Officer [Mr. Coyle]. This enquiry will consider whether the procedures used in the internal assessment conformed to the published requirements of the Awarding Body.

The appellant will be informed in writing of the outcome of the appeal, including details of any relevant communication with the Awarding Body and of any steps taken to further protect the interests of the candidates.

Statement for pupils:

"If at any stage during your exam courses you have concerns about the procedures used in assessing your internally marked work for public exams (e.g. coursework / portfolio / projects) you should contact the Head of Centre or Exams Officer, Mr. G. Coyle as soon as possible".

* Appendix 2



St Patrick's College's Policy on Controlled Assessments.

Introduction

- As part of the 2007 review of GCSE qualification and subject criteria, QCA commissioned a report on internal assessment in GCSE specifications. The report which was published in June 2007 recommended that coursework should be replaced in the majority of subjects by controlled assessment;
- Controlled assessment is a form of internal assessment where the control levels (High, Medium or Low) are set for each stage of the assessment process: task setting, task taking and task marking. In some subjects, work will be marked by the awarding body. For most subjects however, work will be marked by the centre and moderated by the awarding body.

2.0 Roles and Responsibilities

2.1 The Head of Centre will:

- Ensure, that each department carries out controlled assessment in accordance with the instructions issued by the Joint Council for Qualifications (JCQ);
- Co-ordinate, with Heads of Department, a schedule for controlled assessment to take place and have a list of assessments' control levels;
- Map overall resource management requirements for the year. As part of this resolve:
 - o Clashes/ problems over the timing or operation of controlled assessments;
 - o Issues arising from the need for particular facilities (rooms, IT networks, time out of school etc);
- As far as possible ensure all staff, students and parents have access to a calendar of events. A calendar of events should be accessible through the school website.

2.2 Heads of Department will ensure:

- The safe and secure conduct of controlled assessment in their area and comply with JCQ guidelines and awarding bodies' subject-specific instructions;
- The Exams Officer is given correct entry codes, entries and that 40% of overall assessment (controlled and/or external assessment) is taken in the exam series in which the qualification is certificated;
- All marking is standardised;
- All teachers in each department understand their responsibilities with regard to controlled assessment and are familiar with the contents of the JCQ publication *Instructions for conducting controlled assessments*";
- Individual teachers understand the requirements of the awarding body's specification, particularly the level of control required, and are familiar with the

relevant teachers' notes, and any other subject specific instruction;

- There is a clear policy in the department handbook on the carrying out of controlled assessment and appropriate staff training takes place;
- All confidential materials, together with the work produced by the candidates, are stored securely at all times. Secure storage is defined as a secure locked steel cabinet, a metal cabinet or similar;
- Support Staff are given sufficient notice in which to order and prepare materials needed for assessments;
- The Special Educational needs Co-ordinator (SENCO) and Examination's Officer is informed about any assistance required for the administration and management of access arrangements;
- In the case of formal supervision (high level of control) candidates do not have access to e-mail, the internet, *mobile phones* or any other electronic devices;
- Where videos or photographs/images of the candidates are to be included as part of the controlled assessment consent is obtained from parents/carers/guardians;
- A log is kept which contains:
 - o The date and time of each assessment together with its title;
 - o The name of the supervising teacher;
 - o A list of candidates who were present during the assessment;
 - o A list of any absent candidates;
 - o A log of any incidents which occurred during the assessment is kept for each controlled assessment.

2.3 Teaching staff must:

- Comply with the general guidelines contained in the JCQ publication *Instructions for conducting controlled assessments*;
- Understand and comply with the awarding body specification for conducting controlled assessments, including any subject-specific instructions, teachers' notes or additional information on the awarding body's website;
- Obtain confidential materials/tasks set by awarding bodies in sufficient time to prepare for the assessment(s) and ensure that such materials, together with the work produced by the candidates, are stored securely at all times;
- Supervise assessments (at the specified level of control) and undertake the tasks required under the regulations, only permitting assistance to students as the specification allows;
- Ensure that students and supervising teachers sign authentication forms on completion of an assessment;
- Mark internally assessed components using the mark schemes provided by the awarding body. Submit marks at the date required, keeping a record of the marks awarded;
- Retain candidates' work securely between assessment sessions (if more than one);
- Retain candidates' work securely until the closing date for enquiries about results (usually 20th Sept) In the event that an enquiry is submitted, retain candidates work securely until the outcome of the enquiry and any subsequent appeal has been conveyed to the centre

2.4 The Exams Officer will:

- Enter students for individual units, whether assessed by controlled assessment, external exam or on-screen test, before the deadline for final entries;
- Enter students' 'cash-in' codes for the terminal exam series;
- Take responsibility for receipt, safe storage and safe transmission, whether in CD, digital or hard copy format of relevant materials;
- Distribute mark sheets for teaching staff to use, and collect and send mark sheets to awarding bodies before deadlines;

- On the few occasions where controlled assessment cannot be conducted in the classroom, in conjunction with the Head of Centre, arrange suitable accommodation where controlled assessment can be carried out.

2.5 Special Educational needs Co-ordinator will:

- Ensure access arrangements have been applied for and that teaching staff are aware of these access arrangements;
- Work with teaching staff to ensure requirements for support staff are met.

3.0 Good Practice

- At the start of a formal sessions of controlled assessment candidates will be reminded to turn their phone off and disable alarms;
- Staff are encouraged to go through the JCQ *Notice to Candidates* (for controlled assessments) at the start of each assessment and ensure that they fully understand the penalties incurred in the case of any kind of malpractice.

4.0 Student Malpractice

The Head of Centre will:

- report to the appropriate awarding body at the earliest opportunity all suspicions or actual incidents of malpractice;
- if the irregularity is discovered prior to the candidate signing the declaration of authentication form investigate any alleged malpractice internally and record the outcome on the authentication form supplied by the awarding body;
- if the irregularity is identified after the candidate has signed the declaration of authentication, the Head of Centre will submit full details of the case to the relevant awarding body at the earliest opportunity;
- supervise all investigations resulting from an allegation of malpractice;
- ensure that if it is "necessary" to delegate an investigation to a member of staff, the member of staff chosen is independent, and not connected to the department involved in the suspected malpractice. This is to avoid conflicts of interest which can otherwise compromise the investigation;
- respond speedily and openly to all requests for an investigation into an allegation of malpractice, as this is in the best interests of centre staff, candidates and any others involved.

5.0 Teacher Malpractice

- The school will carry out an investigation where it is evident that a teacher has helped a child with their controlled assessment beyond the guidelines contained within each specification;
- Where there is malpractice it will be dealt with under the disciplinary policy of the school and the awarding body will be informed.

6.0 Monitoring and evaluation

6.1 This policy will be monitored on behalf of the Governing Body by the Governors' Head of Centre and SMT on a biennial basis.

The policy should be read in conjunction with the:

- Exams Policy

Written: March 2017