

The

**Lloyd
Williamson
Schools**

**Examination
Policy**

2021-2022

Introduction and main aims

Lloyd Williamson Schools Foundation is committed to ensuring that the exams management and administration process is run effectively and efficiently and in compliance with the published regulations and awarding body requirements.

This exam policy will ensure that:

- all aspects of the centre's exam process is documented, supporting the exams contingency plan, and other relevant exams-related policies, procedures and plans are signposted to
 - the staff are well informed and supported
 - all staff involved in the exams process clearly understand their roles and responsibilities
 - all exams and assessments are conducted according to awarding body regulations, guidance and instructions, thus maintaining the integrity and security of the exam/assessment system at all times
 - exam candidates understand the exams process and what is expected of them
- This policy is reviewed annually.

This Policy will be held on Bright HR for staff and on the school website for parents and members of the public.

Roles and responsibilities overview

The **head of centre** is the individual who is accountable to the awarding bodies for ensuring that the centre is always compliant with the published regulations and awarding body requirements in order to ensure the security and integrity of the examinations/assessments.

The **examinations officer** is the person appointed by the head of centre to act on behalf of, and be the main point of contact for, the centre in matters relating to the general administration of awarding body examinations and assessments.

The head of centre may not be the examinations officer

Head of centre responsibilities

The 'head of centre' is the most senior operational officer in the organisation – Lucy Meyer (co-principal).

The head of centre understands the contents, refers to and directs relevant centre staff to annually updated CIE/JCQ publications

Ensures the centre has appropriate accommodation to support the size of the cohorts being taught including appropriate accommodation for candidates requiring access arrangements for exams and assessments.

National Centre Number Register

- The head of centre takes responsibility for confirming, on an annual basis, that they are aware of and adhering to the latest version of the regulations by responding to the head of centre's declaration which is managed as part of the National Centre Number Register (NCNR) annual update
- She also understands that this responsibility cannot be delegated to a member of the senior leadership team or the examinations officer, and acknowledges that failure

to respond to the NCNR annual update, and/or the head of centre's declaration, will result in:

- o the centre status being suspended
- o the centre not being able to submit examination entries
- o the centre not receiving or being able to access question papers

Recruitment, selection and training of staff

- The head of centre retains a workforce of an appropriate size and competence, including sufficient managerial and other resource, to undertake the delivery of the qualification as required by an awarding body. This includes taking reasonable steps to ensure occupational competence where this is required for the assessment of specific qualifications
 - Provides fully qualified teachers to mark non-examination assessments, and/or fully qualified assessors for the verification of centre-assessed components
 - Enables the relevant senior staff, the examinations officer (EO) and the SENCO to receive appropriate training and support in order to facilitate the effective delivery of examinations and assessments within the centre, and ensure compliance with the published regulations
 - Appoints a SENCO who will determine appropriate arrangements for candidates with learning difficulties and disabilities
- Internal governance arrangements

- Has in place a written exam contingency plan should the head of centre, or a member of the senior leadership team or the examinations officer be absent.
- Makes sure that a teacher, a tutor or a senior member of centre staff who teaches the subject being examined, is not an invigilator during an examination

Delivery of qualifications

- Delivers qualifications, as required by the awarding body, in accordance with relevant equality legislation. This includes but is not limited to ensuring that qualifications are made available to all candidates capable of undertaking them and seeking reasonable adjustments for disabled candidates
- Enables candidates to receive sufficient and up to date laboratory experience, or relevant training where required by the subject concerned

Public liability

- Complies with local health and safety rules which are in place and ensures that the centre is adequately covered for public liability claims

Security of assessment materials

- Takes all reasonable steps to maintain the integrity of the examinations/assessments, including the security of all assessment materials, by ensuring:
 - o the location of the centre's secure storage facility in a secure room solely assigned to examinations for the purpose of administering secure examination materials
 - o appropriate arrangements are in place to ensure that confidential materials are only handed over to authorised members of centre staff
 - o access to the secure room and secure storage facility is restricted to the authorised two keyholders (ensuring 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 key holders)

- the relevant awarding body is immediately informed if the security of question papers or confidential supporting instructions is put at risk
- that arrangements are in place to check that the correct question paper packets are opened by authorised members of centre staff

- Makes arrangements to receive, check and store question papers and examination material safely and securely at all times and for as long as required in accordance with the current guidelines

Instructions for conducting examinations

- Makes arrangements to receive and issue material received from the awarding bodies to staff and candidates, and notify them of any advice and instructions relevant to the examinations and assessments
- Allows candidates access to relevant pre-release materials on, or as soon as possible after, the date specified by the awarding bodies
- Obtains written approval from the relevant awarding body before permitting a third party to deliver any part of a qualification including assessments
- Through taking an ethical approach and working proactively to avoid malpractice among students and staff takes all reasonable steps to prevent the occurrence of any malpractice/maladministration before, during the course of and after examinations have taken place
- Ensures irregularities are investigated and informs the awarding bodies of any cases of alleged, suspected or actual incidents of malpractice or maladministration, involving a candidate or a member of staff, are reported to the awarding body immediately
- Ensures risks to the exam process are assessed and appropriate risk management processes/contingency plans are in place (that allow the senior leadership team to act immediately in the event of an emergency or staff absence)
- The exam contingency plan should reinforce procedures in the event of the centre being unavailable for examinations, or on results day, owing to an unforeseen emergency.

Equality

- The head of centre ensures the school's equal opportunity and diversity policy demonstrates compliance with relevant legislation and details the processes followed in respect of identifying the need for, requesting and implementing access arrangements. This includes but is not limited to ensuring that qualifications are made available to all candidates capable of undertaking them and seeking reasonable adjustments for disabled candidates. The school delivers qualifications, as required by the awarding body, in accordance with relevant equality legislation.

Internal Appeals Procedures

- The school has in place a written internal appeals procedure relating to internal assessment decisions and ensures that details of this procedure are communicated, made widely available and accessible to all candidates.
- Ensures the school has a child protection/safeguarding policy in place, including Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) clearance, which satisfies current legislative requirements

- Ensures the centre has a data protection policy in place that complies with General Data Protection Regulation and Data Protection Act 2018 regulations
- Ensures the centre has documented processes in place relating to access arrangements and reasonable adjustments

Conflicts of interest

- The head of centre ensures the relevant awarding bodies are informed of any Conflict of Interest where a candidate is being taught and prepared for a qualification which includes internally assessed components/units by a member of centre staff with a personal connection to the candidate
- Maintains records that confirm the measures taken/protocols in place to mitigate any potential risk to the integrity of the qualifications affected by the above, and where a member of staff has a personal connection to a candidate being entered for exams and assessments at the centre or at another centre.

Conflicts of Interest are managed by informing the awarding bodies, before the published deadline for entries, of any members of centre staff who are taking qualifications at their own centre which include internally assessed components/units; any members of centre staff who are teaching and preparing members of their family (which includes step-family, foster family and similar close relationships) or close friends and their immediate family (e.g. son/daughter) for qualifications which include internally assessed components/units; and maintains clear records of all instances where staff have members of their family (which includes step-family, foster family and similar close relationships) or close friends and their immediate family (e.g. son/daughter) being entered for examinations and assessments either at the centre itself or other centres; staff are taking qualifications at their centre which do not include internally assessed components/units; staff are taking qualifications at other centres.

- Ensures other relevant staff where they may be involved in the receipt and dispatch of confidential exam materials are briefed on the requirements for maintaining the integrity and confidentiality of the exam materials

Centre inspections

- Co-operates with the CIE/JCQ Centre Inspection Service, an awarding body or a regulatory authority when subject to an inspection, an investigation or an unannounced visit, and takes all reasonable steps to comply with all requests for information or documentation made by an awarding body or regulatory authority as soon as is practical
- Allows all venues used for examinations and assessments, paperwork and secure storage facilities to be open to inspection
- Understands Centre Inspectors will identify themselves with a photo ID card and must be accompanied throughout his/her tour of the premises, including inspection of the centre's secure storage facility

Exams Officer

- Understands the contents of annually updated regulations
- Completes/submits the National Centre Number Register annual update (administered on behalf of the by the end of October each year)

- Is familiar with the contents of annually updated information from awarding bodies on administrative procedures, key tasks, key dates and deadlines
- Ensures key tasks are undertaken and key dates and deadlines met
- Assists with recruitment of invigilators, senior/lead invigilator as required.
- Trains and deploys a team of internal/external invigilators as required and keeps a record of the content of training provided to invigilators for the required period
- Works with the SENCO to ensure invigilators supervising access arrangement candidates and those acting as a facilitator supporting access arrangement candidates fully understand the respective role and what is and what is not permissible in the exam room
- Supports the head of centre in ensuring that awarding bodies are informed of any Conflict of Interest declared by members of centre staff and in maintaining records that confirm the measures taken/protocols in place to mitigate any potential risk to the integrity of the qualifications affected before the published deadline for entries
- Briefs other relevant staff where they may be involved in the receipt and dispatch of confidential exam materials on the requirements for maintaining the integrity and confidentiality of the exam materials

Special educational needs co-ordinator (SENCO)

- Understands the contents, refers to and directs relevant staff to annually updated guidance
- Leads on the access arrangements and reasonable adjustments process (referred to in this policy as 'access arrangements')

Teaching staff

- Undertake key tasks, as detailed in this policy, within the exams process and meet internal deadlines set by the EO and SENCo
- Keep updated with awarding body teacher-specific information to confirm effective delivery of qualifications

- Attend relevant awarding body training and update events

Invigilators

- Attend training, update, briefing and review sessions as required
- Provide information as requested on their availability to invigilate
- Sign a confidentiality and security agreement and confirm whether they have any current maladministration/malpractice sanctions applied to them

Reception staff

- Support the EO in dealing with exam-related deliveries and dispatches with due regard to the security of confidential materials

Candidates

- Where applicable in this policy, the term 'candidates' refers to candidates and/or their parents/carers.

The exam cycle

The exams management and administration process that needs to be undertaken for each exam series is often referred to as the exam cycle and relevant tasks required within this grouped into the following stages:

- planning
- entries

- pre-exams
- exam time
- results and post-results

Planning: roles and responsibilities

Head of centre

- Directs relevant centre staff to annually updated regulations

Exams Officer

- Signposts relevant staff to regulations and awarding body documentation relating to the exams process that have been updated
- Signposts relevant centre staff to information that should be provided to candidates
- As the centre administrator, approves relevant access rights for admin staff to access awarding body secure extranet sites

Information gathering

Exams Officer

- Undertakes an annual information gathering exercise in preparation for each new academic year to ensure data about all qualifications being delivered is up to date and correct
- Collates all information gathered into one central point of reference
- Researches awarding body guidance to identify administrative processes, key tasks, key dates and deadlines for all relevant qualifications
- Produces an annual exams plan of key tasks and key dates to ensure all external deadlines can be effectively met; informs key centre staff of internal deadlines
- Collects information on internal exams to enable preparation for and conduct of IGCSE and GCSE exams

Access arrangements

Head of centre

- Ensures there is appropriate accommodation for candidates requiring access arrangements in the centre
- Ensures a written process is in place to not only check the qualification(s) of their assessor(s) but that the assessment process is administered correctly
- Ensures the SENCO is fully supported in effectively implementing access arrangements and reasonable adjustments once approved
- SENCO
 - Assesses candidates (or works with the appropriately qualified assessor as appointed by the head of centre) to identify access arrangements requirements
 - Gathers evidence to support the need for access arrangements for a candidate
 - Liaises with teaching staff to gather evidence of normal way of working of an affected candidate
 - Determines candidate eligibility for arrangements or adjustments that are centre-delegated
 - Gathers signed Personal data consent, Privacy Notice (AAO) and Data Protection confirmation forms (from candidates where required)

- Keeps a file for each candidate for inspection purposes containing all the required documentation
- Employs good practice in relation to the Equality Act 2010
- Liaises with the EO regarding exam time arrangements for access arrangement candidates
- Works with EO to ensure staff appointed to facilitate access arrangements for candidates are appropriately trained and understand the rules of the particular arrangement(s) and keeps a record of the content of training provided to facilitators for the required period
- Works with the EO to ensure invigilators and those acting as a facilitator fully understand the respective role and what is and what is not permissible in the exam room
- Provides and annually reviews a centre policy on the use of word processors in exams and assessments
- Provides a statement for inspection purposes which details the criteria the centre uses to award and allocate word processors for examinations
- Ensures criteria for candidates granted separate invigilation within the centre is clear, meets regulations and best meets the needs of individual candidates and remaining candidates in main exam rooms

Internal assessment and endorsements

Head of centre

- Ensures arrangements are in place to co-ordinate and standardise all marking of centre- assessed components and ensures that candidates' centre-assessed work is produced, authenticated and marked, or assessed and quality assured in accordance with the awarding bodies' instructions (including where relevant, private candidates)
- Ensures that teaching staff, in accordance with awarding bodies' instructions, return all subject-specific forms by the required date
- Provides fully qualified teachers to mark non-examination assessments
- Ensures an internal appeals procedure relating to internal assessment decisions is in place for a candidate to appeal against and request a review of the centre's marking (see Roles and responsibilities overview)
- Ensures a non-examination assessment policy is in place for qualifications which include components of non-examination assessment

Non-examination assessment policy

- to cover procedures for planning and managing non-examination assessments;
- to define staff roles and responsibilities with respect to non-examination assessments;
- to manage risks associated with non-examination assessments.
- ensures any irregularities relating to the production of work by candidates are investigated and dealt with internally if discovered prior to a candidate signing the authentication statement (where required) or reported to the awarding body if a candidate has signed the authentication statement

Head of centre

- Ensures teaching staff have the necessary and appropriate knowledge, understanding, skills, and training to set tasks, conduct task taking, and to assess, mark and authenticate candidates' work (including where relevant, private candidates)
- Ensures appropriate internal moderation, standardisation and verification processes are in place
- Ensures teaching staff follow instructions for conducting coursework and the specification provided by the awarding body
- Ensures teaching staff follow Instructions for conducting coursework and the specification provided by the awarding body
- For other qualifications, ensures teaching staff follow appropriate instructions issued by the awarding body
- Ensures teaching staff inform candidates of their centre assessed marks as a candidate may request a review of the centre's marking before marks are submitted to the awarding body

Teaching staff

- Ensure appropriate instructions for conducting internal assessment are followed
- Ensure candidates are aware of awarding body information for candidates on producing work that is internally assessed (controlled assessments, coursework, non-examination assessments, social media) prior to assessments taking place
- Ensure candidates are informed of their centre assessed marks as a candidate may request a review of the centre's marking before marks are submitted to the awarding body

Exams Officer

- Identifies relevant key dates and administrative processes that need to be followed in relation to internal assessment
- Signposts teaching staff to relevant information for candidates documents that are annually updated

Invigilation

Head of centre

- Ensures relevant support is provided to the EO in recruiting, training and deploying a team of invigilators
- Ensures, if contracting supply staff to act as invigilators, that such persons are competent and fully trained, understanding what is and what is not permissible (and not taking on its own an assurance from a recruitment agency, that this is the case)
- Determines if additional invigilators will be deployed in timed Art exams in addition to the subject teacher to ensure the supervision of candidates is maintained at all times

Exams Officer

- Ensures additional invigilators are recruited where required to effectively cover all exam periods/series' throughout the academic year
- Collects information on new recruits to identify if they have invigilated previously and if any current maladministration/malpractice sanctions are applied to them

- Provides training for new invigilators on the instructions for conducting exams and an annual update for the existing invigilation team so that they are aware of any changes in a new academic year before they are allocated to invigilate an exam
- Ensures invigilators supervising access arrangement candidates understand their role (and the role of a facilitator who may be supporting a candidate) and the rules and regulations of the access arrangement(s)
- Ensures invigilators are briefed on the access arrangement candidates in their exam room and made aware of the access arrangement(s) awarded (ensuring these candidates are identified on the seating plan) and confirms invigilators understand what is and what is not permissible
- Collects evaluation of training to inform future events

Entries: roles and responsibilities

Estimated entries

Exams Officer

- Requests estimated or early entry information, where this may be required by awarding bodies, from teachers in a timely manner to ensure awarding body external deadlines for submission can be met
- Makes candidates aware of the Information for candidates (Privacy Notice) when entries are being processed

Teaching Staff

- Provide entry information requested by the EO to the internal deadline
- Inform the EO immediately of any subsequent changes to entry information

Final entries

Exams Officer

- Requests final entry information from teaching staff in a timely manner to ensure awarding body external deadlines for submission can be met
- Informs teaching staff of subsequent deadlines for making changes to final entry information without charge
- Confirms with head of centre final entry information that has been submitted to awarding bodies
- Ensures as far as possible that entry processes minimise the risk of entries or registrations being missed reducing the potential for late or other penalty fees being charged by awarding bodies
- Observes each awarding body's terms and conditions for the entry and withdrawal of candidates for their examinations and assessments

Final entries collection and submission procedure

Exam Officer

- Requests awarding body specification exam codes and options from teaching staff in September.
- Uses Awarding Organisation portals to advise estimated entries.
- This is repeated in January following any new intake to ensure all EE's are made..

- Teachers complete proforma (emailed out by EO) for each of their taught subjects, giving individual candidate entry requirements.
- Personal tutors requested to check with each of their tutees whether there are any additional subject entries required (e.g. students resitting exams for which they have not received tuition, or taking exams in subjects for which they have had external tuition) and email EO accordingly.
- Private candidates complete exam registration forms with all appropriate details, exam entries made once all required information/documentation and payment of fees received.

Teachers/Personal Tutors

- Provide information requested by the EO to the internal deadline
- Inform the EO immediately, or at the very least prior to the deadlines, of any subsequent changes to final entry information, which includes changes to candidate personal details, amendments to existing entries, withdrawals of existing entries
- Check final entry submission information provided by the EO and confirms information is correct

Late entries

Exams Officer

- Has clear entry procedures in place to minimise the risk of late entries

Teachers/Personal Tutors

- Minimise the risk of late entries by following procedures identified by the EO in relation to making final entries on time
- Meeting internal deadlines identified by the EO for making final entries

Re-sit entries

- Teachers and Personal tutors identify re-sit entries for the all exam series. For exam series outside the summer candidates are asked to complete exam registration forms which are forwarded to the EO for entries to be made.

Private candidates

LWSF can only accept a limited number of private candidates due to limited exam room capacity.

Private candidates complete an exam registration form outlining specific exam information, and any EAA requirements along with a copy of photographic ID.

Any EAA requirements are discussed with candidates by EO during this process and where applicable EO will work with SENCO to arrange any specialist assessor testing or review of medical documentation used to inform the EAA process.

Only where all evidence, required for an EAA application to be made, is supplied will an application be considered for external candidates. For example, for word processor use this may include procuring written evidence of normal way of working, supplied by other institutions or candidates tutors and ensuring any prior specialist assessment evidence is acceptable and that the specialist assessor's suitability meets board requirements and the school's criteria.

Candidate statements of entry

Exams Officer

- Provides candidates with statements of entry for checking

Teaching staff/Personal Tutors

- Ensure candidates check statements of entry and return any relevant confirmation required to the EO Candidates
- Confirm entry information is correct or notify the EO of any discrepancies

Pre-exams: roles and responsibilities

Access arrangements

SENCO

- Ensures appropriate arrangements, adjustments and adaptations are in place to facilitate access to exams/assessments for candidates where they are disabled within the meaning of the Equality Act (unless a temporary emergency arrangement is required at the time of an exam)
- Ensures a candidate is involved in any decisions about arrangements, adjustments and /or adaptations that may be put in place for him/her
- Ensures exam information is adapted where this may be required for a disabled candidate to access it
- Liaises with EO to ensure appropriately trained centre staff are available to facilitate access arrangements for candidates in exams and assessments
- Where relevant, ensures the necessary and appropriate steps are undertaken to gather an appropriate picture of need and demonstrate normal way of working for a private candidate (including distance learners and home educated candidates) and that the candidate is assessed by the centre's appointed assessor

Briefing candidates Exams Officer

- Issues individual exam timetable information to candidates and informs candidates of any contingency day awarding bodies may identify in the event of national or significant local disruption to exams
- Prior to exams issues relevant JCQ & CIE information for candidates documents
- Where relevant, issues relevant awarding body information to candidates
- Issues centre exam information to candidates including information on:
 - exam timetable clashes
 - arriving late for an exam
 - absence or illness during exams
 - what equipment is/is not provided by the centre
 - food and drink in exam rooms
 - wrist watches in exam rooms
 - when and how results will be issued and the staff that will be available
 - the post-results services and how the centre deals with requests from candidates
 - when and how certificates will be issued

Access to Scripts, Reviews of Results and Appeals Procedures

Before the start of any exam series the EO will produce information relating to results, this will include:

- when, where and with whom they will have the opportunity to discuss their results
- the arrangements for post-results services, including

- o how they request a service
- o when they will be informed of
- o the services that will be made available by the awarding bodies
- o the deadlines that have to be met
- o the fees that will be charged
- o how they are informed of the outcome of their request
- o the internal appeals procedure to manage disputes when a candidate disagrees with a centre decision not to support a review of results or an appeal

The centre will have in place written procedures for how it will deal with candidates' requests for access to scripts, clerical re-checks, reviews of marking, reviews of moderation and appeals to the awarding bodies. Details of these procedures must be made widely available and accessible to all candidates. Candidates must be made aware of the arrangements for post-results services before they sit any examinations and the accessibility of senior members of centre staff immediately after the publication of results.

The centre will treat all candidates equally, including private candidates, throughout the examination process. This would also extend to post-results services and appeals.

Dispatch of exam scripts

Exams Officer

- Identifies and confirms arrangements for the dispatch of candidate exam scripts with the DfE 'yellow label service' or the awarding body where qualifications sit outside the scope of the service

Estimated grades

Head of centre

- Ensures teaching staff provide estimated grade information to the EO by the internal deadline

Exams Officer

- Submits estimated grade information to awarding bodies to meet the external deadline
- Keeps a record to track what has been sent

Internal assessment and endorsements

Head of centre

- Ensures procedures are in place for candidates to appeal internal assessment decisions and make requests for reviews of marking
- SENCO
- Liaises with teaching staff and EO to implement appropriate access arrangements for candidates undertaking internal assessments and practical endorsements

Teaching staff

- Support the SENCO in implementing appropriate access arrangements for candidates undertaking internal assessments and practical endorsements
- Assess and authenticate candidates' work

- Assess endorsed components
- Ensure candidates are informed of centre assessed marks prior to marks being submitted to awarding bodies

Head of centre

- Ensures teaching staff assess and authenticate candidates' work to the awarding body requirements
- Ensures teaching staff assess endorsed components according to awarding body requirements
- Ensures teaching staff provide marks for internally assessed components and grades for endorsements of qualifications to the EO to the internal deadline
- Ensures teaching staff provide required samples of work for moderation and sample recordings for monitoring to the EO to the internal deadline

Exams Officer

- Submits marks, endorsement grades and samples to awarding bodies/moderators/monitors to meet the external deadline
- Keeps a record to track what has been sent
- Logs moderated samples returned to the centre
- Ensures teaching staff are aware of the requirements in terms of retention and subsequent disposal of candidates' work

Candidates

- Authenticate their work as required by the awarding body

Invigilation

Exams Officer

- Provides an annually reviewed/updated invigilator handbook to invigilators, trains new invigilators on appointment and updates experienced invigilators on any regulation changes
- Deploys invigilators effectively to exam rooms throughout an exam series (including the provision of a roving invigilator where a candidate and invigilator (acting as a practical assistant, reader or scribe) are accommodated on a 1:1 basis to enter the room at regular intervals in order to observe the conducting of the exam, ensuring all relevant rules are being adhered to and supporting the practical assistant/reader and/or scribe in maintaining the integrity of the exam)
- Allocates invigilators to exam rooms (or where supervising candidates due to a timetable clash) according to the required ratios
- Liaises with the SENCo regarding the facilitation and invigilation of access arrangement candidates SENCo
- Liaises with the EO regarding facilitation and invigilation of access arrangement candidates

Invigilators

- Provide information as requested on their availability to invigilate throughout an exam series
- Inform the EO at the earliest opportunity should they become unable to invigilate any exam session

Centre Inspections

Exams Officer or Head of centre

- Will accompany the Inspector throughout a visit

SENCO

- Will meet with the inspector when requested to provide documentary evidence regarding access arrangement candidates and address any questions the inspector may raise
- Ensures that information is readily available for inspection at the venue where the candidate is taking the exam(s)

Seating and identifying candidates in exam rooms

Exams Officer

- Ensures a procedure is in place to verify candidate identity including private candidates

Candidate Identification Procedure

- The school will verify the identity of all students that they enter for examinations or assessments. The centre must be satisfied that all candidate identities have been checked, whether as part of the initial registration process, or in the case of private candidates through a verification process which involves photo-ID.
 - Ensures invigilators are aware of the procedure
 - Provides seating plans for exam rooms according to awarding body requirements (and ensures candidates with access arrangements are identified on the seating plan and invigilators are informed of those candidates with access arrangements and made aware of the access arrangement(s) awarded)
- Invigilators
- Follow the procedure for verifying candidate identity provided by the EO
 - Seat candidates in exam rooms as instructed by the EO/on the seating plan

Security of exam materials

Exams Officer

- Confirms appropriate arrangements are in place to ensure that confidential materials are only handed over to those authorised by the head of centre
- Ensures 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 key holders
- Has a process in place to demonstrate the receipt, secure movement and secure storage of confidential exam materials within the centre
- Ensures a log is kept at the initial point of delivery recording confidential materials received and signed for by authorised staff within the centre and that appropriate arrangements are in place for confidential materials to be immediately transferred to the secure storage facility until they can be removed from the dispatch packaging and checked in the secure room before being returned to the secure storage facility in timetable order
- Ensures the secure storage facility contains only current and live confidential material (ensuring that past examination question papers, internal tests and mock examinations are not kept in the centre's secure storage facility)

- Ensures that examination stationery, e.g. answer booklets and formula booklets are stored in the secure room (attempting to store this material in the secure storage facility, when sufficient space allows)
- Ensures 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)

Reception staff

- Follow the process to log confidential materials delivered to/received by the centre to the point materials are issued to authorised staff for transferal to the secure storage facility

Teaching staff

- Adhere to the recording system to track confidential materials taken from or returned to secure storage throughout the time the material is confidential

Timetabling and rooming

Exams Officer

- Produces a master centre exam timetable for each exam series
- Identifies and resolves candidate exam timetable clashes according to the regulations
- Identifies exam rooms and specialist equipment requirements
- Allocates invigilators to exam rooms (or where supervising candidates due to an exam timetable clash) according to required ratios
- Liaises with site staff to ensure exam rooms are set up according to awarding body requirements
- Liaises with the SENCO regarding rooming of access arrangement candidates
- Liaises with the EO regarding rooming of access arrangement candidates
- Liaises with other relevant centre staff to ensure appropriate arrangements, adjustments and adaptations are in place to facilitate access for disabled candidates to exams

Alternative site arrangements

Exams Officer

- Ensures question papers will only be taken to an alternative site where the published criteria for an alternative site arrangement has been met
- Will inform the board to timescale by submitting a alternative site arrangement notification

Transferred candidate arrangements

Exams Officer

- Liaises with the host or entering centre, as required
- Processes requests for Transferred Candidate
- Where relevant (for an internal candidate) informs the candidate of the arrangements that have been made for their transferred candidate arrangements

Exam time: roles and responsibilities

Access arrangements

Exams Officer

- Provides cover sheets for access arrangement candidates' scripts where required for particular arrangements
- Has a process in place to deal with emergency access arrangements as they arise at the time of exams

Absent or late candidates

Late or absent candidate policy

- A candidate who arrives after the start of the examination may be allowed to enter the examination room and sit the examination. This is entirely at the discretion of the centre.
- A candidate who arrives late, and is permitted by the centre to sit the examination, must be allowed the full time for the examination.
- Once candidates are seated and have started the examination, complete the attendance register. This will allow for the identification of absent candidates who can be contacted as to their whereabouts

Invigilators

- Are informed of the policy/process for dealing with late and /or absent candidates through training
- Ensure that relevant information for late candidates is recorded on the exam room incident log
- Ensure that confirmed absent candidates are clearly marked as such on the attendance register and seating plan

Senior Invigilator

- Briefs late candidates before seating them in the exam venue

Exams Officer

- Ensures that candidates who arrive very late for an exam are reported to the awarding body
- Warns very late candidates that their script may not be accepted by the awarding body
- Ensures that absent candidates are clearly marked as such on the awarding body attendance register

Conducting exams

Head of centre

- Ensures venues used for conducting exams meet the requirements of CIE and awarding bodies

Exams Officer

- Ensures exams are conducted according to CIE and awarding body instructions

- Uses checklists to ensure each exam session is fully prepared for, unplanned events can be dealt with and associated follow-up is completed

Dispatch of exam scripts

Exams Officer

- Dispatches scripts as instructed by CIE and awarding bodies
- Keeps appropriate records to track dispatch

Exam papers and materials

Exams Officer

- Organises exam question papers and associated confidential resources in date order in the secure storage facility
- Attaches erratum notices received to relevant exam question paper packets
- Collates attendance registers and examiner details in date order
- Regularly checks mail or email inbox for updates from awarding bodies
- In order to avoid potential breaches of security, ensures care is taken to ensure the correct question paper packets are opened by ensuring a member of centre staff, additional to the person removing the papers from secure storage, e.g. an invigilator, checks the day, date, time, subject, unit/component and tier of entry, if appropriate, immediately before a question paper packet is opened
- Ensures this additional/second check is recorded
- Where allowed by the awarding body, only releases exam papers and materials to teaching departments for teaching and learning purposes after the published finishing time of the exam, or until any timetable clash candidates have completed the exam

Exam rooms

Head of centre

- Ensures that internal tests, mock exams, revision or coaching sessions are not conducted in a room 'designated' as an exam room
- Ensures that when a room is 'designated' as an exam room it is not used for any purpose other than conducting external exams
- Ensures only approved centre staff (who have not taught the subject being examined) are present in exam rooms to perform permitted tasks
- Ensures the centre's policy relating to food and drink that may be allowed in exam rooms is clearly communicated to candidates
- Ensures the centre's policy on candidates leaving the exam room temporarily is clearly communicated to candidates

Food and Drink Policy (Exams)

Food in an exam room is not permitted, unless a candidate has a known and declared medical condition requiring such, and permission has been granted by the SENCO. Water bottles may be taken into the exam venue as long as there is no writing on the bottle and any labels have been removed.

Leaving the Examination Room Policy

Candidates that have allocated rest breaks may be permitted to leave the exam room if prescribed by the SENCO, candidates MUST be supervised during this time either by an invigilator or a trained member of centre staff.

Candidates are only permitted to leave the exam room for emergency reasons, where a toilet break is required this will be included within your full exam time. Where a candidate is unwell a supervised rest break may be granted, in which case when the candidate is able to resume their exam the full time will be given.

Candidates who are allowed to leave the examination room temporarily must be accompanied by a member of centre staff. This must not be the candidate's subject teacher or a subject expert for the examination in question. Those candidates may be allowed extra time at the discretion of the centre to compensate for their temporary absence.

Exams Officer

- Ensures exam rooms are set up and conducted as required in the regulations
- Provides invigilators with appropriate resources to effectively conduct exams
- Briefs invigilators on exams to be conducted on a session by session basis (including the arrangements in place for any transferred candidates and access arrangement candidates)
- Ensures sole invigilators have an appropriate means of summoning assistance (if this is a mobile phone, instructs the invigilator that this must be on silent mode)
- Ensures invigilators understand they must be vigilant and remain aware of incidents or emerging situations, looking out for malpractice or candidates who may be in distress, recording any incidents or issues on the exam room incident log
- Ensures invigilators understand how to deal with candidates who may need to leave the exam room temporarily and how this should be recorded on the exam room incident log
- Provides authorised exam materials which candidates are not expected to provide themselves
- Ensures invigilators and candidates are aware of the emergency evacuation procedure
- Ensures invigilators are aware of arrangements in place for a candidate with a disability who may need assistance if an exam room is evacuated

Head of centre

- Ensures a documented emergency evacuation procedure for exam rooms is in place
- Ensures arrangements are in place for a candidate with a disability who may need assistance if an exam room is evacuated
- Ensure exam rooms are available and set up as requested by the EO
- Ensure grounds or centre maintenance work does not disturb exam candidates in exam rooms
- Ensure fire alarm testing does not take place during exam sessions

Invigilators

- Conduct exams in every exam room according to awarding body requirements and as instructed by the centre in training/update and briefing sessions

Candidates

- Are required to follow the instructions given to them in exam rooms by authorised centre staff and invigilators

- Are required to remain in the exam room for the full duration of the exam

Irregularities

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 Policy

Lloyd Williamson Schools Foundation has a zero tolerance policy towards poor behaviour in examinations. Any student causing disruption will be removed from the exam venue and either rehoused elsewhere if possible and appropriate, or if necessary sent home or parent/carers contacted to collect student .

Parents/carers will be informed of poor behaviour in both internal and external examinations and a follow up maybe arranged with SLT.

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.

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.

Head of centre

- Ensure support is provided for the EO and invigilators when dealing with disruptive candidates in exam rooms
- Ensure that internal disciplinary procedures relating to candidate behaviour are instigated, when appropriate

Exams Officer

- Provides an exam room incident log in all exam rooms for recording any incidents or irregularities
 - Actions any required follow-up and reports to awarding bodies as soon as practically possible after the exam has taken place
- Invigilators
- Record any incidents or irregularities on the exam room incident log (for example, late/very late arrival, candidate or centre staff suspected malpractice, candidate illness, disruption or disturbance in the exam room, emergency evacuation)

Special consideration

Head of Centre

- Provides signed evidence to support eligible applications for special consideration

Exams Officer

- Processes eligible applications for special consideration to awarding bodies

- Gathers evidence which may need to be provided by other staff in centre or candidates
- Submits requests to awarding bodies to the external deadline

Special Consideration Policy

Candidates

- Complete a special considerations form (parent/carers may also be asked to sign if they are substantiating the candidates statement).
- Provide appropriate accompanying evidence to support special consideration applications, where required

Unauthorised items

- Candidates must abide by the current JCQ/CIE regulations for examinations with regard to unauthorised items. Candidates will not be permitted to bring their bags/coats/mobile phones or any other items that are not on the exam requirement list into the exam room. Instead these will be safely stored in a different room.
- Candidates may have a wrist watch but this must be removed and placed on their desk.
- In the examination room candidates must not have access to items other than those stated in the instructions on the question paper, the stationery list or the specification for that subject.
- Potential technological/web enabled sources of information such as Apple watches are not permitted. All unauthorised items are left outside of the examination room. Any pencil cases taken into the examination room must be see-through. Any unauthorised items that have been taken into the examination room must be placed out of reach of the candidates (and not under their desks) before the examination starts. This would normally be at the front of the examination room or a similar arrangement that enables the invigilator to control access to the items. If candidates have access to unauthorised items in the examination room this may be considered as malpractice.
- Prior to the examination starting, the invigilator must ensure that candidates have removed their wrist watches, placing them on their desks.
A head of centre may, if he/she so wishes, prohibit candidates bringing a wrist watch into the examination room. In this case candidates would be required to leave their watches outside of the examination room.

Invigilators

- Are informed of the arrangements through training

Results and post-results: roles and responsibilities

Internal assessment

Head of centre

- Ensures teaching staff keep candidates' work, whether part of the moderation sample or not, secure and for the required period stated by awarding bodies
- Ensures work is returned to candidates or disposed of according to the requirements

Managing results day(s)

Head of centre

- Identify centre staff who will be involved in the main summer results day(s) and their role
- Ensures senior members of staff are accessible to candidates after the publication of results so that results may be discussed and decisions made on the submission of enquiries and ensures candidates are informed of the periods during which centre staff will be available so that they may plan accordingly

Exams Officer

- Works with senior leaders to ensure procedures for managing the main summer results day(s) are in place

Summer Results day/s programme

EO emails all candidates with results day procedures and post results information. Internal candidates can collect their statements of results on the relevant Thursday from 09.00, if candidates are unable to come in person they can forward a signed, completed results request form to the EO arranging for either for a nominated named person to collect them on their behalf or for their results to be emailed to their email address.

Post results information and request forms will also be available in the centre on result day/s

Senior members of centre staff will be available in the centre to help/advice candidates with post results services, they will see candidates in order of appearance or will call candidates back in order of contact.

IT Lead

- Ensures that IT systems are in good working order and no maintenance/interruption is scheduled in the main results weeks.

Accessing results

Head of centre

- Ensures results are kept entirely confidential and restricted to key members of staff until the official dates and times of release of results to candidates
- Understands that it is not permitted to withhold provisional results from candidates under any circumstances

Exams Officer

- Informs candidates in advance of when and how results will be released to them
- Accesses results from awarding bodies under restricted release of results, where this is provided by the awarding body
- Resolves any missing or incomplete results with awarding bodies
- Issues statements of results to candidates on issue of results date
- Provides summaries of results for relevant centre staff on issue of results date

Post-results services

Head of centre

- Ensures an internal appeals procedure is available where candidates disagree with any centre decision not to support a clerical re-check, a review of marking, a review of moderation or an appeal
- Ensures that senior members of centre staff are available immediately after the publication of results
- Understands that if the centre has concerns about one of its component/subject cohorts, then requests for reviews of marking should be submitted for all candidates believed to be affected (candidate consent is required as marks and subject grades may be lowered, confirmed or raised)

Exams Officer

- Provides information to candidates (including private candidates) and staff on the services provided by awarding bodies and the fees charged (see also above Briefing candidates and Access to Scripts, Reviews of Results and Appeals Procedures)
 - Publishes internal deadlines for requesting the services to ensure the external deadlines can be effectively met
 - Provides a process to record requests for services and to collect candidate informed consent (after the publication of results) and fees where relevant
 - Submits requests to awarding bodies to meet the external deadline for the particular service
 - Tracks requests to conclusion and informs candidates and relevant centre staff of outcomes
 - Updates centre results information, where applicable
- Candidates
- Meet internal deadlines to request the services
 - Provide informed consent and fees, where relevant

Analysis of results

Exam Officer in liaison with Head of centre

- Provides analysis of results to appropriate centre staff
- Provides results information to external organisations where required

Certificates

Certificates are provided to centres by awarding bodies after results have been confirmed.

Certificate Issue Procedure

- The EO will inform internal candidates, via email, once their certificates are ready for collection. If candidates are unable to collect these in person they may arrange for a nominated person to do so on their behalf or for the EO to post them out on confirmation of address. Certificate collectors will be asked to sign and date the records log.
- Private candidates will have their certificates posted to the address supplied on registration. Certificates will be posted using Royal Mail Signed For Service. EO will keep a record of all certificate collection and posting details.
- The centre will distribute certificates to all candidates without delay and regardless of any disputes (such as non-payment of fees). A record should be kept of the certificates that are issued.

Certificate Retention Policy

- Certificates will be kept for a minimum of 12 months from date of issue, following this period the school may confidentially destroy any uncollected certificates. The EO will retain a log of all destroyed certificates for a minimum of four years.

Exams review: roles and responsibilities

Exams Officer

- Provides SLT with an overview of the exam year, highlighting what went well and what could be developed/improved in terms of exams management and administrative processes within the stages of the exam cycle
- Collects and evaluates feedback from staff, candidates and invigilators to inform an exams review

Head of centre

- Works with the EO to produce a plan to action any required improvements identified in the review

Retention of records: roles and responsibilities

Exams Officer

- Keeps records as required by CIE/JCQ and awarding bodies for the required period
- Keeps records as required by the centre's records management policy
- Provides an exams archiving policy that identifies information held, retention period and method of disposal

Lucy Meyer 6.5.2021

Deborah Thackeray 6.5.2021