



The Kassia Academy

Part of **KINGS ACADEMY TRUST**

Examinations Policy

The Kassia Academy

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Purpose of the policy

The centre is committed to ensuring that the exams management and administration process is run effectively and efficiently. 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 workforce is well informed and supported
- ▶ all centre staff involved in the exams process clearly understand their roles and responsibilities
- ▶ all exams and assessments are conducted according to JCQ and 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 to ensure ways of working in the centre are accurately reflected and that exams and assessments are conducted to current JCQ (and awarding body) regulations, instructions and guidance.

This policy will be communicated to all relevant centre staff.

Copies of this policy will be issued to all relevant centre staff.

The policy will be made available to all candidates via the school website.

Roles and responsibilities overview

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

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 appoint themselves as the examinations officer. A head of centre and an examinations officer are two distinct and separate roles.”

Head of centre

- ▶ Understands the contents, refers to and directs relevant centre staff to annually updated JCQ publications including:
 - [General regulations for approved centres](#) (GR)
 - [Instructions for conducting examinations](#) (ICE)
 - [Access Arrangements and Reasonable Adjustments](#) (AA)
 - [Suspected Malpractice in Examinations and Assessments](#) (SMEA)
 - [Instructions for conducting non-examination assessments](#) (NEA) (and the instructions for conducting coursework)
- ▶ 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
- ▶ Takes responsibility for responding to the National Centre Number Register annual update (administered on behalf of the JCQ member awarding bodies by OCR ocr.org.uk/administration/stage-1-preparation/ncn-annual-update/) by the end of October each year confirming they are both aware of and adhering to the latest version of the JCQ regulations and signs and returns the head of centre's declaration which is then kept on file for inspection purposes

Head of centre declaration

The signed copy of the Head of Centre declaration is kept in the examinations policies and procedures file, stored in the secure examinations strong room.

“All heads of centres will be required to confirm, on an annual basis, that they are both aware of and adhering to the latest version of these regulations. This confirmation is managed as part of the National Centre Number Register (NCNR) annual update (see section 5.3, page 14).

A head of centre cannot delegate this responsibility to a member of the senior leadership team or the examinations officer.

A signed copy of the head of centre’s declaration for the academic year 2018/19 must be held on file, available for inspection, as it will be an integral part of the centre inspection. An electronic version of the head of centre’s declaration, with an electronic signature, is permissible.

Note:

Failure to respond to the NCNR annual update will result in your centre status being suspended, your centre not being able to submit examination entries and not receiving or being able to access question papers. Ultimately awarding bodies could withdraw their approval of your centre.”

- ▶ Ensures the exams officer (EO) receives appropriate support from relevant centre staff and enables the EO to attend appropriate training and other events in order to facilitate the effective delivery of exams and assessments within the centre (as example, EO networking events and relevant events offered by awarding bodies, MIS providers and other external providers)
- ▶ Ensures a named member of staff acts as the Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator (SENDco)
- ▶ Ensures centre staff are supported and appropriately trained to undertake key tasks within the exams process
- ▶ Ensures centre staff undertake key tasks within the exams process and meet internal deadlines set by the EO
- ▶ Ensures *“that a teacher who teaches the subject being examined, or a senior member of teaching staff who has had overall responsibility for the candidate’s preparation for the examination, is not an invigilator during the timetabled written examination or on-screen test...”* [\[ICE 12\]](#)
- ▶ Ensures confidentiality and security within the examination process is compliant with and managed according to JCQ and awarding body regulations, guidance and instructions including
 - 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
 - appropriate arrangements are in place to ensure that confidential materials are only delivered to authorised members of centre staff
 - access to the secure room and secure storage facility is restricted to the authorised 2-4 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
- ▶ Takes all reasonable steps to prevent the occurrence of any malpractice (which includes 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 head of centre to act immediately in the event of an emergency or staff absence)
- ▶ Ensures required internal appeals procedures are in place and drawn to the attention of candidates and (where relevant) their parents/carers

Exam contingency plan

This policy can be found on the school website: www.tkas.org.uk

Resilience Arrangements

The government does not expect there to be a situation where exams do not go ahead again, but it is sensible to have contingency plans in place, even for extremely unlikely scenarios.

Ofqual has issued guidance on collecting evidence of student performance to ensure resilience in the qualifications system for GCSE, AS and A levels, Project Qualifications and Advanced Extension Awards that schools and colleges are expected to follow. This sets out how to gather evidence of student performance that would be used to determine grades in the unlikely event that exams and assessments could not go ahead as planned. Schools and colleges are encouraged to gather evidence in line with existing assessment arrangements. Schools and colleges should avoid over-assessment, with one set of mocks likely to be sufficient for evidence purposes.

VTQs are generally modular and have a high proportion of internal assessment so it is more likely that there would already be assessment evidence available which could be used to determine grades. However, there are some qualifications that are used alongside or instead of GCSEs, AS and A levels for progression to further or higher study, where there may not be any or sufficient evidence available. In these cases, awarding organisations will consider whether it is appropriate for a centre to gather evidence of student performance to support resilience for a qualification and if it does, provide guidance to the centre.

This guidance may be based on the guidance for GCSEs, AS and A levels, Project Qualifications and Advanced Extension Awards. If you are unsure whether these arrangements apply to a qualification you offer, you should contact the relevant awarding organisations.

Internal appeals procedures

- ▶ Ensures the centre's disability policy demonstrating the centre's compliance with relevant legislation is in place and details the processes followed in respect of identifying the need for, requesting and implementing access arrangements

Access Arrangements policy

This policy can be found on the school website: www.tkas.org.uk

- ▶ Ensures a *complaints and appeals procedure* covering general complaints regarding the centre's delivery or administration of a qualification is in place and drawn to the attention of

candidates and their parents/carers

Complaints and appeals procedure

This policy can be found on the school website: www.tkas.org.uk

- ▶ Ensures the centre has a child protection/safeguarding policy in place, including Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) clearance, which satisfies current legislative requirements

Safeguarding policy

This policy can be found on the school website: www.tkas.org.uk

- ▶ Ensures the centre has a data protection policy in place that complies with General Data Protection Regulation and Data Protection Act 2018 regulations

Data Protection policy

This policy can be found on the school website: www.tkas.org.uk

- ▶ Ensures the centre has documented processes in place relating to access arrangements and reasonable adjustments

Access arrangements policy

This policy can be found on the school website: www.tkas.org.uk

- ▶ Ensures staff are only entered for qualifications through the centre as a last resort where the member of centre staff is unable to find another centre
- ▶ Ensures the relevant awarding bodies are informed of any declaration/conflict of interest where a candidate is being taught, prepared, entered or sitting exams where a relevant member of centre staff has a personal connection to the candidate
- ▶ Ensures other relevant centre 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
- ▶ Ensures members of centre staff do **not** forward e-mails and letters from awarding body or JCQ personnel without prior consent to third parties or upload such correspondence onto social media sites and applications
- ▶ Ensures members of centre staff do **not** advise parents/candidates to contact awarding bodies/JCQ directly nor provide them with addresses/email addresses of awarding body examining/assessment or JCQ personnel

Exams officer

- ▶ Understands the contents of annually updated JCQ publications including:
 - [General regulations for approved centres](#)
 - [Instructions for conducting examinations](#)
 - [Suspected Malpractice in Examinations and Assessments](#)
 - [Post-results services](#) (PRS)
- ▶ 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
- ▶ Recruits, trains and deploys a team of internal/external invigilators; appoints lead invigilators, as required and keeps a record of the content of training provided to invigilators for the required period
- ▶ Supports the head of centre in ensuring that awarding bodies are informed of any declaration/conflict of interest involving candidates and relevant members of centre staff before the published deadline for entries
- ▶ Briefs other relevant centre 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

Senior leaders (SLT)

- ▶ Are familiar with the contents, refer to and direct relevant centre staff to annually updated JCQ publications including:
 - [General regulations for approved centres](#)
 - [Instructions for conducting examinations](#)
 - [Access Arrangements and Reasonable Adjustments](#)
 - [Suspected Malpractice in Examinations and Assessments](#)
 - [Instructions for conducting non-examination assessments](#) (and the instructions for conducting coursework)

Special educational needs co-ordinator (SENDco)

- ▶ Is familiar with the contents, refers to and directs relevant centre staff to annually updated JCQ publications including:
[Access Arrangements and Reasonable Adjustments](#)
- ▶ Leads on the access arrangements and reasonable adjustments process (referred to in this policy as 'access arrangements')
- ▶ If not the qualified access arrangements assessor, works with the person appointed, on all matters relating to assessing candidates and ensures the correct procedures are followed
- ▶ Presents when requested by a JCQ Centre Inspector, evidence of the assessor's qualification

Assistant Head i/c Exams

- ▶ Are familiar with the contents, refer to and direct relevant centre staff to annually updated JCQ publications including:
[General regulations for approved centres](#)
[Instructions for conducting examinations](#)
[Access Arrangements and Reasonable Adjustments](#)
[Suspected Malpractice in Examinations and Assessments](#)
[Instructions for conducting non-examination assessments](#) (and the instructions for conducting coursework)
- ▶ Ensures teaching staff undertake key tasks, as detailed in this policy, within the exams process (exam cycle) and meet internal deadlines set by the EO and SENDco
- ▶ Ensures teaching staff keep themselves updated with awarding body subject and teacher-specific information to confirm effective delivery of qualifications
- ▶ Ensures teaching staff attend relevant awarding body training and update events
- ▶ Deputises for the Examinations Officer if absent

Teaching staff

- ▶ Undertake key tasks, as detailed in this policy, within the exams process and meet internal deadlines set by the EO and SENDco
- ▶ Keep updated with awarding body subject and teacher-specific information to confirm effective delivery of qualifications
- ▶ Attend relevant awarding body training and update events

Invigilators / Teaching Assistants

- ▶ 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 the receipt and dispatch of confidential exam materials and follow the requirements for maintaining the integrity and confidentiality of the exam materials

Site staff

- ▶ Support the EO in relevant matters relating to exam rooms and resources

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

This policy identifies roles and responsibilities of centre staff within this cycle.

Planning: roles and responsibilities

Information sharing

Head of centre

- ▶ Directs relevant centre staff to annually updated JCQ publications including [GR](#), [ICE](#), [AA](#), [SMEA](#) and [NEA](#) (and the instructions for conducting coursework)

Exams officer

- ▶ Signposts relevant centre staff to JCQ publications and awarding body documentation relating to the exams process that has been updated
- ▶ Signposts relevant centre staff to JCQ information that should be provided to candidates
- ▶ As the centre administrator, approves relevant access rights for centre 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 examinations

Teaching Staff

- ▶ Responds to requests from the EO on information gathering exam data
- ▶ Meets the internal deadline for the return of information
- ▶ Informs the EO of any changes to information in a timely manner minimising the risk of late or other penalty fees being incurred by an awarding body
- ▶ Notes the internal deadlines in the annual exams plan and directs staff to meet these

Access arrangements

Head of centre

- ▶ Ensures there is appropriate accommodation for candidates requiring access arrangements in the centre for all examinations and assessments
- ▶ Ensures a written process is in place to not only check the qualification(s) of the appointed assessor(s) but that the correct procedures are followed as per Chapter 7 of the JCQ publication Access Arrangements and Reasonable Adjustments
- ▶ Ensures the SENDco is fully supported in effectively implementing access arrangements and reasonable adjustments once approved

SENDco

- ▶ 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 **data protection notices** from candidates where required
- ▶ Applies for **approval** through *Access arrangements online* (AAO) via the Centre Admin Portal (CAP), where required or through the awarding body where qualifications sit outside the scope of AAO
- ▶ Keeps relevant paperwork and evidence on file for JCQ inspection purposes
- ▶ Employs good practice in relation to the Equality Act 2010
- ▶ Liaises with the EO regarding exam time arrangements for access arrangement candidates
- ▶ Ensures 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
- ▶ Provides and annually reviews a centre policy on the **use of word processors** in exams and assessments

Word processor policy (exams)

This policy can be found on the school website: www.tkas.org.uk

- ▶ Ensures criteria for candidates granted **separate invigilation within the centre** is clear, meets JCQ regulations and best meets the needs of individual candidates and remaining candidates in main exam rooms

Separate invigilation within the centre

Separate invigilation for individual candidates will only be granted in the following circumstances:

- The candidate has medical needs that mean separate accommodation is required
- The candidate has documented evidence of distress working in a large examination setting
- The candidates medical/psychological needs mean that they would cause distraction to other candidates

Senior Leaders, Teaching staff

- ▶ Support the SENDco in determining and implementing appropriate access arrangements
- ▶ Provide a statement for inspection purposes which details the criteria the centre uses to award and allocate word processors for examinations

Internal assessment and endorsements

Head of centre

- ▶ 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 an **examination assessment policy** is in place for GCE and GCSE qualifications which include components of non-examination assessment (For CCEA GCSE centres this would be a controlled assessment policy)

Non-examination assessment policy

This policy can be found on the school website: www.tkas.org.uk

- ▶ 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

Senior leaders

- ▶ Ensure 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)
- ▶ Ensure appropriate internal moderation, standardisation and verification processes are in place
- ▶ Ensures teaching staff delivering legacy GCE unitized AS and A-level qualifications (which include elements of coursework) and Entry Level or Project qualifications follow JCQ [Instructions for conducting coursework](#) and the specification provided by the awarding body
- ▶ Ensures teaching staff delivering GCE & GCSE specifications (which include components of non-examination assessment) follow JCQ [Instructions for conducting non-examination assessments](#) 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 assessments are followed
- ▶ Ensure candidates are aware of JCQ and awarding body information for candidates on producing work that is internally assessed (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 JCQ *information for candidate's* 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 or to facilitate an access arrangement, that such persons are competent and fully trained, understanding what is and what is not permissible
- ▶ 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

- ▶ Recruits additional invigilators 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 a training event for new invigilators on the instructions for conducting exams and an annual update event for the existing invigilation team so that they are aware of any changes.
- ▶ 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 that these candidates are identified on the seating plan) and confirms invigilators understand what is and what is not permissible

Entries: roles and responsibilities

Estimated entries

Exams officer

- ▶ Requests estimated or early entry information, where this may be required by awarding bodies, from teaching staff in a timely manner to ensure awarding body external deadlines for submission can be met

Estimated entries collection and submission procedure

Where estimated entries are required, EO obtains estimated entries from Teaching Staff in September of the academic year of candidates entry. i.e. September 2021 for certification in June 2022 series.

- ▶ Makes candidates aware of the JCQ Information for candidates – Privacy Notice at the start of a vocational qualification or when entries are being processed for a general qualification

Teaching Staff

- ▶ Provides information requested by the EO to the internal deadline
- ▶ Informs the EO immediately of any subsequent changes to 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 teaching staff and Assistant Head i/c Exams 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
- ▶ Ensure all entries to dual school have been authorised prior to submission to exam boards and all relevant exam entry charges are raised.

Final entries collection and submission procedure

- Teaching staff complete the exam entry pro forma by deadline date of year entry and submits to EO.
- EO makes entries using SIMS at least 7 days prior to February deadline.
- Teaching staff are given copies of entries and confirm that entries are correct.

Teaching Staff

- ▶ Provides information requested by the EO to the internal deadline
- ▶ Informs 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
- ▶ Checks 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
- ▶ Charges for any late or other penalty fees may be charged to dual schools (if late entry by dual school).

Teaching Staff

- ▶ Minimises 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

For qualifications where resits are available, Teaching Staff discuss whether candidates should resit with EO and senior staff. Any cost will be attributed on a case by case basis.

Private candidates

The centre does not offer the facility of private candidates sitting exams.

Candidate statements of entry

Exams officer

- ▶ Provides candidates with statements of entry for checking via post to home addresses

Teaching staff

- ▶ Ensure candidates check statements of entry sent and inform EO of any relevant changes required

Candidates

- ▶ Confirm entry information is correct or notify the EO of any discrepancies

Pre-exams: roles and responsibilities

Access arrangements

SENDco

- ▶ 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 (JCQ information for candidate's information, individual exam timetable etc.) is adapted where this may be required for a candidate to access it
- ▶ Allocates appropriately trained centre staff to facilitate access arrangements for candidates in exams and assessments (ensuring that the facilitator appointed meets JCQ requirements and fully understands the rule of the particular access arrangement)
- ▶ 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 local disruption to exams
- ▶ Prior to exams issues relevant JCQ 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

- On results day, the EO, Assistant Head i/c Exams will be available to discuss results and what courses of action are available to candidates if there is any problem with their results
- the post-results services that are available to them by awarding bodies will be explained to them before candidates sit their exams and also on results day
- any request for review or access to papers should be made to the EO/Head of Centre in writing
- candidates will be informed on results day the deadlines for any such request
- candidates will be informed in writing as soon as the result of any appeal is made available to the centre
- in the event of the centre not supporting a candidates request for access to a script they will be made aware of to the Internal Appeals Policy

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

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

SENDco

- ▶ Liaises with teaching staff to implement appropriate access arrangements for candidates undertaking internal assessments and practical endorsements

Teaching staff

- ▶ Support the SENDco 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
- ▶ Ensures they assess and authenticate candidates' work to the awarding body requirements
- ▶ Ensures they assess endorsed components according to awarding body requirements
- ▶ Ensures they provide marks for internally assessed components and grades for endorsements of qualifications to the EO to the internal deadline
- ▶ Ensures they 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 annually
- ▶ 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 SENDco regarding the facilitation and invigilation of access arrangement candidates

SENDco

- ▶ 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

JCQ inspection visit

Assistant Head i/c Exams / Exams Officer

- ▶ Will accompany the Inspector throughout the visit

SENDco or relevant Senior leader (in the absence of the SENDco)

- ▶ Will meet with the inspector when requested to provide documentary evidence regarding access arrangement candidates and address any questions, the inspector may raise

Seating and identifying candidates in exam rooms

Exams officer

Ensures a procedure is in place to verify candidate identity. Verifying candidate identity procedure

All candidates are full time students at The Kassia Academy and as such are known to the Teaching Assistants who act as invigilators
Should outside invigilation take place, the EO provides picture identity cards in each room invigilation pack.

- ▶ Ensures invigilators are aware of the procedure
- ▶ Provides seating plans for exam rooms according to JCQ and awarding body requirements (and ensures candidates with access arrangements are identified on the seating plan)

Invigilators

- ▶ Follow the procedure for verifying candidate identity provided by the EO
- ▶ Seat candidates in exam rooms as per the seating plan

Security of exam materials

Exams officer

- ▶ Has a process in place with the Receptionist to demonstrate the receipt, secure movement and secure storage of confidential exam materials within the centre ('second pair of ears and eyes' approach. One person reads the information to the other off the packet.)
- ▶ Ensures a log is kept by Reception 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 placed in the secure storage facility.
- ▶ Ensures the secure storage facility contains only current and live confidential material (including live confidential exam stationery provided by the awarding body for the use of candidates in their assessment)
- ▶ Only 2-6 key holders (one must be the exams officer)

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 placing in the secure storage facility

Teaching staff

- ▶ 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

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 (only applying overnight supervision arrangements in rare and exceptional circumstances and as a last resort)
- ▶ 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 JCQ and awarding body requirements
- ▶ Liaises with the SENDco regarding rooming of access arrangement candidates

SENDco

- ▶ 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 candidates to exams

Site staff

- ▶ Liaise with the EO to ensure exam rooms are set up according to JCQ and awarding body requirements

Alternative site arrangements

Exams officer

No examinations are currently taken anywhere other than the main Kassia Academy sites.

Transferred candidate arrangements

Exams officer

- ▶ Liaises with the host or dual school, as required
- ▶ Processes requests for *Transferred Candidate arrangements* through CAP to the awarding body deadline (or through the awarding body where a qualification may sit outside the scope of CAP)
- ▶ Where relevant (for an internal candidate) informs the candidate of the arrangements that have been made for their transferred candidate arrangements

Internal exams

Exams officer

- ▶ Prepares for the conduct of internal exams under external conditions
- ▶ Provides a centre exam timetable of subjects and rooms
- ▶ Provides seating plans for exam rooms
- ▶ Requests internal exam papers from teaching staff
- ▶ Arranges invigilation

SENDco

- ▶ Liaises with teaching staff to make appropriate arrangements for access arrangement candidates

Teaching staff

- ▶ Provide exam papers and materials to the EO
- ▶ Support the SENDco in making appropriate arrangements for access arrangement candidates

Exam time: roles and responsibilities

Access arrangements

Exams officer

- ▶ Provides cover sheets for access arrangement candidates' scripts where required for particular arrangements
- ▶ Liaises with SENDCO to deal with emergency access arrangements as they arise at the time of exams

SENDCO

- ▶ applies for approval through AAO where required or through the awarding body where qualifications sit outside the scope of AAO

Candidate absence

Candidate absence policy

On the occasion of a candidate not arriving at school for a scheduled examination, the EO will request that reception staff telephone the candidate immediately and either inform candidate to travel to the centre immediately or, in the case of this not being possible, informing the EO of the circumstances. Pupil Absence log to be completed by Receptionist.

Usual procedures will then be followed in relation to late arrival or the need to apply for special consideration.

Invigilators

- ▶ Are informed of the policy/process for dealing with absent candidates through training
- ▶ Ensure that confirmed absent candidates are clearly marked as such on the attendance register and seating plan

Candidate behaviour

See *Irregularities* below.

Candidate belongings

See *Unauthorised materials* below.

Candidate late arrival

Exams officer

- ▶ Ensures that candidates who arrive very late for an exam are reported to the awarding body through CAP to timescale
- ▶ Warns candidates that their work may not be accepted by the awarding body

Invigilators

- ▶ Are informed of the policy/process for dealing with late/very late arrival candidates through training.
- ▶ Ensure that relevant information is recorded on the exam room incident log

Candidate late arrival policy

Candidates arriving late to an examination will be allowed entry to the examination room and allowed to sit the examination.

The full time will be afforded the candidate, as long as supervision can be provided.

On the occasion of very late arrival, examination boards will be informed, in accordance with regulations.

If a candidate repeatedly arrives late for examinations, they will be called to meet the Centre Head (if appropriate parents/carers will also be invited). A course of action will be agreed and the candidate may be informed that any future late arrival may lead to them not being allowed entry to the examination room.

Conducting exams

Head of centre

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

Exams officer

- ▶ Ensures exams are conducted according to JCQ and awarding body instructions
- ▶ Uses an *exam day checklist* 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 JCQ 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
- ▶ When a question paper needs scanning or photocopying, this must be taken by the exams officer or key holder in a non-transparent folder/envelope and then both should be taken back to the safe room and placed back in a sealed question paper packet.
- ▶ 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 prior to question paper packets being opened that another member of staff or an invigilator checks day, date, time, subject, unit/component and tier of entry if appropriate, immediately before a question paper packet is opened
- ▶ 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 all candidates within the centre have completed the exam

Exam rooms

Head of centre

- ▶ Ensures that on the day of the exam, relevant internal tests, mock exams, revision or coaching sessions for the exam candidates will not be held in the designated exam room(s)
- ▶ Ensures only authorised centre staff are present in exam rooms
- ▶ Ensures the centre's policy relating to food and drink that may be allowed in exam rooms is clearly communicated to candidates

Food and drink in exam rooms

Water will be made available to candidates, on request, during all examinations.

Candidates are permitted to bring drinks in clear bottles, without any labels or writing on.

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
- ▶ Ensures invigilators understand how to deal with candidates who may need to leave the exam room temporarily
- ▶ 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
- ▶ Ensure a documented emergency evacuation procedure for exam rooms is in place
- ▶ Ensure arrangements are in place for a candidate with a disability who may need assistance if an exam room is evacuated

Emergency evacuation policy

This policy can be found in each examination room invigilator pack.

Site staff

- ▶ 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 exam rooms as instructed in training/update events and briefing sessions
- ▶ Set up the room using invigilator checklist of posters, materials, etc.

Candidates

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

Irregularities

Exam Officer

- ▶ Inform the Head of Centre of any cases of alleged, suspects or actual incidents of malpractice before, during or after examination/assessments (by centre staff, candidates, invigilators).

Head of centre

- ▶ Ensures any reported 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

On an occasion where behaviour in the examination is causing disruption to other candidates, the Head of Centre may remove a candidate from the examination room.
The candidate will be supervised until the end time of the examination.
If regulations require, the examination board will be informed.

Parents/carers will be informed that such action has been necessary and attendance of future examinations will be discussed.

Senior leaders

- ▶ 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
- ▶ Informs Head of Centre (providing supporting documents) of any actions that require follow up.
- ▶ 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)

Malpractice

See *Irregularities* above.

Special consideration

Exams officer

- ▶ Processes appropriate requests 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

Candidates

- ▶ Provide appropriate evidence to support special consideration requests, where required

Unauthorised materials

Arrangements for unauthorised materials taken into the exam room

The centre provides all the equipment required for each examination and as such the candidate has no requirement to bring anything into the exam.
Candidates are reminded before entry to the examination room that no phones, iphones, smart watches, air pods or other electronic communication device can be taken into the room.
Standard wrist watches can be placed on the desk (those which have a data storage device are classed as unauthorised)
Any unauthorised materials taken into the examination room will be removed and reported to

Invigilators

- ▶ Are informed of the arrangements through training

Internal exams Exams

officer

- ▶ Briefs invigilators on conducting internal exams
- ▶ Returns candidate scripts to teaching staff for marking

Invigilators

- ▶ Conduct internal exams as briefed by the EO

Results and post-results: roles and responsibilities Internal

assessment

Assistant Head i/c Exams

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

Managing results day(s)

Head of Centre/Assistant Head i/c Exams

- ▶ 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 any requests for post-results services 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) (a results day programme) are in place

Results day programme Site

staff

- ▶ Ensure the centre is open and accessible to centre staff and candidates, as required for the collection of results

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

Exams officer

- ▶ Informs candidates in advance of when and how results will be released to them for each exam series
- ▶ 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 check, a review of marking, a review of moderation or an appeal
- ▶ Understands that in the event of an awarding body initiating an *extended review of marking*, candidates' marks and subject grades may be lowered, confirmed or raised

Exams officer

- ▶ Provides information to candidates and staff on the services provided by awarding bodies and the fees charged (see also above *Briefing candidates* and *Access to scripts, enquiries about 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 collect candidate informed consent (**after** the publication of results) and fees where relevant
- ▶ Submits requests to awarding bodies to meet the external deadline
- ▶ Tracks requests to conclusion and informs candidates and relevant centre staff of outcomes
- ▶ Updates centre results information, where applicable

Teaching staff

- ▶ Meet internal deadlines to request the services and gain relevant candidate informed consent
- ▶ Identify the budget to which fees should be charged

Candidates

- ▶ Meet internal deadlines to request the services
- ▶ Provide informed consent and fees, where relevant

Analysis of results

Assistant Head i/c Exams

- ▶ Provides analysis of results to appropriate centre staff
- ▶ Provides results information to external organisations where required
- ▶ Undertakes the *secondary school and college (key stage 4/16-18) performance tables September checking exercise*

Certificates

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

Issue of certificates procedure

All certificates are presented to candidates in October following certification at an arranged event.

Any candidates who have left the school are invited to the event.

Candidates sign to acknowledge receipt of certificates.

Candidates who are unable to attend will be invited to collect their certificates from school reception by arrangement. Certificates will be kept in the secure examination room until then.

Candidates

- ▶ May arrange for certificates to be collected on their behalf by providing the EO with written or email permission/authorisation; authorised persons must provide ID evidence on collection of certificates

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

Senior leaders

- ▶ Work 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 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

Exams archiving policy

This policy can be found on the school website: www.tkas.org.uk