

# Birches Head Academy



## Internal Appeals Procedure (Review of Results and Appeals)

### Policy Information:

Date prepared	September 2023
Adopted by Governors	September 2023
Implementation Date	Immediate
Frequency of Review	Annually
Review Date	September 2024

### Approved by Principal:

Katie Dixon

### Approved by Chair of Governors:

Roisin Maguire



Frank Field  
Education Trust

## Introduction

Following the issue of results, awarding bodies make post-results services available (see below for details of how these are managed at Birches Head Academy)

If teaching staff at Birches Head Academy or a candidate (or his/her parent/carer) have a concern that a result may not be accurate, post-results services may be considered.

The JCQ post-results services currently available are detailed below.

### Reviews of Results (RoRs):

- Service 1 (Clerical re-check) - This is the only service that can be requested for objective tests (multiple choice tests)
- Service 2 (Review of marking)
- Priority Service 2 (Review of marking) - This service is only available for externally assessed components of GCE A-level specifications (an individual awarding body may also offer this priority service for other qualifications)
- Service 3 (Review of moderation) - This service is not available to an individual candidate

### Access to Scripts (ATS):

- Copies of scripts to support reviews of marking
- Copies of scripts to support teaching and learning

## Purpose of the procedure

The purpose of this procedure is to confirm the arrangements at Birches Head Academy for dealing with candidate appeals relating to any centre decision not to support a clerical re-check, a review of marking, a review of moderation, or an appeal.

This procedure ensures compliance with JCQ regulations (GR 5.13) which state that centres must have available for inspection purposes and draw to the attention of candidates and their parents/carers, a written internal appeals procedure to manage disputes when a candidate disagrees with a centre decision not to support an online application for a clerical re-check, a review of marking, a review of moderation or an appeal.

## Post-results services

At Birches Head Academy:

- Candidates are made aware of the arrangements for post-results services prior to the issue of results
- Candidates are also informed of the periods during which senior members of centre staff will be available/accessible immediately after the publication of results so that results may be discussed, and decisions made on the submission of reviews of marking

Candidates are made aware/informed by the student handbook issued in the Autumn term details the post-result service process.

These details are confirmed with their statement of entries and again with their results.

Full details of the post-results services, internal deadline(s) for requesting a service and the fees charged (where applicable) are provided by the exams officer with the entry statement and again with the results statement.

## Centre actions in response to a concern about a result

Where a concern is expressed that a particular result may not be accurate, Birches Head Academy will:

- Look at the marks awarded for each component part of the qualification alongside any mark schemes, relevant result reports, grade boundary information etc., when made available by the awarding body, to determine if the concern may be justified

For **written** components that contributed to the final grade, Birches Head Academy will:

- Where a place a university or college is at risk, consider supporting a request for a Priority Service 2 review of marking

In all other instances:

- Consider accessing the script by:
  - (where the service is made available by the awarding body) requesting a priority copy of the candidate's script to support a review of marking by the awarding body deadline OR
  - (where the option is made available by the awarding body) viewing the candidate's marked script online to consider if requesting a review of marking is appropriate
- Collect written consent/permission from the candidate to access the script
- On access to the script, consider if it is felt that the agreed mark scheme has been applied correctly in the original marking and if the centre considers there are any errors in the marking
- Support a request for the appropriate Review of Results service (clerical re-check or review of marking) if any error is identified
- Collect written consent from the candidate to request the Review of Results service before the request is submitted
- Where relevant, advise an affected candidate to inform any third party (such as a university or college) that a review of marking has been submitted to an awarding body

Additional centre-specific actions:

Not applicable.

For **moderated** components that contributed to the final grade Birches Head Academy will:

- Confirm that a review of moderation cannot be undertaken on the work of an individual candidate or the work of candidates not in the original sample submitted for moderation
- Consult the moderator's report/feedback to identify any issues raised
- Determine if the centre's internally assessed marks have been accepted without change by the awarding body – if this is the case, a Review of Results service 3 (Review of moderation) will not be available
- Determine if there are any grounds to submit a request for a review of moderation for all candidates in the original sample

Additional centre-specific actions:

Not applicable.

## Candidate consent

Birches Head Academy will:

- Acquire written candidate consent (accepting informed consent via candidate email) in all cases before a request for a Review of Results service 1 or 2 (including priority service 2) is submitted to the awarding body
- Acquire informed candidate consent to confirm the candidate understands that the final subject grade and/or mark awarded following a clerical re-check or a review of marking, and any subsequent appeal, may be lower than, higher than, or the same as the result which was originally awarded
- Only collect candidate consent after the publication of results

Additional centre-specific actions:

Not Applicable.

## Centre actions in the event of a disagreement (dispute)

Where a candidate disagrees with a centre decision not to support a clerical re-check, a review of marking or a review of moderation, Birches Head Academy will:

- For a review of marking (Review of Results priority service 2), advise the candidate a review may be requested by providing informed written consent (and the required fee) for this service to the centre by the deadline set by the centre
- For a review of marking (Review of Results service 1 or 2), first advise the candidate to access a copy of their script to support a review of marking by providing written permission (and any required fee) for the centre to access the script from the awarding body
- After accessing the script to consider the marking, inform the candidate that if a request for a review of marking (Review of Results service 1 or 2) is required, this must be submitted by the deadline set by the centre by providing informed written consent (and the required fee) for the centre to request the service from the awarding body
- Inform the candidate that a review of moderation (Review of Results service 3) cannot be requested for the work of an individual candidate or the work of a candidate not in the original sample

Additional centre-specific actions:

Not Applicable.

If the candidate (or his/her parent/carer) believes there are grounds to appeal against the centre's decision not to support a review of results, an internal appeal can be submitted to the centre by completing an internal appeals form. at least 5 working days

prior to the internal deadline for submitting a request for a review of results.

The appellant will be informed of the outcome of the appeal before the internal deadline for submitting a Review of Results..

## Appeals

Following a Review of Results outcome, an external appeals process is available if the head of centre at Birches Head Academy remains dissatisfied with the outcome and believes there are grounds for appeal.

The JCQ publications **Post-Results Services** and **JCQ Appeals Booklet** (A guide to the awarding bodies' appeals processes) will be consulted to determine the acceptable grounds for a preliminary appeal.

Where the head of centre is satisfied after receiving the Review of Results outcome, but the candidate (or parent/carer) believes there are grounds for a preliminary appeal to the awarding body, an internal appeal may be made directly to the centre. Candidates or parents/carers are not permitted to make direct representations to an awarding body. Following this, the head of centre's decision as to whether to proceed with a preliminary appeal will be based upon the acceptable grounds as detailed in the JCQ Appeals Booklet.

To submit an internal appeal:

- An internal appeals form should be completed and submitted to the centre within the time specified by the centre from the notification of the outcome of the review of the result
- Subject to the head of centre's decision, the preliminary appeal will be processed and submitted to the awarding body within the required 30 calendar days of the awarding body issuing the outcome of the review of results process
- Awarding body fees which may be charged for the preliminary appeal must be paid to the centre by the appellant before the preliminary appeal is submitted to the awarding body (fees are available from the exams officer)
- If the appeal is upheld by the awarding body, this fee will be refunded by the awarding body and repaid to the appellant by the centre

Additional centre-specific information:

Not Applicable.

## CHANGES 2022/2023

(Changed) Under **Purpose of the procedure**:

...disagrees with a centre decision not to support a clerical re-check, a review of marking, a review of moderation or an appeal. (To) ...disagrees with a centre decision not to support **an online application** for a clerical re-check, a review of marking, a review of moderation or an appeal.

(Changed) Under **Post-results services**:

Candidates are made aware of the arrangements for post-results services and the availability of senior members of centre staff immediately after the publication of results, before they sit any examinations (To) Candidates are made aware of the arrangements for post-results services **prior to the issue of results**

(Added bullet point) Under **Post-results services**:

Candidates are also informed of the periods during which senior members of centre staff will be available/accessible immediately after the publication of results so that results may be discussed, and decisions made on the submission of reviews of marking

## CENTRE-SPECIFIC CHANGES

Not Applicable