



## Methodist College Belfast Post-Results Service (Appeals) Policy, Summer 2021

Adopted by Board of Governors on 24/06/2021  
Issued to staff, pupils and parents on 25/06/2021  
Published to the School Website on 25/06/2021  
Responsible: Mr S Naismith, Principal

### 1. Statement of Intent

The purpose of this policy is:

- to provide an overview of the Post-Results Service for Summer 2021 in the context of the guidance issued by CCEA, *CCEA Post-Results Service, Process for Heads of Centre – Summer 2021 and JCQ-A guide to appeals processes Summer 2021 series*;
- to ensure that all staff involved in the process know, understand and can carry out their roles effectively;
- to ensure students understand the Post-Results Service, the centre's role and the role of the awarding organisation (AO); and
- to provide relevant timelines to ensure the successful completion of internal processes so as not to hinder the progress of any student to the next phase of their education.

It is the responsibility of everyone involved in the Post-Results Service within Methodist College to understand and implement this policy. The Centre Post-Results Service Policy is in line with *CCEA Post-Results Service, Process for Heads of Centre – Summer 2021 and JCQ-A guide to appeals processes Summer 2021 series*, and any further guidance provided by CCEA in relation to its Post-Results Service. Staff will familiarise themselves with all relevant documents.

### 2. Process Overview

There are two stages to the Post-Results Service; students must commence with Stage 1 which will be completed by Methodist College and may then progress to Stage 2. The two stages are:

- **Stage 1** - A Centre Review, completed by Methodist College
- **Stage 2** – An Appeal to the Awarding Organisation, submitted by Methodist College on behalf of a student and completed by the Awarding Organisation.

**Detailed information for students, including access to the forms to submit an appeal, can be accessed by clicking on the relevant link below:**

CCEA: <https://ccea.org.uk/summer-2021/post-results-service>

ALL other boards: [https://www.jcq.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/06/JCQ\\_Appeals-Guidance\\_Summer-2021\\_Appendix-B.pdf](https://www.jcq.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/06/JCQ_Appeals-Guidance_Summer-2021_Appendix-B.pdf)

**The outcome of any Centre Review completed by Methodist College or an Appeal completed by an Awarding Organisation may be that the grade goes up, goes down or stays the same.**

Stage 1 Centre Reviews and Stage 2 Appeal requests must be e-mailed to the College using the following address: A request for a Centre Review must be e-mailed to [results2021@methody.org](mailto:results2021@methody.org)

The 'subject' of the e-mail must be as follows: the pupil's candidate number, followed by surname, forename, subject and stage 1. E.g. E-mail subject: 5546MatierHenryHistoryStage1

## STAGE 1 – CENTRE REVIEW CONDUCTED BY METHODIST COLLEGE

For full details refer to *CCEA Post-Results Service, Process for Heads of Centre – Summer 2021 and JCQ-A guide to appeals processes Summer 2021 series*.

Any student, including private candidates, who was awarded a Centre Determined Grade by Methodist College in summer 2021 is permitted to submit a request for a Centre Review. Methodist College will complete a Centre Review for any student who makes a request. To help students decide whether to request a Centre Review, Methodist College will provide students, voluntarily or on request, with access to:

- the centre CDG policy;
- the sources of evidence used to determine the CDG, including any marks and/or grades;
- details of any variations in evidence used; and
- details of any special circumstances that were considered in determining their grade.

All requests for a Centre Review must be made directly to Methodist College using the form provided by the relevant Awarding Organisation, which can be accessed on the relevant Awarding Organisation website (a list of Awarding Organisations and websites is included at the end of this document). **A separate form must be submitted for each subject a review is requested for.**

**A request for a Centre Review must be e-mailed to [results2021@methody.org](mailto:results2021@methody.org)**

The 'subject' of the e-mail must be as follows: the pupil's candidate number, followed by surname, forename, subject and stage 1. E.g. E-mail subject: 5546MatierHenryHistoryStage1

A student may request a Centre Review if they consider:

- 1) Methodist College made an administrative error in relation to their grade; and/or
- 2) Methodist College did not follow its procedure in arriving at the CDG as outlined in the CDG Policy.

If a student wishes to submit an appeal on the ground of academic judgement (unreasonableness), this will only be considered by CCEA at Stage 2. To enable a student to move to this stage, a Centre Review must first be completed by Methodist College to ensure there have been no administrative errors and that procedures have been followed, or these have been addressed.

Students may only submit a **priority** Centre Review if they have a place at a Higher Education Institution on hold.

Determining the Outcome of a Centre Review

(Refer to *CCEA Post-Results Service, Process for Heads of Centre – Summer 2021 and JCQ-A guide to appeals processes Summer 2021 series* for full details)

All Centre Reviews will be completed using the form provided by the Awarding Organisation and will be retained by Methodist College electronically to be submitted should a student decide to request a Stage 2 Appeal to the Awarding Organisation.

In order to determine the outcome of a Centre Review, the member of staff conducting the review will have access to the following records and will consider:

- a) the reason presented by the student for the review where this has been specified;
- b) the centre's approved policy and whether it was followed;
- c) the evidence which was used to determine the grade (although the reviewer will not be assessing or re-marking this evidence);

- d) any relevant assessment records that detail amendments to the range of evidence for the student and, where applicable, the steps taken to address any known mitigating circumstances or approved access arrangements;
- e) the records of the quality assurance processes and whether these were followed in determining the grade;
- f) the record of any pre-results discussions between the centre and student (for example, where a student has raised mitigating circumstances earlier in the process);
- g) relevant centre administration records; and
- h) any other documentation the decision-maker feels necessary to process the review.

In cases where an administrative or procedural error is identified, the member of staff completing the review will decide whether a grade change is required; this may require input from the Head of Department or Subject Teacher. **The outcome of any Centre Review completed by Methodist College may be that the grade goes up, goes down or stays the same.**

### **Reporting the Outcome of a Centre Review**

If a grade change is considered to be required, Methodist College will submit an error correction request to Awarding Organisation as soon as possible.

Methodist College will provide the student with an outcome letter using the template provided by CCEA/JCQ. This will include:

- whether or not the review found a procedural failure or administrative error;
- if it did, what that error or failure was;
- the reason for the finding;
- whether there was a grade change and, if so, what the new grade is;
- a reason for the grade change, or lack of change; and
- information on the next steps if a student wishes to submit an appeal to the Awarding Organisation.

A record of the outcome of all Centre Reviews will be retained to be submitted to the Awarding Organisation should a student decide to request a Stage 2 Appeal to the Awarding Organisation.

### **STAGE 2 – APPEAL TO THE AWARDING ORGANISATION**

For full details refer to *CCEA Post-Results Service, Process for Heads of Centre – Summer 2021 and JCQ-A guide to appeals processes Summer 2021 series*.

Whether or not an administrative or procedural error was found through the Centre Review, and whether or not the grade changed as a result, all students, including private candidates, have the right to submit an Appeal to the Awarding Organisation as the next stage in the process. Where requested by the student, Methodist College will submit such appeals on the student's behalf and include the following as required:

- CCEA submission form completed by the student;
- Evidence used to determine the Centre Determined Grade; and
- Completed Candidate Assessment Record, or similar, for the student.

**A request for an Appeal must be e-mailed to [results2021@methody.org](mailto:results2021@methody.org)**

The 'subject' of the e-mail must be as follows: the pupil's candidate number, followed by surname, forename, subject and stage 2. E.g. E-mail subject: 5546MatierHenryHistorystage2

Methodist College will submit any request for an Appeal to the Awarding Organisation from a student upon the conclusion of a Centre Review. Methodist College will have a process in place to communicate the outcome of the Appeal to the Awarding Organisation to the student upon completion.

**The outcome of any Appeal completed by the Awarding Organisation may result in the grade going up, going down or staying the same.**

### **3. Roles and Responsibilities**

Methodist College will:

- Have appropriate arrangements in place to conduct a Centre Review in line with the Awarding Organisation's guidance;
- Ensure that a transparent process is in place so that students and parents understand the steps in a Centre Review;
- Complete a Centre Review if requested by a student, checking for any administrative errors and/or procedural failures;
- Decide if a grade change is considered to be necessary having completed the Centre Review;
- Make a request to the Awarding Organisation for any changes considered to be necessary to Centre Determined Grades;
- Submit any requests to the Awarding Organisation for an Awarding Organisation Appeal;
- Communicate the outcome of any Centre Review and/or Awarding Organisation Appeal to students;
- Retain records of all completed Centre Reviews electronically, to be submitted to the Awarding Organisation should a student decide to request a Stage 2 Awarding Organisation Appeal; and
- Provide pastoral support to students at each stage of the process, as required.

Methodist College will also carefully consider the requirements of their centre policies, particularly in relation to the separation of duties and personnel to ensure fairness in reviews and appeals.

**The Board of Governors** is responsible for approving the policy.

**The Head of Centre** has overall responsibility for Methodist College as an examinations centre and will ensure the roles and responsibilities of all staff are defined. The Head of Centre may complete Centre Reviews and/or may delegate this responsibility to another member of the centre staff. The Head of Centre is required to sign-off the outcome of any Centre Review. The Head of Centre should communicate the outcome of any Stage 1 Centre Review or Stage 2 Appeals to the Awarding Organisation, to the students.

**The Senior Leadership Team** will support the Head of Centre in completing Centre Reviews. They may undertake a support function to students in the completion of any required paperwork or provide advice on the submission of review requests.

**The Examinations Officer** will submit any Stage 2 Appeal to the Awarding Organisation through the Awarding Organisation's portal, or delegate this responsibility to another member of centre staff. The Examinations Officer or a delegated member of staff will submit any error correction requests to the Awarding Organisation, should it be considered that a grade change is required.

**Heads of Department and Subject Teachers** may be required to provide expert opinion on whether or not a grade change is required should an administrative error or procedural failure be identified through a Centre Review.

#### 4. Timelines and Dates

##### **PRIORITY REVIEW**

**A PRIORITY review is one where a place at a higher education Institution is on hold.**

The deadline for submission of **PRIORITY A2 Stage 2 Appeals** to the Awarding Organisation, is **23 August 2021**.

In order for Methodist College to meet the above deadline for submission, any requests for a **PRIORITY Centre Review**, where a place at a higher education Institution is on hold, must be submitted no later than **12th August 2021**.

##### **ALL OTHER REVIEWS**

The deadline for submission of all other Stage 2 Appeals to CCEA Awarding Organisation is **17 September 2021**.

In order for Methodist College to meet the above deadline for submission, all other requests for a **Centre Review** must be submitted no later than **3 September 2021**. In order to allow the College to focus on addressing Priority reviews and appeals, other request must not be submitted before the 23<sup>rd</sup> of August.

<b>Request</b>	<b>Submit to MCB</b>	<b>Deadline for AO</b>
A2 <b>PRIORITY</b> Stage 1 Centre Review (where a place at a higher education Institution is on hold)	By 12 <sup>th</sup> August (candidate informed of outcome by 16 <sup>th</sup> August)	N/A
A2 <b>PRIORITY</b> Stage 2 Appeal (where a place at a higher education Institution is on hold)	By 18 <sup>th</sup> August	23 <sup>rd</sup> August 2021
A2, AS and GCSE Stage 1 Centre Review	23 <sup>rd</sup> to 27 <sup>th</sup> August (candidate informed of outcome by 3 <sup>rd</sup> September)	N/A
A2, AS and GCSE Stage 2 Appeal	By 6 <sup>th</sup> September	17 <sup>th</sup> September 2021

#### 5. Conflicts of Interest

To protect the integrity of the process, staff must declare any potential conflicts of interest to the Head of Centre. An example of a conflict could include conducting a Centre Review for a family member or close friend. The Head of Centre will take the appropriate actions to manage any potential conflicts of interest arising with centre staff.

#### 6. Awarding Organisations Support Pages

[CCEA](#)

[AQA](#)

[Eduqas](#)

[NCFE](#)

[OCR](#)

[Pearson](#)

[WJEC](#)

CCEA: <https://ccea.org.uk/summer-2021/student-area>