

Slough and Eton Church of England Business and Enterprise College



Appeals Procedure 2021 (Exams)

This policy is reviewed annually to ensure compliance with current regulations

Owner:	Steve Thatcher
Ratified by Governing Body:	
Date Ratified:	
Date Policy to be reviewed:	March 2022

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2 Key staff involved in the appeals procedure

Role	Name(s)
Headteacher	Peter Collins
Deputy Headteacher	Martin Culkeen
Deputy Headteacher	Andy Leane
Deputy Headteacher	Steve Thatcher
Exams officer	Tracy Ahearn

3 Purpose of the procedure

This procedure confirms Slough and Eton Church of England Business and Enterprise College compliance with JCQ's Guide to the Awarding Bodies' Appeals Process June 2021 Examination Series.

4 Concerns about your results

If you have a concern about a grade you have been awarded, you can ask your tutor/subject teacher/Exams Officer to:

- check whether an error was made when determining or submitting your grade to the awarding body. If a mistake is identified a revised grade can be submitted to the awarding body to consider. If an error is not identified, you can ask the school to submit a formal appeal to the awarding body.
- provide information about the opportunity to take an exam in the autumn series

Arrangements for appeals

The arrangements for awarding qualifications in summer 2021 state you can appeal for the following reasons:

- there was an error in the way the school followed or applied its procedure for determining your teacher assessed grade
- the school did not make a reasonable judgement when deciding which evidence to use to determine your teacher assessed grade
- the school did not make a reasonable judgement about your grade based on the evidence gathered

5 Internal appeals procedure

Slough and Eton Church of England Business and Enterprise College will:

- appeal to an awarding body on a candidate's behalf if it believes the centre itself made an error when submitting a grade or if it believes an awarding body made a mistake when calculating, assigning or communicating a grade
- ask the candidate to provide written informed consent (informed consent via candidate email is acceptable) before an appeal is submitted to the awarding body as the appeal could result in the final grade being lower than, higher than, or the same as the grade which was originally awarded
- only collect consent after the publication of results.
- where relevant, advise an affected candidate to inform any third party (such as a university or college) that an appeal has been submitted to an awarding body

Slough and Eton Church of England Business and Enterprise College will not:

- seek any information the awarding body holds that would be needed for an appeal if it does not believe an awarding body made a mistake when calculating, assigning or communicating a grade

- appeal to an awarding body on a candidate's behalf if it does not believe the centre itself made an error when submitting a grade or if it does not believe an awarding body made a mistake when calculating, assigning or communicating a grade

An internal appeal can be submitted to the centre where a candidate (or his/her parent/carer) believes there are grounds to appeal against the centre's decision:

- not to seek any information the awarding body holds that would be needed for an appeal

and/or

- not to appeal to the awarding body

An appeal should be submitted by completing an Internal Appeals Form and Candidate Consent Form by 3rd September 2021.

The appellant will be informed of the centre's decision regarding appealing to the exam board by 10th September 2021.

If the internal appeal is upheld by the centre, resulting in an appeal on the candidate's behalf being submitted to the awarding body:

- awarding body fees which may be charged for an appeal must be paid to the centre by the appellant before the 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.



Important information for students

What may happen to your grade during the centre review and appeals process?

If you request a centre review or an awarding organisation appeal there are three possible outcomes:

- Your original grade is **lowered**, so your final grade will be lower than the original grade you received.
- Your original grade is **confirmed**, so there is no change to your grade.
- Your original grade is **raised**, so your final grade will be higher than the original grade you received.

Once a finding has been made you cannot withdraw your request for a centre review or appeal. If your grade has been lowered you will not be able to revert back to the original grade you received on results day.

What will be checked during a centre review?

You can ask the centre to check whether it made a **procedural error**, an **administrative error**, or both. A procedural error means a failure to follow the process set out in the centre policy. An administrative error means an error in recording your grade or submitting your grade to the awarding organisation.

You must request a centre review before you can request an awarding organisation appeal. This is so the awarding organisation is certain that your grade is as the centre intended.

What will be checked during an awarding organisation appeal?

You can ask the awarding organisation to check whether the centre made a **procedural error** - or whether the awarding organisation itself made an **administrative error**. You can also ask the awarding organisation to check whether the **academic judgement** of the centre was unreasonable, either in the selection of evidence or the determination of your grade.

When do I need to submit my request?

You should submit a request for a centre review by **16 August 2021 for a priority appeal**, or by **3 September 2021 for non-priority appeals**.

Once you have received the outcome of your centre review, if you wish to request an awarding organisation appeal you should do so as soon as possible. Your school or college will submit this on your behalf. Requests for a priority appeal should be submitted by **23 August 2021** and requests for non-priority appeals should be submitted by **17 September 2021**. Priority appeals that aren't submitted to the awarding organisation by 23 August 2021 will still be treated as a priority but they may not be completed in time for those with a higher education place dependent on the outcome of the appeal.

What is a priority appeal?

A priority appeal is only for students applying to higher education who did not attain their firm choice (i.e. the offer they accepted as their first choice) and wish to appeal an A level or other Level 3 qualification result. You should inform your intended higher education provider that you have requested a centre review or appeal.

What is your UCAS personal ID and why is it needed?

Your UCAS personal ID is the 10 digit code included in all correspondence from UCAS. This is needed to confirm that a student's place is dependent on the outcome of the appeal.

Stage one – centre review

A. Student request

This section is to be completed by the student. A request for a centre review must be submitted to the centre, not the awarding organisation. A centre review must be conducted before an appeal to the awarding organisation. This is so the awarding organisation is certain that your grade is as the centre intended.

Centre Name		Centre Number	
Student Name		Candidate Number	
Qualification title e.g. AQA GCSE English Language			
Teacher Assessed Grade issued			
Is this a priority appeal? <small>A priority appeal is only for students applying to higher education who did not attain their firm choice and wish to appeal an A level or other Level 3 qualification result.</small>	Yes No	If Yes provide your UCAS personal ID e.g. 123-456-7890	

Grounds for centre review

Please tick one or both of the options if they apply to your request. If you don't think either apply, your centre will still conduct a review for administrative and procedural errors so the awarding organisation can be certain that your grade is as the centre intended.

Administrative Error by the centre e.g. the wrong grade/mark was recorded against an item of evidence		Procedural Error by the centre e.g. a reasonable adjustment / access arrangement was not provided for an eligible student	
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Supporting evidence

Please provide a short explanation of what you believe went wrong and how you think this has impacted your grade. There is a 5,000 character limit.

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Acknowledgement

I confirm that I am requesting a centre review for the qualification named above and that I have read and understood the information provided in the 'Important information for students' section above. In submitting this review, I am aware that:

- The outcome of the review may result in my grade remaining the **same**, being **lowered** or **raised**
- The next stage (Stage Two, the appeal to awarding organisation) may only be requested once the centre review (Stage One) has been requested and concluded.

Student Name

Student signature

Date

B. Centre review outcome

This section should be completed by the centre and shared with the student as a record of the outcome of the centre review.

Centre Review Outcome					
Please tick the outcome of the review and then record the original grade and the revised grade if applicable.					
Upheld	<input type="checkbox"/>	Not upheld	<input type="checkbox"/>	Partially upheld	<input type="checkbox"/>
Original Teacher Assessed Grade			Revised Teacher Assessed Grade if applicable		

Information considered by the centre
Please provide a short explanation of the evidence that you have reviewed. There is a 5,000 character limit.

Rationale for the outcome of the centre review
Outline the centre's findings from the centre review e.g. procedural or administrative error and if relevant, details of the error. There is a 5,000 character limit.

Authorisation and dates of next stages			
Please complete the boxes as appropriate. Boxes 1 and 2 must be completed in every case. Boxes 3 and 4 need only be completed when requesting a grade change.			
1. Date that the decision and rationale was issued to student	<input type="text"/>	2. Date student informed of how to proceed to stage 2 (appeal to awarding organisation)	<input type="text"/>
3. Confirmation that a senior leader has authorised any grade change	<input type="text"/>	4. Date that grade change is submitted to awarding organisation	<input type="text"/>

Stage two – appeal to awarding organisation

This section is to be completed by the student. An awarding organisation appeal must be submitted to the centre and the centre will then submit it to the awarding organisation

Grounds for appeal

Please tick the grounds upon which you wish to appeal

1. Administrative error by the awarding organisation	
2. Procedural issue at the centre	
a. Procedural Error	
b. Issues with access arrangements / reasonable adjustments and/or mitigating circumstances	
3. Unreasonable exercise of academic judgement	
a. Selection of evidence	
b. Determination of Teacher Assessed Grade	

Evidence to support an appeal

Please provide a short explanation of what you believe went wrong and how you think this has impacted your grade where that relates to your chosen ground for appeal. In some cases you must provide a clear reason but it doesn't have to be lengthy.

1. Administrative error by the awarding organisation

You **must** provide a clear explanation. There is a 5,000 character limit.

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2 (a) Procedural Error

This is when the centre made a procedural error that has not been corrected at Stage One or the centre did not conduct its review properly and consistently. If you can, please add a further explanation below or alternatively refer to the information that you have already provided above. There is a 5,000 character limit.

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2 (b) Issues with access arrangements / reasonable adjustments and/or mitigating circumstances

You **must** provide a clear explanation of what you believe went wrong and how you think this has impacted on your grade. There is a 5,000 character limit.

3 (a) Selection of evidence

You **must** provide a clear explanation of what you believe went wrong and how you think this has impacted on your grade. There is a 5,000 character limit.

3 (b) Determination of the Teacher Assessed Grade

You can provide a short explanation of the reason for your appeal if you want to. There is a 5,000 character limit.

Acknowledgement

I confirm that I am requesting an appeal for the qualification named above and that I have read and understood the information provided in the 'Important information for students' section above.

I am aware that:

- The outcome of the appeal may result in my grade remaining the same, being lowered or raised
- I understand that there is no further opportunity to appeal to the awarding organisation and that the next stage would be to contact the regulator. The awarding organisation will include the next appropriate steps, where applicable, in their appeal outcome letter which you will receive from your school/college.

Student name

Student signature

Date