



INTERNAL APPEALS POLICY

(relating to access arrangements & special considerations)

Policy is aligned to current JCQ regulations effective from:	September 2024
Agreed with Support Staff Trade Unions	n/a
Adopted by the Governing Body	Dec 24
Next Review Due	Dec 25
Agreed with Teacher Trade Unions and Professional Associations	n/a

Appeals regarding centre decisions relating to access arrangements and special consideration

This procedure confirms Welland Park's compliance with JCQ's **General Regulations for Approved Centres** (5.3z) that the centre will:

- have in place for inspection that must be reviewed and updated annually, a written internal appeals procedure which must cover appeals regarding centre decisions relating to access arrangements and special consideration

Welland Park Academy will:

- comply with the principles and regulations governing access arrangements and special consideration as set out in the JCQ publications **Access Arrangements and Reasonable Adjustments** and **A guide to the special consideration process**
- ensure that all staff who manage and implement access arrangements and special consideration are aware of the requirements and are appropriately supported and resourced

Access arrangements and reasonable adjustments

In accordance with the regulations, Welland Park Academy:

- recognises its duty to explore and provide access to suitable courses, through the access arrangements process submit applications for reasonable adjustments and make reasonable adjustments to the service the centre provides to disabled candidates.
- complies with its responsibilities in identifying, determining and implementing appropriate access arrangements and reasonable adjustments

Failure to comply with the regulations have the potential to constitute malpractice which may impact on a candidate's result(s).

Examples of failure to comply include:

- putting in place access arrangements/adjustments that are not approved
- failing to consider putting in place access arrangements (which may be a failure to comply with the duty to make reasonable adjustments)
- permitting access arrangements/adjustments within the centre which are not supported by appropriate evidence
- charging a fee for providing reasonable adjustments to disabled candidates

Special consideration

Where Welland Park Academy has appropriate evidence signed by a member of the senior leadership team to support an application, it will apply for special consideration at the time of the assessment for a candidate who is affected by adverse circumstances beyond their control when the issue or event has had, or is reasonably likely to have had, a material effect on the candidate's ability to take an assessment or demonstrate their normal level of attainment in an assessment.

Centre decisions relating to access arrangements, reasonable adjustments and special consideration

This may include Welland Park Academy's decision not to make/apply for a specific reasonable adjustment or to apply for special consideration, in circumstances where a candidate does not meet the criteria for, or there is no evidence/insufficient evidence to support the implementation of an access arrangement/ reasonable adjustment or the application of special consideration.

Where Welland Park Academy makes a decision in relation to the access arrangement(s), reasonable adjustment(s) or special consideration that apply for a candidate or candidates the following procedure must be followed:

- If a candidate who is the subject of the relevant decision (or the candidate's parent/carer) disagrees with the decision made and reasonably believes that the centre has not complied with its responsibilities or followed due procedures, an internal appeals form (see Appendix A) should be completed and submitted to the exams officer, Ms J Daly, examsofficer.wp@wellandparkacademy.com *within 10 working days* of the decision being made known to the appellant, stating clearly the grounds for the appeal. Once received the exams officer will log the appeal and pass over to the head of centre, Mr P Leatherland.

To determine the outcome of the appeal, the head of centre will consult the respective JCQ publication to confirm the centre has complied with the principles and regulations governing access arrangements and/or special consideration and followed due procedures.

The appellant will be informed of the outcome of the appeal within 21 working days of the appeal being received and logged by the centre.

If the appeal is upheld, Welland Park Academy will proceed to implement the necessary arrangements/submit the necessary application.

This procedure is informed by the JCQ documents [A guide to the awarding bodies' appeals processes](#) (3), [Suspected Malpractice: Policies and Procedures](#) (3.3), [General Regulations for Approved Centres](#) (5.4), [Access Arrangements and Reasonable Adjustments](#) (Importance of these regulations) and [A guide to the special consideration process](#) (1, 2, 6)

APPENDIX A

INTERNAL APPEALS FORM

Please tick box to indicate the nature of your appeal and complete all white boxes* on the form below

FOR CENTRE USE ONLY	
Date received	
Reference No.	

- ☐ Appeal against an internal assessment decision and/or request for a review of marking
- ☐ Appeal against a decision to reject candidate's work on the grounds of malpractice
- ☐ Appeal against the centre's decision not to support a clerical re-check, a review of marking, a review of moderation or an appeal
- ☒ Appeal against the centre's decision relating to access arrangements or special consideration

*Where the nature of the appeal does not relate directly to an awarding body's specific qualification, indicate N/A in awarding body specific detail box

Name of appellant		Candidate name (if different to appellant)	
Awarding body		Exam paper code	
Qualification type/ Subject		Exam paper title	

Please state the grounds for your appeal below:

(If applicable, tick below)

- ☐ Where my appeal is against an internal assessment decision, I wish to request a review of the centre's marking

If necessary, continue on an additional page if this form is being completed electronically or overleaf if hard copy being completed

Appellant signature:

Date of signature:

This form must be signed, dated and returned to the exams officer on behalf of the head of centre to the timescale indicated in the relevant appeals procedure detailed above.

Further guidance to inform and implement appeals

JCQ publications

- General Regulations for Approved Centres
<https://www.jcq.org.uk/exams-office/general-regulations>
- Post-Results Services
<https://www.jcq.org.uk/exams-office/post-results-services>
- JCQ Appeals Booklet (A guide to the awarding bodies' appeals processes)
<https://www.jcq.org.uk/exams-office/appeals>
- Notice to Centres – Informing candidates of their centre assessed marks
<https://www.jcq.org.uk/exams-office/non-examination-assessments>
- Suspected Malpractice: Policies and Procedures <https://www.jcq.org.uk/exams-office/malpractice/>
- Access Arrangements and Reasonable Adjustments <https://www.jcq.org.uk/exams-office/access-arrangements-and-special-consideration/regulations-and-guidance/>
- A guide to the special consideration process <https://www.jcq.org.uk/exams-office/access-arrangements-and-special-consideration/regulations-and-guidance/>

Ofqual publications

- GCSE (9 to 1) qualification-level conditions and requirements
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/gcse-9-to-1-qualification-level-conditions>
- GCE qualification-level conditions and requirements
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/gce-qualification-level-conditions-and-requirements>