

Escalation Process (Exams)



Saffron Valley Collegiate

Last reviewed: November 2024

To be reviewed: November 2025

Mission Statement

The Saffron Valley Collegiate seeks to provide a personalised educational experience that identifies and responds to the circumstances and needs of each individual child or young person. In doing so it enables them to progress academically and become successful learners through the re-engagement of the young person with education.

EQUALITIES STATEMENT:

All who work within Saffron Valley Collegiate and its component provisions are committed to the celebration of diversity, and the challenging of disadvantage and discrimination, in all its forms. These values are explicit to the ethos of the Saffron Valley Collegiate and implicit in all policies and practice

Purpose of the process

In terms of internal governance arrangements, it is the responsibility of the head of centre to ensure that Saffron Valley Collegiate has in place a written escalation process should the head of centre, or a member of the senior leadership team with oversight of examination administration, be absent.

This process confirms the main duties and responsibilities to be escalated.

This process also supports Saffron Valley Collegiate being able to confirm to an awarding body the external governance arrangements so that the awarding body has confidence in the integrity of centre activities such as the delivery of qualifications and the conducting of examinations and assessments.

Before examinations (Planning)

In the event of the absence of the head of centre or the member of senior leadership with oversight of examination administration, responsibility for implementing JCQ regulations and requirements relating to activity prior to examinations will be escalated to The Assistant Exams Officer

To support understanding of the regulations and requirements, the following JCQ publications will be referenced:

- General Regulations for Approved Centres
- Instructions for conducting examinations
- Access Arrangements and Reasonable Adjustments
- Instructions for conducting coursework
- Instructions for conducting non-examination assessments
- Suspected Malpractice – Policies and Procedures
- A guide to the special consideration process

The following CAIE publications will be referenced:

- Cambridge handbook (UK)

Main duties and responsibilities relate to:

- Third party arrangements
- Centre status
- Confidentiality
 - Resilience and contingency arrangements
 - Cyber security
- Communication
 - **Centre management:**
- Recruitment, selection , training and support
- External and Internal governance arrangements
- Delivery of qualifications
- Public liability

- Conflicts of interest
- Controlled assessments, coursework and non-examination assessments
- Security of assessment materials
- National Centre Number Register and other information requirements
- Centre inspections

Additional JCQ publication for reference:

- JCQ Centre Inspection Service Changes

- Exam policies available for inspection

Specific JCQ publications for reference:

- General Regulations for Approved Centres (section 5)
- Instructions for conducting examinations (section 25)
- Access Arrangements and Reasonable Adjustments (section 5)
- Personal data, freedom of information and copyright

Before examinations (Entries and Pre-exams)

In the event of the absence of the head of centre or the member of senior leadership with oversight of examination administration, responsibility for implementing JCQ regulations and requirements relating to entries and exam preparation will be escalated to the Assistant Exam Officer.

Main duties and responsibilities relate to:

- Entries (including ensuring appropriate controls are in place which allow accurate entries to be submitted to the awarding bodies)

Additional JCQ and CAIE publications for reference:

- Key dates
- Guidance Notes for Transferred Candidates
- Alternative Site guidance note
- Centre assessed work (including ensuring that candidates' work is backed-up and considering the contingency of candidates' work being backed-up in the event of IT system corruption and cyber-attacks, and appropriate controls are in place which allow accurate internally assessed marks to be submitted to the awarding bodies)
- Guidance Notes – Centre Consortium Arrangements
- Candidate information
- Information for candidates documents
- Exam Room Posters

During examinations (Exam time)

In the event of the absence of the head of centre or the member of senior leadership with oversight of examination administration, responsibility for implementing JCQ regulations and requirements relating to during exam time will be escalated to the Assistant Exams Officer .

The centre also has in place a member of the senior leadership team who will provide support and guidance to the examinations officer and ensure that the integrity and security of examinations and assessments is maintained throughout an examination series.

Main duties and responsibilities relate to:

- Conducting examinations and assessments
- Guidance Notes – Very Late Arrival
- Malpractice
- Retention of candidates' work

To support understanding of the regulations and requirements, sections of relevant JCQ publications will be specifically referenced including:

- General Regulations for Approved Centres (sections 3, 5)
- Instructions for conducting examinations (sections 16-31)
- Access Arrangements and Reasonable Adjustments (section 8)
- A guide to the special consideration process (sections 2-7)

Main duties and responsibilities relate to:

- Conducting examinations and assessments
Additional JCQ publication for reference:
 - Guidance Notes – Very Late Arrival
- Malpractice
- Retention of candidates' work

After examinations (Results and Post-Results)

As a contingency, the centre has at least one senior member of staff (senior designated contact) who is available to manage emergency requests from awarding bodies that are results related during the summer holidays. The National Centre Number Register is provided with the senior designated contact details (this might include a personal mobile number and/or email address). These are the contact details of someone who can be reached in an emergency if the centre is closed over the summer and who can mobilise resources to respond to the issue. (GR 3.18, 5.3)

In the event of the absence of the head of centre or the member of senior leadership with oversight of examination administration, responsibility for implementing JCQ regulations and requirements relating to after examinations will be escalated to Gareth Denton, Deputy Headteacher.

To support understanding of the regulations and requirements, sections of relevant JCQ publications will be specifically referenced including:

- General Regulations for Approved Centres (section 5)

Main duties and responsibilities relate to:

- Results (Release of Results notice)
- Post-results services and appeals

Additional JCQ publications for reference:

- Post-Results Services (Information and guidance to centres)
- JCQ Appeals Booklet (A guide to the awarding bodies' appeals processes)
- Certificates