

# CENTRE POLICY FOR THE POST-RESULTS SERVICE Parkhall Integrated College

Adopted by Board of Governors on 21/06/2021 Issued to staff on 22/06/2021 Published to the school website on 22/06/2021

Responsible: Mr G Beattie (Principal)

Ms R McCrea (Examination Officer)

Mr A Cunningham (Assistant examination officer)

#### 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;
- 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);
- 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 Parkhall Integrated 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 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 Parkhall Integrated College in conjunction with the student and may then progress to Stage 2. The two stages are:

- Stage 1 A Centre Review, completed by Parkhall Integrated College
- Stage 2 An Appeal to CCEA Awarding Organisation, submitted by Parkhall Integrated College on behalf of a student and completed by CCEA.

### Stage 1 - Centre Review conducted by Parkhall Integrated College

Any student who was awarded a Centre Determined Grade by Parkhall Integrated College in summer 2021 is permitted to submit a request for a Centre Review. Parkhall Integrated College will complete a Centre Review for any student who makes a request. To help students decide whether to request a Centre Review, Parkhall Integrated 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.

The student will be made aware at this stage that the outcome of any Centre Review completed by Parkhall Integrated College may be that the grade goes up, goes down or stays the same.

All requests for a Centre Review must be made directly to Parkhall Integrated College through the Examination Officer using the form provided by CCEA (see appendix). A student may request a Centre Review if they consider:

- 1) Parkhall Integrated College made an administrative error in relation to their grade; and/or
- 2) Parkhall Integrated 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 Parkhall Integrated College to ensure there have been no administrative errors and that procedures have been followed, or these have been addressed.

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

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

In order to determine the outcome of a Centre Review, the members of staff, Mr G Beattie, Head of Centre and Ms R McCrea, Examination Officer 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);
- 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 Parkhall Integrated College may be that the grade goes up, goes down or stays the same.

### Reporting the Outcome of a Centre Review

Parkhall Integrated College will provide the student with an outcome letter using the template provided by CCEA (see appendix)

#### 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 CCEA.

If a grade change is considered to be required, Parkhall Integrated College will submit an error correction request to CCEA as soon as possible.

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

#### Stage 2 – Appeal to CCEA Awarding Organisation

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 have the right to submit an Appeal to CCEA Awarding Organisation as the next stage in the process. Where requested by the student, Parkhall Integrated 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.

Parkhall Integrated College will submit any request for an Appeal to CCEA Awarding Organisation from a student upon the conclusion of a Centre Review. Parkhall Integrated College through the Examination Officer will communicate the outcome of the Appeal to CCEA Awarding Organisation to the student upon completion.

### 3. Roles and Responsibilities

Parkhall Integrated College will:

- Have appropriate arrangements in place to conduct a Centre Review in line with CCEA 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 CCEA Awarding Organisation for any changes considered to be necessary to Centre Determined Grades;
- Submit any requests to CCEA for a CCEA Awarding Organisation Appeal;
- Communicate the outcome of any Centre Review and/or CCEA Awarding Organisation Appeal to students;
- Retain records of all completed Centre Reviews electronically, to be submitted to CCEA should a student decide to request a Stage 2 CCEA Awarding Organisation Appeal; and
- Provide pastoral support to students at each stage of the process, as required.

Parkhall Integrated 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 Parkhall Integrated College as an examinations centre and will ensure the roles and responsibilities of all staff are defined. The Head of Centre will complete Centre Reviews with the examination officer. The Head of Centre is required to sign-off the outcome of any Centre Review. The Examination Officer will communicate the outcome of any Stage 1 Centre Review or Stage 2 Appeals to CCEA 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 complete the Centre Reviews with the Head of Centre. They will submit any Stage 2 Appeal to CCEA Awarding Organisation through the CCEA app, or delegate this responsibility to the assistant Examination officer. The Examinations Officer will submit any error correction requests to CCEA, 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

The deadline for submission of priority (A2) Stage 2 Appeals to CCEA Awarding Organisation, where a place at a higher education Institution is on hold, is **23 August 2021**.

In order for Parkhall Integrated 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 **16 August 2021**.

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

In order for Parkhall Integrated College to meet the above deadline for submission, all other requests for a Centre Review must be submitted no later than **3 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.

## **Appendix**



### **CCEA Post-Results Service Submission Form**

### **Important Information for Students**

# What may happen to your grade during the Centre Review and Appeal to CCEA Awarding Organisation?

If you ask your school or college to undertake a Centre Review of your grade, or if you subsequently ask for an appeal to be submitted to CCEA Awarding Organisation (AO), there are three possible outcomes:

- your original grade goes down, so your final grade may be lower than the original grade you received;
- your original grade stays the same, so there is no change to your grade; or
- your original grade goes up, so your final grade may be higher than the original grade you received.

To initiate a Centre Review, you must complete the form below. You can sign the form with an electronic, handwritten or typed signature. This confirms to your school or college that you have understood what the outcome might be, at any stage of the Centre Review and appeals process, and that you give your consent to a Centre Review and, should you wish, a subsequent Appeal to CCEA AO. A Centre Review or appeal cannot be withdrawn once a finding has been made.

If you believe an error persists once you have received the outcome of the Centre Review and you wish to progress to an Appeal to CCEA AO, you should discuss this as soon as possible with your school or college and ask them to submit your appeal on your behalf. CCEA AO needs to receive an application for appeal from your school or college by 23 August 2021 for priority appeals (those with higher education places pending the outcome of an appeal) or 17 September 2021 for non-priority appeals.

#### What is a priority appeal?

A priority appeal is for students whose higher education place is pending the outcome of an appeal. You should inform your preferred higher education provider that you have requested a Centre Review or Appeal to CCEA AO.

### What is your UCAS personal identifier?

Your UCAS personal identifier is the 10-digit code included in all correspondence from UCAS. This is needed to confirm that a student's place is pending the outcome of an appeal.

## **Stage 1 – Centre Review**

### A. Student Request

This section is to be completed by the **student**.

If you need help completing this section, please speak to your school or college.

| Centre Name  |             | Centre Number                                  |      |  |  |  |
|--|-------------|--|------|--|--|--|
| Student Name   |             | Candidate Number                               |      |  |  |  |
| Qualification title including level, e.g. GCSE   |             |  |      |  |  |  |
| Centre Determined Grade issued   |             |  |      |  |  |  |
| Are you applying for a priority appeal?  | Yes<br>No   | If Yes, provide your UCAS personal identifier. |      |  |  |  |
| Grounds for Centre Review Please tick the grounds upon which you wish to apply for a Centre Review.  |             |  |      |  |  |  |
| Administrative error by the centre   |             | Centre did not follow their procedure          |      |  |  |  |
| Supporting evidence Please provide a short explanation of what you believe went wrong and how you think this has impacted your grade.  |             |  |      |  |  |  |
|  |             |  |      |  |  |  |
| 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 going up, going down or staying the same;     and   |             |  |      |  |  |  |
| the next stage (Stage 2 – Appeal to CCEA AO) may only be requested once the Centre<br>Review (Stage 1) has been requested and concluded.   |             |  |      |  |  |  |
| Student Name   | Student Sig | nature   | Date |  |  |  |

### **B. Centre Review Outcome**

This section is to be completed by the **centre**.

| Centre Review Outcome Please tick the outcome                                    |                       |                           |                          |                |         |
|--|-----------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|----------------|---------|
| Upheld   |                       | Not uphel                 | d                        |                |         |
| Original Centre Determir   | ned Grade             | Revised C                 | Centre Determine         | ed Grade       |         |
| Information considered<br>Please provide a short e                               |                       | ence that you ha          | ave reviewed.            |                |         |
|  |                       |                           |                          |                |         |
|  |                       |                           |                          |                |         |
|  |                       |                           |                          |                |         |
|  |                       |                           |                          |                |         |
| Rationale for the outco<br>Outline the centre's findil<br>proposed grade change. | ngs from the Centre R |                           | , where appropri         | ate, rationale | for any |
| proposed grade change.   |                       |                           |                          |                |         |
|  |                       |                           |                          |                |         |
|  |                       |                           |                          |                |         |
|  |                       |                           |                          |                |         |
| Authorisation and dat  | es of next stages     |                           |                          |                |         |
| Name of authoriser   |                       | Date submi<br>CCEA AO i   | tted to<br>f appropriate |                |         |
| Date CCEA AO<br>decision and rationale<br>issued to student                      |                       | Date studer<br>of Stage 2 |                          |                |         |

# Stage 2 – Appeal to CCEA AO

This section is to be completed by the **student**.

If you need help completing this section, please speak to your school or college.

| Grounds for Appeal Please tick the grounds upon which   | you wish to appeal. |      |  |  |  |  |
|---|---------------------|------|--|--|--|--|
| 1. Administrative error by CCEA A   | NO.                 |      |  |  |  |  |
| 2. Administrative error by the centre   |                     |      |  |  |  |  |
| 3. Centre did not follow their procedure  |                     |      |  |  |  |  |
| 4. Unreasonable exercise of academic judgement  |                     |      |  |  |  |  |
| a. Selection of evidence  |                     |      |  |  |  |  |
| b. Determination of Centre Determin   | ed Grade            |      |  |  |  |  |
| Supporting evidence Please provide a short explanation of what you believe went wrong and how you think this has impacted your grade.   |                     |      |  |  |  |  |
|   |                     |      |  |  |  |  |
| <ul> <li>Acknowledgement</li> <li>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.</li> <li>I am aware that the outcome of the appeal may result in my grade going up, going down or staying the same.</li> <li>I understand that there is no further opportunity to appeal to CCEA AO and that the next stage would be to contact the regulator. CCEA AO will include the next appropriate steps, where applicable, in its appeal outcome letter.</li> </ul> |                     |      |  |  |  |  |
|   | udent Signature     | Date |  |  |  |  |