

Conflicts of Interest Policy: Summer 2021

Introduction

The Purcell School manages conflicts of interest in accordance with the JCQ General Regulations for Approved Centres (section 5.3). Roles and responsibilities for normal delivery arrangements are detailed in our general exams policy to ensure that awarding bodies are informed (where required) of any relevant conflict declared by members of centre staff and records are maintained that confirm the measures taken/protocols in place to mitigate any potential risk to the integrity of the qualifications affected before the published deadline for entries.

Our general centre policies regarding malpractice, maladministration and conflicts of interest have been reviewed to ensure they address the specific challenges of delivery in Summer 2021.

Purpose of the Policy

This policy addresses how we are managing any potential conflicts of interest under the specific arrangements for delivery in Summer 2021.

General Principles

A process is in place to collect any declaration of personal interest from all staff involved in the arrangements for Summer 2021 and to manage any potential conflicts of interest.

Where reference is made to candidates, this includes any private candidates accepted by the centre

Declaration Process

- A **Declaration of Personal Interest form** for Summer 2021 will be sent by the Exams Officer electronically via email or google drive to all centre staff involved in the process
- Staff will be required to:
 - confirm their understanding of what a personal interest in a candidate relates to
 - (where applicable) declare no personal interest in any candidate
 - (where applicable) declare a personal interest in a candidate and identify their role(s) in the arrangements
 - confirm awareness of the need to maintain the confidentiality of the grades and endorsements determined by the centre
 - return the completed declaration to Exams Officer by 7th May 2021

Managing Conflicts of Interest

- A **Conflicts of Interest log** for Summer 2021 will be maintained to record any potential conflicts of interest declared by centre staff
- The log will record the nature of potential conflict and a decision by Head of Centre, if this is deemed a potential risk to the integrity of the centre's assessments
- The log will record appropriate additional controls put in place to mitigate any potential risk to the integrity of the centre's assessments and to ensure fairness in later process reviews and appeals, carefully considering the need if to separate duties and personnel

Individual awarding body instruction/guidance will be followed if there is any change (for summer 2021) to their normal procedures for informing of conflicts of interest.

Declaration of Personal Interest Form: Summer 2021

| | | | |
|-------------------|--|--------------------------|--|
| Your Name: | | Your Job Role(s): | |
|-------------------|--|--------------------------|--|

This completed form must be returned to **Lisa Canosa**, Exams Officer by 7th May 2021.

Confirm your understanding: (Please tick the box to confirm a statement)

- I understand that a personal interest relates to a candidate who is a member of my family (which includes step-family, foster family and similar close relationships) or close friends and their immediate family (e.g. son/daughter)

You must declare all statements that apply to you: (Please tick the box to confirm a statement)

- I have no personal interest in a candidate to declare
- I declare a personal interest in a candidate who is part of a class or cohort for whom I will be:
- Determining teacher assessed grades including consideration of evidence and how that evidence informs these grades in accordance with our Centre Policy
 - Keeping records of any discussions with candidates around the evidence on which grades will be based
 - Producing assessment records that explain the determination of the final teacher assessed grades
 - Safely retaining copies of candidates' work and any mark records
 - Completing a Head of Department Checklist/declaration before submitting subject outcomes for internal standardisation
 - Involved in the internal quality assurance processes that are in place
 - Collating grades for all classes/cohorts in preparation for submission to the awarding body/bodies
 - Inputting grades through the awarding body/bodies grade submission system/systems
 - Completing the Head of Centre declaration(s) to finalise the submission of grades
 - Involved in reviews of centre processes and the appeals process

(Where more than one related person, please complete a separate form)

| | | | |
|--|-----------------------|----------------------|----------------------------|
| Name of Related Person (the candidate): | | | |
| Candidate Number: | | | Relationship to Me: |
| Qualification(s) Details | Awarding Body: | Subject Code: | Subject Title: |
| | | | |

Signature to confirm declaration:

By signing here, I am also confirming I am aware of the need to maintain the confidentiality of the grades and endorsements determined by the centre which must not be given to candidates or parents/carers before the issue of results by the awarding bodies.

Date declaration form completed and signed:

You will be informed of any additional controls put in place that directly affect you/your role to mitigate any potential risk to the integrity of the centre's assessments and to ensure fairness in later process reviews and appeals.

This record will be retained until the published deadline for appeals has passed or until any on-going appeal, malpractice investigation or other results enquiry has been completed, whichever is later.

Conflicts of Interest Log: Summer 2021

| | |
|---|----------------------------------|
| Date Recorded: | Staff Name & Role(s): |
| | |
| Nature of Potential Conflict: | |
| | |
| Deemed a Potential Risk: | Yes / No |
| Additional controls put in place to mitigate any potential risk to the integrity of the centre's assessments and/or to ensure fairness in later process reviews and appeals: | |
| | |

| | |
|---|----------------------------------|
| Date Recorded: | Staff Name & Role(s): |
| | |
| Nature of Potential Conflict: | |
| | |
| Deemed a Potential Risk: | Yes / No |
| Additional controls put in place to mitigate any potential risk to the integrity of the centre's assessments and/or to ensure fairness in later process reviews and appeals: | |
| | |

This record will be retained until the published deadline for appeals has passed or until any on-going appeal, malpractice investigation or other results enquiry has been completed, whichever is later.

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| Policy Approved By: | Mr Paul Bambrough |
| Date: | 16 th April 2021 |