



## Exam Policy

All staff involved in examination procedures are made aware of this document.

We have fully trained invigilators and any other adults asked to invigilate will be trained in school.

Approved by: Teaching & Learning

Date:..... 8.3.18 .....

Signed:..... *M. Galloway* .....

Review Date: March 2019

## Stone Hill School will

- **keep live controlled assessments and candidates' coursework secure and confidential at all times whilst in our possession.** It is not acceptable for teaching staff to share live controlled assessments or coursework with candidates. Live controlled assessments or coursework is defined as any controlled assessment or coursework on a topic which has been set either by an awarding body or the centre for a current or future examination series. The work may have been completed in a previous year or is in preparation for the present or future series;
- store safely and securely controlled assessments, coursework or portfolios retained in, or returned to, the centre up to and including the deadline for the submission of enquiries about results and until any enquiry or malpractice investigation has been resolved;
- ensure that when GCSE, GCE and Principal Learning scripts that have been returned under access to scripts arrangements are no longer required, they are disposed of in a confidential manner, but no earlier than the dates specified by the awarding bodies.

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## 1. Exam responsibilities

### Head Teacher

Has overall responsibility for the school as an exam centre:

- Advises on appeals and re-marks
- Is responsible for reporting all suspicions or Actual incidents of malpractice. Refer to the JCQ document; “*Suspected malpractice in examinations and assessments*”
- Ensures that local health and safety rules are in place and that the centre is adequately covered for public liability claims
- Co-operates with the JCQ Centre Inspection Service, and/or awarding body staff and/or regulatory authority when subject to inspection
- Ensures that all venues used for examinations and assessments, records, and secure storage facilities are open to inspection. (JCQ centre inspectors will present themselves to the centre and will identify themselves with an appropriate letter of authorisation/card.)
- Ensures that the exams officer or a senior member of staff is available to accompany the inspector during his/her tour of the premises
- Ensures that all staff employed in Stone Hill School are subject to an enhanced CRB/DBS check
- Ensures that the examinations officer receives appropriate training in order to facilitate the effective delivery of examinations and assessments within the school

### Exams Officer: Mr P Scotting

- Manages the administration of public and internal exams and analysis of exam results
- Reports directly to the Senior Leadership Team
- Advises the Senior Leadership Team, subject and class teachers and other relevant support staff on annual exam timetables and application procedures as set by the various exam boards
- Oversees the production and distribution to staff, governors and candidates of an annual calendar for all exams in which candidates will be involved and communicates regularly with staff concerning imminent deadlines and events
- Ensures that candidates and their parents are informed of and understand those aspects of the exam timetable that will affect them
- Consults with teaching staff to ensure that necessary coursework is completed on time and in accordance with JCQ guidelines
- Provides and confirms detailed data on estimated entries
- Makes arrangements to receive and issue material received from the awarding bodies to staff and candidates, and notify them of advice and instructions relevant to the examinations and assessments. Exam papers must be checked by 2 members of staff before opening and distributing to candidates; Receives, checks and stores securely all exam papers and completed scripts
- Verifies the identity of **all** candidates at the time of the examination or assessment and ensure that candidates write their name on the front of the exam paper as it appears on the register of attendance. Ensuring that the name the candidate is using is their legal name rather than a 'known as name'
- Due to the small numbers of pupils within exam cohorts all pupils are personally known to the exams officer and all staff administering exams. Only pupils on roll at Stone Hill School will take exams at this centre
- Administers access arrangements and makes applications for special consideration using the JCQ *Access arrangements and special considerations regulations* and *Guidance relating to candidates who*

*are eligible for adjustments in examinations*

- Line manages the exam invigilators and organises any training required
- Responsible for the conduct of exams
- Prepares and presents reports to the SLT showing results achieved in relation to expected grades and comparable data for previous years, indicating where future procedural improvements might be made
- Submits candidates' coursework marks, tracks dispatch and stores returned coursework and any other material required by the appropriate awarding bodies correctly and on schedule
- Will be prepared to be available until 5.00 pm where afternoon examinations are taking place to ensure the prompt dispatch of scripts and in the event of a centre inspection.
- Will check accuracy of certification claims as they are registered and check the accuracy of the certificates when they are delivered, before distributing to pupils
- Arranges for dissemination of exam results and certificates to candidates and forwards, in consultation with the SLT, any appeals requests
- Maintains systems and processes to support the timely entry of candidates for their exams

### **Subject Leaders**

- Accurate completion of coursework mark sheets and declaration sheets
- Accurate completion of entry and all other mark sheets and adherence to deadlines as set by the exams officer
- Notification of access arrangements (as soon as possible after the start of the course).
- Submission of candidates' names to curriculum leaders
- Ensure that candidates have had adequate recent laboratory experience, or relevant training where required by the subject concerned

### **Candidates**

#### **Stone Hill School will**

- Register or enter candidates for an examination or assessment in accordance with the awarding bodies' published procedures for that qualification;
- Maintain a unique learner number (ULN) for each candidate entered for an examination or assessment and to ensure that the same UCI is used consistently for the candidate over time to enable aggregation of units and qualifications;
- Make arrangements to notify candidates of their examination entries and the dates and times of their examinations/assessments;
- Ensure that the JCQ Information for candidates (controlled assessments, coursework, on-screen tests and written examinations) are distributed to all candidates whether electronically or in hard copy format prior to assessments and/or examinations taking place;
- Ensure that candidates are made aware of the content of the JCQ Mobile Phone poster (including smart watches, iPods, MP3/4 players) and 'Warning to Candidates' posters
- Ensure that all candidate data, where required by the awarding body, has been supplied to the awarding bodies within the terms of the Data Protection Act 1998 and the Freedom of Information Act 2000, and that candidates have been properly informed that this data has been transferred to the awarding bodies

Where applicable, the Data Protection Notice for candidates requiring access arrangements is completed. (Appendix 1)

### **Invigilators**

Invigilate examinations in accordance with JCQ regulations.

Collection of all exam papers in the correct order at the end of the exam and their return to the

exams office.

## **2. The statutory tests and qualifications offered**

The statutory tests and qualifications offered at Stone Hill School are decided by the head teacher, subject leaders and the senior leadership team.

The statutory tests and qualifications offered are; GCSE, Entry Level and BTEC, when appropriate. At key stage 4, all candidates will be entitled, and enabled, to achieve an entry for qualifications from an external awarding body.

## **3. Exam Entries and Timetables**

Subject leaders have responsibility for giving the Exams Officer the appropriate notice period for scheduling of internal exams which contribute to summative assessment.

External exams are scheduled throughout the academic year and on demand with the appropriate notice adhered to. Subject Leaders must liaise with the Exams Officer to oversee and plan the scheduling of exams for their area. This includes decisions on exams series.

All internal exams are held under external exam conditions.

### **Timetables**

The exams officer will display timetables of all external exams. The allocation of invigilators will be the responsibility of the Exams Officer.

### **Entries, entry details and late entries**

#### **Entries**

Normally candidates are selected for their exam entries by the Subject Leader.

#### **Entry Details**

All individual candidate statements of entry will be sent to parents/carers via letter.

#### **Late Entries**

Late entries are authorised by the Headteacher.

Entry deadlines are available from the Exams Officer or the Awarding Organisation websites.

Under extreme circumstances, very late entries will be accepted but these will be subject to a fee levied by the Awarding Organisation.

#### **Exam fees**

Stone Hill School pays all fees relating to pupil examinations.

## **4. The Disability Discrimination Act (DDA), Special Needs and Access Arrangements:**

Stone Hill School recognises its duties towards its pupils as defined under the terms of the Equality Act 2017. **Page 4**. This includes a duty to explore and provide access to suitable courses and make reasonable adjustments to the service the school to all its pupils.

It will:

- Submit any applications for access arrangements or reasonable adjustments, ensuring that appropriate documentary evidence is held on file to substantiate such an arrangement and is open to inspection. For GCSE, GCE qualifications including Level 1 and 2, a JCQ centre inspector will sample a centre's applications
- Ensure that for GCSE and GCE qualifications including Level 1 and 2, a file is presented which must contain for each application the downloaded approval for the respective access arrangement(s), supporting evidence of need (where required) and a signed data protection notice. This information must be available for inspection at the venue where the candidate is

- taking the examination
- Submit requests for modified papers by the due date
- Provide separate invigilation for any candidate that has a proven established difficulty

Ensure that, arrangements are carried out in accordance with the following JCQ publication: Access Arrangements, Reasonable Adjustments and Special Consideration, 1 September 2017 to 31 August 2018. **Page 2 & 3**

### **5. Managing invigilators**

It will be normal practice to use internal invigilators who have not been part of the delivery or preparation of the assessed components or controlled assessments.

### **6. Exam days**

#### **The Exams Officer will**

- Book all exam rooms
- Liaise with other users if necessary
- Make the question papers, other exam stationery and materials available for the invigilator
- Be responsible for setting up the allocated rooms in accordance with JCQ guidelines
- Attempt to contact any candidate who is not present at the start of an exam and deal with them in accordance with Stone Hill Contingency Plan (point3) and JCQ guidelines
- Ensure confirmed absences are clearly recorded as such on the attendance register sent to the examiner/marker
- Note candidate absence on the seating plan by crossing through the candidate details
- Ensure the pre-applied for external exam access arrangements are in place

#### **The lead invigilator will start all exams in accordance with JCQ guidelines and they will ensure that**

- All candidates have an equal opportunity
- The integrity of exams is maintained by giving all their attention to conducting the examination properly
- All candidates in the room are observed at all times
- Exams security before, during and after the exam is adhered to
- Possible candidate malpractice is prevented
- The Exams Officer or Headteacher are informed if there is a suspicion of any malpractice
- The identify of candidates and their registration has been carried out
- Examination conditions continue throughout any given extra time
- Candidates are supervised during any rest breaks
- The correct procedures are followed for the end of the exam and candidates are dismissed appropriately
- All exams scripts and other materials are returned securely to the Exams Officer for storage or despatch

#### **Subject staff**

- Must not advise on which questions are to be attempted
- May be on hand in case of any technical difficulties during practical exams
- Must not read exam papers or remove them from the exam room before the end of a session
- Will receive papers the following day

#### **Candidates**

- The school's published rules on acceptable dress, behaviour and candidates' use of mobile



phones and all electronic devices apply at all times

- Disruptive candidates are to be dealt with in accordance with Stone Hill's behaviour policy (see also Contingency Plan point 3) JCQ guidelines (Page 17 General Rules for Approved Centres "Malpractice")
- Candidates arriving late will be dealt with as stated in the Contingency Plan
- Candidates may leave the exam room for a genuine purpose requiring an immediate return to the exam room, in which case a member of staff must accompany them
- Stone Hill School provides its students with all equipment for use within exams

### **7. Special consideration**

Should a candidate be ill before an exam, suffer bereavement or other trauma, be taken ill during the exam itself or otherwise disadvantaged or disturbed during an exam, then it is the candidate's responsibility to alert the school, the Exams Officer, or the exam invigilator, to that effect. The candidate must support any special consideration claim with appropriate evidence within three days of the exam, for example a letter from the candidate's doctor. The Exams Officer will then forward a completed special consideration form to the relevant awarding body within seven days of the exam.

### **8. Coursework and appeals against internal assessments**

Candidates who have to prepare coursework should do so in accordance with the deadline set by the examination board.

The Subject Leaders will:

- Ensure all coursework is produced, authenticated and marked or assessed and quality assured in accordance with the awarding bodies' instructions
- Ensure all coursework is ready for dispatch at the correct time and coursework will reach the moderator via the relevant postal system
- Submit centre-assessed marks and dispatch moderation samples, if required by the awarding body, by the published date
- Use only current assessment materials/tasks to assess candidates' knowledge and skills (in cases where the awarding body provides such material)
- Store safely and securely all controlled assessments, coursework or portfolios until the deadline for an enquiry about results has passed or until any enquiry (results, appeal or malpractice enquiry) has been completed, whichever is later. This includes materials stored electronically

### **9. Appeals against internal assessments**

The school publishes a separate procedure on this subject. The main points are:

- Appeals will only be considered if they apply to the process leading to an assessment. There is no appeal against the mark or grade awarded.
- Candidates may appeal if they feel their coursework has been assessed unfairly, inconsistently or not in accordance with the specification for the qualification.
- Appeals should be made in writing/email at the earliest opportunity to the Examinations Officer who will liaise with the relevant members of staff to process the appeal.
- The school's findings will be notified in writing, copied to the Examinations Officer and recorded for awarding body inspection

### **10. Results, Enquiries About Results (EARs) and Access To Scripts (ATS) & Certificates**

- Candidates will receive copies of their certificates when received by school
- Original copies of their certificates are collated in pupils' Progress Files which are kept secure until presented during the School's Leaver's Assembly

- Where a third party is to collect the file, the appointed person must present suitable identification i.e. passport, driving license, in order to collect the results
- Progress Files not taken by pupils are delivered to their Post 16 Provision
- Any further certificates are sent by recorded delivery to candidates' home addresses
- Only the Headteacher and the Examination team are permitted access to 'early release' results.
- The exams officer will receive results data on the same day that students receive their results
- Arrangements for the school to be open on results days (if necessary) are made by the exams officer and head of school
- Where appropriate, members of the Senior Leadership Team will be present in school on results day, together with other members of staff including the exams officer
- Release of information to the public and press is the responsibility of the head teacher. Where appropriate, the exams office will then liaise with outside agencies to report exam results

### **Enquiries about Results (EARs)**

- EARs may be requested by centre staff or candidates if there are reasonable grounds for believing there has been an error in marking, subject to payment of appropriate fees
- The fee will be payable either by the candidate or the Subject area, depending on who requested the EAR

### **Access to Scripts (ATS)**

- After the release of results, candidates may request the return of papers within the Awarding Organisation's stated deadlines
- When this is provided electronically, the Exams Office will send the document to the candidate's nominated email account
- Subject Leaders may also request scripts for investigation or teaching purposes. For the latter, the consent of candidates must be obtained

### **11. Certificates**

- Certificates are presented in person or posted recorded delivery.



## Appendix 1

### Data Protection Notice

So that we can process your application for access arrangements electronically via the Access arrangements online system we need your consent to share some of your personal data, which may include data relating to your health, medical condition or any disability, with a number of organisations. In some cases, we may need to provide more detailed personal information to support the application for access arrangements being made on your behalf.

These organisations are the Joint Council for Qualifications (JCQ) and the participating awarding bodies (currently AQA, CCEA, OCR, Pearson and WJEC).

Your application will be processed in line with the common standards, regulations and guidance developed for GCSE and GCE qualifications by the Joint Council for Qualifications (JCQ).

If you are happy for us to share your data please provide your consent by completing the declaration below. We will not use your data for any other purpose without your consent (unless authorised to do so by law).

#### Declaration

For the purpose of processing my access arrangement application, I consent to the use of my name, date of birth and other relevant data as set out above. I understand that this information will not be used for any other purpose without my consent unless authorised by law.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Print Name  
\_\_\_\_\_

Appendix 2

See page 99 of the JCQ Access Arrangements and Reasonable Adjustments.

