

Conflicts of Interest Policy
Dixons Unity Academy

Introduction

Dixons Unity Academy 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 the centre's 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 declarations 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 via a Form on Teams 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.
 - submit the completed declaration by **Friday 30 April 2021**.

Managing conflicts of interest

- A conflicts of interest log for Summer 2021 will be maintained by the Exams Officer 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.
- Where applicable, 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 any later processing of reviews and appeals, carefully considering the need 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.

