

EXAMINATIONS APPEALS PROCEDURES

George Stephenson High School

APPEALS AGAINST INTERNAL ASSESSMENT OF WORK FOR EXTERNAL QUALIFICATIONS

George Stephenson High School is committed to ensuring that whenever its staff assess students' work for external qualification, this is done fairly, consistently and in accordance with the specification for the qualification concerned. Assessments should be conducted by staff who have appropriate knowledge, understanding and skills, and who have been trained in this activity. Students' work should be produced and authenticated according to the requirements of the examinations board. Where a set of work is divided between staff, consistency should be assured by internal moderation and standardisation.

If a student feels that this may not have happened in relation to his/her work, s/he may make use of this appeals procedure. Note that appeals may only be made against the process that led to the assessment and not against the mark or grade.

The existence of this procedure is made known to students by their tutor. This procedure is available from the Student Support Office, and is posted on the school website.

1. Appeals should be made as soon as possible, and must be made at least two weeks before the end of the last externally assessed paper in the examinations series.
2. Appeals should be made in writing to the Examinations and Student Data Manager who will investigate the appeal. If the Examinations and Student Data Manager was directly involved in the assessment in question, the Headteacher will appoint another member of staff of similar or greater seniority to conduct the investigation. Likewise if Examinations and Student Data Manager is not able to conduct the investigation for some other reason.
3. The Examinations and Student Data Manager or other member of staff will decide whether the process used for the internal assessment conformed with the requirements of the awarding body and the examinations code of practice of the QCA. This will be done before the end of the series.
4. You will be informed in writing of the outcome of the appeal, including any correspondence with the board, any changes made to the assessment of your work, and any changes made to improve matters in future.
5. The outcome of the appeal will be made known to Headteacher, and a written record of the appeal will be kept and made available to the awarding body at their request. Should the appeal bring any significant irregularity to light, the awarding body will be informed.

After work has been assessed internally it is moderated by the awarding body to ensure consistency between centres. Such moderation frequently changes the marks awarded for internally assessed work. That is outside the control of George Stephenson High School and is not covered by this procedure. If you have concerns about it, please ask the Examinations and Student Data Manager for a copy of the appeals procedure of the relevant examinations board.

A L Welsh
1st September 2006