



## GCSE Controlled Assessment Policy

**Responsible for policy:**

**Date of policy:**

**Date approved by LGB:**

**Date of review:**

**Policy Status:**

**Chair of CW LGB:**

**Cardinal Wiseman Local Governing Body**

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**Statutory**

*B.M. Johnson*



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## Definitions

In this **GCSE Controlled Assessment Policy**, unless the context otherwise requires, the following expressions shall have the following meanings:

- i **'The Romero Catholic Academy'** means the Company named at the beginning of this **GCSE Controlled Assessment Policy** and includes all sites upon which the Company is undertaking, from time to time, being carried out. The Romero Catholic Academy includes; **Corpus Christi, Good Shepherd, Sacred Heart, Blue Sky, SS Peter and Paul, St Gregory, St John Fisher, St Patrick, Cardinal Wiseman, Shared Services Term.**
- ii **'Romero Catholic Academy'** means the Company responsible for the management of the Academy and, for all purposes, means the employer of staff at the Company.
- iii **'Board'** means the board of Directors of the Romero Catholic Academy.
- iv **'Clerk'** means the Governance Professional to the Board or the Governance Professional to the Local Governing Body of the Academy appointed from time to time, as appropriate.
- v **'Chair'** means the Chair of the Board of the Directors or the Local Governing Body appointed from time to time.
- vi **'Catholic Senior Executive Leader'** means the person responsible for performance of all Academies and Staff within the Multi Academy Company and is accountable to the Board of Directors.
- vii **'Diocesan Schools Commission'** means the education service provided by the diocese, which may also be known, or referred to, as the Birmingham Diocesan Education Service.
- viii **'Local Governing Body'** means the governing body of the School.
- ix **'Academy Committee Representatives'** means the governors appointed and elected to the Local Governing Body of the School, from time to time.
- x **'Principal'** means the substantive Principal, who is the person with overall responsibility for the day to day management of the school.
- xi **'School'** means the school or college within The Romero Catholic Academy and includes all sites upon which the school undertaking is, from time to time, being carried out.
- xii **'Shared Services Team'** means the staff who work in the central team across the Company (e.g. HR/ Finance)
- xiii **'Vice-Chair'** means the Vice-Chair of the Academy Committee elected from time to time.



## 1. Scope

The purpose of the policy scope statement is to guide the development of an institute policy by providing a summary of the proposed policy and ensuring that those who might be affected by a policy are identified, considered, and consulted.

### DEFINITION

Controlled assessment is a form of internal assessment which replaces GCSE coursework. It encourages an integrated approach to teaching, learning and assessment. It is intended to enable teachers to authenticate and confirm that students have carried out the assessment task set in accordance with their exam specification.

Controlled assessment applies control over internal assessment at three points: task setting, task taking and task marking. Three levels of control apply – high, medium and low.

## 2. Introduction

The school is named after Cardinal Nicholas Wiseman who became the first Cardinal upon the re-establishment of the Catholic hierarchy in England and Wales in 1850. His coat of arms is displayed on every student's blazer. The motto is 'All things for Christ' therefore faith is at the heart of everything we do, as well as recognising that we are all made in the image of God.

## 3. Responsibilities

### Senior Leadership Team

- Accountable for the safe and secure conduct of controlled assessments. Ensure assessments comply with JCQ guidelines and awarding bodies' subject-specific instructions.
- During the period from April to July, begin coordinating with heads of department/subject to schedule controlled assessments. (Spreading them out through Key Stage 4).
- Map overall resource management requirements for the year. As part of this resolve:
  - clashes/problems over the timing or operation of controlled assessments
  - issues arising from the need for particular facilities (rooms, IT networks, time out of school etc.).
- Ensure that all staff, parents and students have a calendar of events.

### Heads of Department / Subject Leaders

- Decide on the awarding body and specification for a particular GCSE.
- Ensure that at least 40% of overall assessment (controlled and/or external assessment) is taken in the exam series in which the qualification is certificated, to satisfy the terminal assessment requirement in accordance with the awarding body specification.
- Supply to the exams office details of all unit codes for controlled assessments.
- Standardise internally the marking of all teachers involved in assessing an internally assessed component.
- Ensure that individual teachers understand their responsibilities with regard to controlled assessment.
- Ensure that individual teachers understand the requirements of the awarding body's specification and are familiar with the relevant teachers' notes, and any other subject specific instructions.
- Where appropriate, develop new assessment tasks or contextualize sample awarding body assessment tasks to meet local circumstances, in line with awarding body specifications and control requirements.
- Detail timing of assessments and resource needs to SLT in the summer of each year and ensure that students and parents are aware of the dates.
- Be familiar with JCQ instructions for conducting controlled assessment and other related JCQ documents.
- In collaboration with the examinations Officer and teachers, make appropriate arrangements for the security of controlled assessments.
- In collaboration with the examinations Officer, submit controlled assessment marks to the relevant awarding body and dispatch assessments for moderation.



### **Teaching Staff**

- Understand and comply with the general guidelines contained in the JCQ publication *Instructions for conducting controlled assessments*.
- Understand and comply with the awarding body specification for conducting controlled assessments, including any subject-specific instructions, teachers' notes or additional information on the awarding body's website.
- Obtain confidential materials/tasks set by awarding bodies in sufficient time to prepare for the assessment(s) and ensure that such materials are stored securely at all times.
- Supervise assessments (at the specified level of control). Undertake the tasks required under the regulations, only permitting assistance to students as the specification allows.
- Ensure that students and supervising teachers sign authentication forms on completion of an assessment.
- Mark internally assessed components using the mark schemes provided by the awarding body. Submit marks through the exams office to the awarding body when required, keeping a record of the marks awarded.
- Retain candidates' work (paper and electronic) securely between assessment sessions (if more than one).
- Post-completion, retain candidates' work securely until the closing date for enquiries about results. In the event that an enquiry is submitted, retain candidates work securely until the outcome of the enquiry and any subsequent appeal has been conveyed to the centre.
- Ask the appropriate special educational needs coordinator (SENCO) for any assistance required for the administration and management of access arrangements (SEN Department can provide laptops but not memory sticks).

### **Exams Office Staff**

- Be familiar with JCQ instructions for conducting controlled assessment and other related JCQ documents.
- Be familiar with general instructions relating to controlled assessment from each relevant GCSE awarding body.
- Enter students for individual units, whether assessed by controlled assessment, external exam or on-screen test, before the deadline for final entries.
- Enter students' 'cash-in' codes for the terminal exam series.
- Where confidential materials are directly received by the exams office, to be responsible for receipt, safe storage and safe transmission, whether in CD or hard copy format.
- Download and distribute mark sheets for teaching staff to use, and collect and send mark sheets to awarding bodies before deadlines.
- On the few occasions where controlled assessment cannot be conducted in the classroom arrange suitable accommodation where controlled assessment can be carried out, at the direction of the senior leadership team.

### **Special Educational Needs Coordinator / Additional Learning Support**

- Be familiar with JCQ instructions for conducting controlled assessment and other related JCQ documents.
- Ensure access arrangements have been applied for.
- Work with teaching staff to ensure requirements for support staff are met.

### **TASK SETTING**

In accordance with specific GCSE award body guidelines, subject leaders will be responsible for the selection of controlled assessment tasks from an approved list or setting up a centre specific task. Subject teachers will ensure that students understand the assessment criteria for any given task.



## TASK TAKING

Controlled assessments will be undertaken with three levels of supervision:

- Formal (high level of control)
- Informal (medium level of control)
- Limited (low level of control)

Subject Leaders / Teachers in Charge of Subject will be responsible for ensuring that an appropriate level of supervision is in place for each part of an assessment task. Levels of supervision are clearly outlined in each subject specification.

### **At this school formal supervision means:**

- Candidates will be under direct supervision at all times - in most cases, supervision will be undertaken by the class teacher.
- Use of resources and interaction with others will be limited to what has been specified by the GCSE awarding body.
- Tasks will be undertaken during normal timetabled lessons in the usual teaching base.
- Use of mobile phones and internet / email access will be prohibited.
- If candidates have to use electronic storage devices for their assessment work or related resources, appropriate checks will be made to ensure only permitted material is accessible (See ICT Support).
- Subject specific display material with direct relevance to an assessment task will be covered.
- A **record will be kept of the time, date** of each assessment together with the name of the supervisor(s) and **all students present** for the assessment session(s).
- A separate record of any incidents which occur during assessments will also be kept.

### **At this school informal supervision means:**

- Interaction with others, including group work is permitted.
- The level of supervision applied ensures that the school is able to confirm that plagiarism has not taken place and preparation for a final/formal assessment is the candidates own work.
- Sources use by candidate are clearly recorded.

### **At this school limited supervision means:**

- Some aspects of work may be undertaken completely without supervision /outside the classroom - this may include research and data collection.
- Class teachers will make close reference to the relevant awarding body's specifications when applying limited supervision.

## TASK AUTHENTICATION AND MARKING

Each year, before the first controlled assessment is conducted in school, **all students and subject staff in Year 10** will be issued with a copy of the JCQ Notice to Candidates GCSE and Principle Learning: Controlled Assessments. Candidates will be reminded of the key points from this document before completing each assessment task.

Before assessment tasks are submitted, candidates will be required to sign a declaration confirming that the work is their own and that assistance given / sources used have been acknowledged.

Class teachers responsible for supervising and marking controlled assessments are also required to sign a declaration confirming that candidates have completed work under the appropriate conditions and they are satisfied the work has been produced solely by that candidate.

This school will use the JCQ declaration of authentication for controlled assessments or a similar document provided by the relevant GCSE awarding body. If either the candidate or the assessor is unable to sign this declaration, zero marks will be awarded for the assessment task. If candidate malpractice is suspected, this will be referred to the



relevant Subject Leader and Examinations Officer who will follow the guidance set out in the JCQ instructions for controlled assessment.

Internally assessed tasks will be marked by the class teacher according to the requirements of the subject specification. Work will be annotated according to subject specification requirements.

Internal standardisation will be completed before external moderation to ensure all work has been marked to the same standard.

If a teacher teaches his / her own child, this will be declared as a conflict of interest and assessment work will be sent to the moderator whether it has been requested as part of the sample or not.

If a controlled assessment task is to be externally assessed, all work and authentication declarations will be submitted according to awarding body requirements and deadlines.

#### **FACTORS AFFECTING INDIVIDUAL CANDIDATES**

If a candidate misses part of a controlled assessment task through absence, an alternative supervised session will be organised.

The school will follow the procedures set out in JCQ guidelines if assessment tasks are lost or accidentally destroyed at the school.

Special Access Arrangements will be agreed according to the published JCQ guidance on Access Arrangements. This will be co-ordinated by the SENCO.

The school will produce a schedule showing periods of controlled assessment for each subject. This will be linked to the whole school calendar and extra-curricular events in order to prevent candidates from missing important assessments. As far as possible the school will adhere to the published schedule of assessments.

#### **4. Link to other policies**

None linked.

#### **5. Monitoring and Review**

The academy delegates the implementation of this policy to the Cardinal Wiseman Local Governing Body.

This policy will be reviewed by the Cardinal Wiseman Local Governing Body.

This policy is reviewed annually to ensure compliance with current regulations.