

Conflicts of Interest Policy (Exams)

Newton Abbot College

Conflicts of Interest Policy (Exams)

Centre name	Newton Abbot College
Centre number	54327
Date policy first created	13/09/2023
Current policy approved by	Amy Grashoff/Harriett Buchanan
Current policy reviewed by	Harriett Buchanan
Date of review	20/10/2025
Date of next review	30/09/2026

Key staff involved in the policy

Role	Name
Head of centre	Amy Grashoff
Senior leader(s)	Amy Grashoff Harriett Buchanan
Exams officer	Fiona Satterley
Other staff (if applicable)	

This policy is reviewed and updated annually to ensure that conflicts of interest at Newton Abbot College are managed in accordance with current requirements and regulations.

Reference in the policy to **GR** relates to relevant sections of the current JCQ document **General Regulations for Approved Centres**.

Introduction

It is the responsibility of the head of centre to ensure that Newton Abbot College has in place for inspection a written conflicts of interest policy that must be reviewed and updated annually. This policy confirms that Newton Abbot College:

Manages conflicts of interest **by informing the awarding bodies**, before the published deadline for entries for each examination series, of:

- any members of centre staff who are taking qualifications at their own centre which include internally assessed components/units
- any members of centre staff who are teaching and preparing members of their family (which includes step-family, foster family and similar close relationships) or close friends and their immediate family (e.g. son/daughter) for qualifications which include internally assessed components/units, **and**

maintains internal records of all instances where:

- exams office staff have members of their family (which includes step-family, foster family and similar close relationships) or close friends and their immediate family (e.g. son/daughter) being entered for examinations and assessments either at the centre itself or other centres
- centre staff are taking qualifications at their own centre which **do not** include internally assessed components/units
- centre staff are taking qualifications at other centres (GR 5.3)

Purpose of the policy

The purpose of this policy is to confirm how Newton Abbot College manages conflicts of interest under normal delivery arrangements in accordance with the regulations.

General principles

A process is in place to determine if there are any conflict of interests from All centre staff to identify and manage conflict of interests

Declaration process

A conflict of interest form is to be completed, signed by all staff and returned to the Examinations Officer

Managing conflicts of interest

A Conflict of Interest log is maintained and any potential conflicts declared by centre staff is centrally recorded on the log. The relevant awarding body/bodies is/are informed (where required by the nature of the conflict) of specific conflicts of interest/centre staff declaration before the published deadlines of entries

Additional information:

N/A

Roles and responsibilities

The role of the head of centre is to ensure:

- conflicts of interest are managed according to the requirements in *General Regulations for Approved Centres* (5.3)
- internal records are maintained and that the records include details of the measures taken to mitigate any potential risk to the integrity of the qualifications affected

- the records are available where they may be requested by a JCQ Centre Inspector and/or awarding body staff
- the records are retained until the deadline for reviews of marking has passed or until any appeal, malpractice or other results enquiry has been completed, whichever is later
- that entering members of centre staff for qualifications at this centre is as a last resort in cases where the member of centre staff is unable to find another centre
- that proper protocols are in place to prevent the member of centre staff having access to examination materials prior to the examination and that other centre staff are briefed on maintaining the integrity and confidentiality of the examination materials
- that during the examination series the member of centre staff is treated in the same way as any other candidate entered for that examination, does not have access to examination materials and does not receive any preferential treatment

Additional responsibilities:

N/A

The role of the exams office/officer

To ensure the process for collecting declarations of interest is undertaken.

To identify and follow the awarding body's administrative process for submitting details of members of staff who are:

- taking qualifications which include internally-assessed components/units at their own centre
- teaching and preparing members of their family (which includes step-family, foster family and similar close relationships) or close friends and their immediate family (e.g. son/daughter) for qualifications which include internally-assessed components/units

To retain the records of the measures taken to mitigate any potential risk to the integrity of the qualifications affected until the deadline for reviews of marking has passed or until any appeal, malpractice or other results enquiry has been completed, whichever is later.

Additional responsibilities:

Senior Leader for Exams and another member of SLT to support due to nature of conflict of interest in 2025.

Changes 2025/2026

In terms of JCQ regulations for 2025/2026, no changes are applicable to this policy.

(Updated) The **General principles** section content has been reformatted and will require the user to edit and repopulate this section.

Centre-specific changes

Upon review in October 2025, there was a change to the management of conflict of interests.