



# **Bishop Milner Catholic College**

## **ASDAN Policies**

**CENTRE 20510**

**Approved June 2018**

Reviewed annually

# Access to Fair Assessment Policy

## Statement of Assessment

- We aim to provide a variety of qualifications which provide all students with the opportunity to achieve their full potential by the most appropriate and direct route.
- Our Assessment Policy is based on the concepts of equality, diversity, clarity, consistency and openness.
- We will endeavour to ensure that the assessment processes are implemented in a way which is fair and non-discriminatory.

## Access

Students are made aware of the existence of this policy and have open access to it. It can be found on the Sharepoint for students.

All tutors are made aware of the contents and purpose of this policy.

This policy is reviewed annually and may be revised in response to feedback from students, tutors and external organisations.

## What students can expect from us

- We aim to ensure that all assessment of work is carried out fairly and in keeping with the awarding body's requirements.
- All portfolio-based work will be assessed fairly against the qualification standards and teachers involved will be fully trained.
- Internal assessments will be carried out fairly and according to awarding body instructions.
- Externally marked tests and exams will be according to the requirements of the awarding body.

## Students can also expect:

- To be fully inducted onto a new course and given information that can be shared with parents and carers.
- Learning outcomes, performance criteria and other significant elements of learning and assessment to be made clear at the outset of the course and when assignments are set.
- To be given appropriate assessment opportunities during the course with feedback provided on the quality of the work.
- Submitted work to be marked within three weeks of submission by the student.
- Where equivalents and exemptions can be applied, we will ensure this is pursued with the relevant awarding body.

## **Cheating and Plagiarism**

A fair assessment of student's work can only be made if that work is entirely the student's own. Therefore students can expect an awarding body to be informed if:

- They are found guilty of copying, giving or sharing information or answers, unless part of a joint project
- They use an unauthorised aid during a test or examination
- They copy another student's answers during a test or examination
- They talk during a test or examination.

All allegations of cheating and plagiarism will lead to a full investigation which will follow the guidance of the relevant awarding body.

If a student feels he/she has been wrongly accused of cheating or plagiarism, they should be referred to the Internal Appeals Procedures Policy.

# Candidate Malpractice Policy

## Staff Malpractice Policy

### Introduction

This policy sets out to define the procedures to be followed in the event of any dispute or allegation regarding staff malpractice in the assessment of internally marked qualifications and also regarding examinations invigilated by staff at the school and marked externally.

### Examples of Staff Malpractice

- Attempted or actual malpractice activity will not be tolerated. The following are examples of malpractice by staff with regards to portfolio-based qualifications. This list is not exhaustive:
- Tampering with candidates work prior to external moderation/verification
- Assisting candidates with the production of work outside of the awarding body guidance
- Fabricating assessment and/or internal verification records or authentication statements

The following are examples of malpractice by staff with regard to examinations

- Assisting candidates with exam questions outside of the awarding body guidance
- Allowing candidates to talk, use a mobile phone or go to the toilet unsupervised
- Tampering with scripts prior to external marking taking place.

### Staff Malpractice Procedure

- Investigations into allegations will be coordinated by Vice Principal, who will ensure the initial investigation is carried out within ten working days. The person responsible for coordinating the investigation will depend on the qualification being investigated. The investigation will involve establishing the full facts and circumstances of any alleged malpractice. It should not be assumed that because an allegation has been made, it is true. Where appropriate, the staff member concerned and any potential witnesses will be interviewed and their version of events recorded on paper.

The member of staff will be:

- informed in writing of the allegation made against him or her
- informed what evidence there is to support the allegation
- informed of the possible consequences, should malpractice be proven
- given the opportunity to consider their response to the allegations
- given the opportunity to submit a written statement
- given the opportunity to seek advice (as necessary) and to provide a supplementary statement (if required)
- informed of the applicable appeals procedure, should a decision be made against him/her

- informed of the possibility that information relating to a serious case of malpractice will be shared with the relevant awarding body and may be shared with other awarding bodies, the regulators Ofqual, the police and/or professional bodies
- If work is submitted for moderation/verification or for marking which is not the candidate's own work, the awarding body may not be able to give that candidate a result.

### **Staff Malpractice Sanctions**

Where a member of staff is found guilty of malpractice, Bishop Milner may impose the following sanctions:

- 1) **Written warning:** Issue the member of staff with a written warning stating that if the offence is repeated within a set period of time, further specified sanctions will be applied
- 2) **Training:** Require the member of staff, as a condition of future involvement in both internal and external assessments to undertake specific training or mentoring, within a particular period of time, including a review process at the end of the training
- 3) **Special conditions:** Impose special conditions on the future involvement in assessments by the member of staff
- 4) **Suspension:** Bar the member of staff in all involvement in the administration of assessments for a set period of time
- 5) **Dismissal:** Should the degree of malpractice be deemed gross professional misconduct, the member of staff could face dismissal from his/her post

### **Appeals**

- The member of staff may appeal against sanctions imposed on them. Appeals will be conducted in line with the organisations Appeals Policy.

## **Student Appeals Policy**

### **Introduction**

This policy addresses the situation where students may wish to appeal against a grade he/she has received for a qualification.

### **Access**

Students are made aware of the existence of this policy and have open access to it. It can be found in the ASDAN Portfolio. All tutors are made aware of this policy and how to access it in order that students can be supported. This policy is reviewed annually and may be amended in response to feedback from students, staff, parents and external organisations.

### **Policy Statement**

All students at Bishop Milner have the right to make an appeal about any of the marks received for the qualifications they are undertaking. If any student wishes to appeal a decision, they should follow the following procedure.

1. If possible, speak to the member of staff responsible for teaching the qualification in the first instance about the reason they wish to appeal.
2. The member of staff has a responsibility to explain to the candidate why he/she received the grade/mark.
3. If the student is not satisfied with the explanation, the piece of work will be re-marked by another member of staff also involved with that qualification.
4. The student will be informed of the outcome of the re-marking by letter.
5. If the student wants to continue the appeal, he/she needs to contact the exams officer, who will provide the student with information about the appeals procedure for the relevant awarding body and explain what is involved. The exams officer will assist with the completion of any forms and will correspond with the awarding body on behalf of the student.
6. Please note: a student must have the support of the centre to be able to appeal against a result.

## **Equal Opportunities and Diversity Policy**

## **Introduction**

This policy describes the way in which Bishop Milner Catholic College will meet the requirements of the Equality Act 2010. This Act replaced all previous equality legislation such as the Race Relations Act, the Disability Discrimination Act and the Sex Discrimination Act. The policy will be applied to all staff and students, as well as any volunteers working in the school.

## **Access**

Employees, students and volunteers are made aware of the existence of this policy and where it can be accessed. This policy is reviewed annually.

## **Policy Statement**

Bishop Milner Catholic College will adhere to the requirements of the Equality Act 2010 by not discriminating against students, staff, volunteers or anyone involved in external agencies the organisation may be working with on the grounds of:

- sex, race, disability, religion or belief or sexual orientation.

In addition, there will be no discrimination against:

- pregnant females or new mothers
- staff, students or volunteers undergoing gender re-assignment
- students due to the behaviour of their parents and/or siblings

When recruiting staff, health related questions will not be asked until after a job offer is made, and then, only if it is necessary for the role.

It is expected that every person in the organisation will make a positive contribution to this policy, namely:

- All staff whether paid or voluntary
- All visitors to Bishop Milner Catholic College
- All students at Bishop Milner Catholic College

In addition, Bishop Milner Catholic College will:

- ensure that the services it provides are accessible to all and endeavour to positively encourage and benefit people from disadvantaged groups
- supply specialist aids and facilities to enable disabled people
- monitor any issues that arise within the organisation and take appropriate action, fully supporting any person in the organisation who is faced with prejudice or discrimination
- undertake an annual evaluation process to ensure that the policy is clear, in keeping with current legislation and being adhered to
- treat seriously any breaches of the policy, regarding them as misconduct which may lead to disciplinary proceedings

## **Complaint Procedure**

Any complaints by a service user should be listened to and taken seriously. A complaint can be about any part of the service offered.

1. At the initial complaint the person receiving it should do their best to solve the problem. They should listen carefully to the complaint and be open and, if necessary apologetic. They should not argue with the complainant and treat the complainant with respect. They should ask the complainant the details of the complaint and write these down. If they feel they can't deal with the complaint or don't know what to do they should ask a more senior member of the team. If the complaint is resolved a record should be kept and the manager/person in charge informed.
2. If the complaint cannot be sorted out to the satisfaction of the complainant then it should be referred to the manager or person in charge of the group. If the complaint is resolved a record should be kept of this. At either of these stages the complainant should be offered an official complaints form.
3. If the manager cannot solve the complaint to the satisfaction of the complainant then they should be asked to fill in a complaints form (with help if necessary). If they don't want to do this, then the manager should make a record of the actions taken and the complaint and ask the complainant to sign to say they don't wish to fill in an official complaints form. The director responsible for the division/section should be informed but no further action taken.
4. If an official complaints form is filled in this should be given to the director responsible for the division/section as soon as possible. The director should discuss the complaint with the manager and the complainant and try to resolve the complaint within 14 days. All discussions should be recorded. The complainant should be encouraged to bring someone to support them if they wish. Options for sorting the complaint should be offered. Written results of these discussions should be given within 14 days. All information about the complaint should be reported at the next board meeting.
5. If the complainant is still not happy with the result of the complaint then it should be taken to the next board meeting, to be discussed by the committee. The committee can ask to speak to all parties if they wish. The decision of the board is final and should be given in writing within 14 days of the board meeting. If the issue is a safeguarding issue then safeguarding procedures should be followed.

## **Internal Moderation Policy**



Internal moderation is a key process carried out by centres, throughout the delivery of a Qualification, to ensure that assessment methods are consistent across all Tutors/Assessors and that outcomes are fair to all students.

Evidence of a robust internal moderation system will be required at external moderation and for audit purposes; therefore there must be reliable and auditable record-keeping systems in place.

It is the responsibility of all staff to participate in the moderation process by keeping the necessary records, attending relevant meetings and submitting marked candidate work as requested.

All assessment evidence that has been internally moderated must be kept on site until after the external moderation. The work remains the property of the candidate and can be returned to the candidate according to the requirements of the relevant awarding organisation.

The aim of this policy is to ensure that:

- internal moderation practices are valid and reliable, cover all tutors/assessors and meet the requirements of the awarding organisation
- the internal moderation procedures are fair and open
- accurate and detailed records are kept of internal moderation decisions

The centre will:

- ensure that all assessment activities are valid, appropriate and fit for purpose
- apply a strategy that will provide a representative sample across all tutor/assessors
- create a plan of internal moderation in relation to all assessment activities
- define, maintain and support effective internal moderation roles, including the provision of training where required
- provide standardised documentation to support internal moderation activity and record-keeping
- ensure that feedback and outcomes of internal and external moderation support future development of good practice
- carry out an annual evaluation and review of internal moderation policy and procedures