

Conflicts of Interest Policy (Exams)

Medina College

Conflicts of Interest Policy (Exams)

Centre name	Medina College
Centre number	59022
Date policy first created	03/10/2025
Current policy approved by	Head of Centre
Current policy reviewed by	Director of Progress and Attainment
Date of review	03/10/2025
Date of next review	03/10/2026

Key staff involved in the policy

Role	Name
Head of centre	Head of Centre
Senior leader(s)	Director of Progress and Attainment
Exams officer	Exams Officer
Other staff (if applicable)	

This policy is reviewed and updated annually to ensure that conflicts of interest at Medina 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 Medina College has a written conflicts of interest policy for inspection that must be reviewed and updated annually. This policy confirms that Medina 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 Medina College manages conflicts of interest under normal delivery arrangements in accordance with the regulations.

General principles

A process is in place to collect any declarations of interest from all centre staff to identify and manage any potential conflicts of interest.

Declaration process

A Declaration of Conflict of Interest electronic form is sent to all centre staff in the Autumn term with a deadline date. Completed responses are sent to the Exams Officer, checked and logged on a tracker.

Managing conflicts of interest

Inform awarding bodies, before the published deadlines for examination entries 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 maintain clear records.

Additional information:

Not applicable.

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:

To ensure centre staff are aware of the requirement to declare any conflict of interest and log them appropriately as conflicts of interest.

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:

Not applicable.

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

No changes.