

Non-Examination Assessments (NEA) – A Level & GCSE Specifications

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Aims and Ethos

Surbiton High School aims to **inspire**, **encourage and empower** our young people to discover and embrace their individuality in an intellectually rigorous academic environment. Balanced with outstanding pastoral care, our students become compassionate, respectful, courageous, and inquisitive members of the community, living out the School's motto: *Amor nos semper ducat* (May love always lead us).

Our Values

We are compassionate:

We are kind and we care, in both thought and action. We consider those less fortunate and strive to support and offer aid. We are mindful of the gentle power of positive actions. We support and encourage those around us.

We are respectful:

We respect all people equally. We respect ourselves, our learning, our community, our environment, and the planet we all share. We strive to act with respect and integrity in all things. When we disagree, we do so respectfully.

We are courageous:

When challenged by our fears we are determined, not deterred. We call on resilience for strength when in the heat of the struggle. We bravely chase our dreams and fight for what we believe. When we fall, we pick ourselves up and forge forward.

We are inquisitive:

We understand that a thoughtful question is the key to unlock understanding. We believe where answers provide ends, questions pose exciting beginnings. We are eager to explore, we question to discover, we are curious to learn more of the world at large.

We are a community:

We are united - with a common focus. We value belonging to a wider community: our school community, our local community, our global community. We are inclusive of all, no matter our differences. We value and nurture the connections we form.

We achieve these aims through our Charter for Happiness and Well-being. Our pupils:

- are inspired to deploy their highest strengths to tackle all situations, developing a growth mind-set and a can-do attitude, equipped with the tools to maximise their positive emotions
- are encouraged to find their niche, to be fully engaged in educational activities and to meet the highest challenges that come their way
- are coached and encouraged to develop strong relationships, to be empathetic and responsive to the needs of themselves and others
- are empowered to lead a meaningful life, to be able to understand what their goals are and to know what they are striving for



• are empowered to draw strength from celebrating their accomplishments, in order to tackle new challenges

We achieve these aims through our inculcation of *Learning Habits*. Our children:

- are inspired in their thinking, to ask questions, to make connections, to imagine possibilities, to reason methodically and to capitalise on their resources
- are encouraged to be emotionally invested in their learning, persevering in the face of difficulties, noticing subtle differences and patterns, managing their distractions, and becoming absorbed in their learning
- are empowered to be fully involved in their learning, growing in interdependence, collaborating effectively, listening empathetically to others, and imitating their learning habits
- are inspired, encouraged, and empowered to be productive, planning their learning in advance, revising and reviewing their progress, distilling important information, and developing their own meta-learning.

United Learning and the United Church Schools' Trust

Surbiton High School is part of *United Learning* and the *United Church Schools' Trust*. The School has an Anglican foundation, valuing its Christian heritage whilst welcoming staff and children from all faiths and none. We share with United Learning its core mission statement "to bring out the best in everyone". We are committed to the aims of United Learning, including its *Framework for Excellence*, which can be found at: www.unitedlearning.org.uk

1 Policy Statement

Surbiton High School aims to bring out the best in everyone: to discover the best in everyone, to expect the best from everyone, and to support everyone to achieve their personal best. This includes:

- providing an intellectually rigorous and challenging academic environment,
- encouraging hard work and commitment and
- a commitment to trustworthiness

All of these are reflected in our NEA policy, which seeks to ensure that we meet all the requirements of the Code of Practice for the conduct of external examinations produced by JCQ. Surbiton High School is committed to ensuring that:

 Whenever teachers assess pupil work for external qualification it is done fairly, consistency and in accordance with the specification for the qualification concerned.



- Appropriate NEA guidance is available to staff, pupils and parents and is in line with Examination Board rules and regulations.
- Assessments are conducted by staff who have the appropriate knowledge, understanding and skills and who have been trained in this activity.
- Assessment evidence provided by candidates is produced and authenticated according to the requirements of the relevant specifications for each subject as supplied by the awarding bodies.
- The consistency of Assessment is assured through internal standardisation as set out by the Awarding Bodies' specification documents.
- Staff responsible for internal standardisation and/or assessment attend the compulsory training sessions provided by the relevant Awarding Body for each subject.
- Appeals against the procedure used in arriving at internal assessment decisions are dealt with according to the procedures for appeals contained in the Internal Examinations Appeal Policy. These are in line with the relevant code of practice for the conduct of external qualifications produced by QCA.

NEA are internal assessments. NEA has replaced controlled assessment in GCSEs and coursework in GCEs.

Definition: NEA is designed to assess skills which are not effectively measured by external exams. It retains many features of coursework / controlled assessment while ensuring that the work submitted is the students' own and that internal assessments are more manageable for teachers and students.

Whilst the general rules are the same for all the GCSEs and A Levels, the specific requirements for NEA are different for each subject. Information for teachers is provided in the specifications provided by the examination boards.

This policy should be read in conjunction with the following documents:

- Assessment, Recording and Reporting Policy
- Internal Assessment Appeals Procedure (appendix 1)
- JCQ Instructions for conducting non-examination assessments

Non-Examination Assessments - JCQ Joint Council for Qualifications

• JCQ AI Use in Assessments: Protecting the Integrity of Qualifications



https://www.jcq.org.uk/exams-office/malpractice/artificial-intelligence/

• JCQ Information for Candidates – Coursework Assessments

https://www.jcq.org.uk/exams-office/coursework/

Surbiton High School seeks to implement this policy through adherence to the procedures set out in the rest of this document.

This policy applies to all members of our School community.

Surbiton High School is fully committed to ensuring that the application of this NEA policy is non-discriminatory in line with the UK Equality Act (2010). Further details are available in the school's Equal Opportunity Policy document.

Surbiton High School seeks to implement this policy through adherence to the procedures set out in the rest of this document.

This document is available to all interested parties on the MIS, and on request from the Principal's office.

This document is reviewed annually by the Vice Principal Academic and Head of Exams, or as events or legislation change requires. The next scheduled date for review is October 2025.

2 Procedures

For specific scenarios and for guidance on logistics of how the NEA policy will be carried out, please refer to the Risk Assessment Table in section 4 of this policy.

Staff Responsibilities

2.1 Senior Leadership Team

 Accountable for the safe and secure conduct of NEA. Ensure assessments comply with JCQ guidelines and awarding bodies' subject-specific instructions.

2.2 Head of Department

- Decide on the awarding body and specification for a particular GCSE / A Level.
- Ensure that marking is consistent and appropriate including standardizing internally the marking of all teachers involved in assessing an internally assessed component.



- Ensure equality of opportunity for pupils in relation to NEA in liaison with the SENCO
 and the Exams Office, including ensuring that pupils who have been assessed as
 needing extra time are provided with that opportunity.
- Ensure that individual teachers understand their responsibilities with regard to the 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.
- Ensure that pupils are fully informed of exam board regulations, the specific aims and objectives, how and where the work is to be carried out, how much time they have available and how they should manage it, deadlines and the standard of performance required to achieve particular grades.
- Where appropriate, develop new assessment tasks or contextualise sample awarding body assessment tasks to meet local circumstances, in line with awarding body specifications and control requirements.
- Supply to the Exams Office details of all unit codes for NEA.
- Submit marks through the Exams Office to the awarding body when required, keeping a record of the marks awarded.
- Understand and comply with the awarding body specification for conducting NEA, including any subject-specific instructions, teachers' notes or additional information on the awarding body's website.
- Supply the Exams Office with samples of work requested by the Exam Boards.

2.3 Teaching staff

- Understand and comply with the general guidelines contained in the JCQ publication Instructions for conducting non-examination assessments and JCQ AI Use in Assessments: Protecting the Integrity of Qualifications. Details are available on the school's MIS.
- Understand and comply with the awarding body specification for conducting NEAs, 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 – this needs to be a lockable filing cabinet/ cupboard dependant on size at all times.
- 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.
- Retain candidates' work securely between assessment sessions (if more than one) and after completion of the controlled assessment.
- Post-completion, retain candidates' work securely until the closing date for enquiries
 about results. These could be with the HOD or the Exams Office. 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) and/or the Exams
 Officer for any assistance required for the administration and management of access
 arrangements.

2.4 Head of Exams

- The Exams Office contacts all HODS for confirmation of dates when NEA will be carried out during the academic year.
- The Exams Office will issue the JCQ publication Instructions for conducting nonexamination assessments and JCQ AI Use in Assessments: Protecting the Integrity of Qualifications to teaching staff at the start of the academic year.
- The Exams Office will issue JCQ Information for Candidates Coursework Assessments to Year 10, 11, 12 & 13 students at the start of the academic year.
- The Exams Office will inspect that the correct forms are completed and that secure storage arrangements meet the regulations.
- Create, publish and update an internal appeals policy for NEA.
- Enter students for individual units, whether assessed by NEA or external exam before the deadline for final entries.
- Where confidential materials are directly received by the Exams Office, to be responsible for receipt, safe storage and safe transmission, whether electronically or hard copy format.



- Collect and send NEA marks off to candidates.
- Collect and send NEA marks off to awarding bodies before deadlines.
- Send NEA samples to the moderators.
- On the few occasions where NEA cannot be conducted in the classroom, arrange suitable accommodation where NEA can be carried out.
- Ensure access arrangements have been applied for.



3 Risk Assessment

Risks and Issues	Possible remedial action		Staff
	Forward planning	Action	
Timetabling			
Assessment schedule clashes with other activities	Plan/establish priorities well ahead (e.g. start of academic year) for all subjects	Plan dates in consultation with school calendar – negotiate with other parties	Heads of Department
Too many assessments close together across subjects	Plan assessments so they are spaced over the duration of the course	Space assessments to at least allow candidates sometime between assessments	Heads of Department / Heads of Year
Communication with pupils	Communication with pupils		
Pupils aware of exam board regulations	All pupils informed of exam board procedures and regulations for NEA	Through Teaching Staff and via The academic Integrity policy issued to all year 10 candidates given by Exams Office. This is also mentioned by the HOY at the Welcome to Y10 parents evening	Teaching Staff/ Heads of Department and Exams Office and Heads of Year



Pupils aware of the logistics of the NEA to be carried out	The specific aims and objectives of the NEA highlighted by teaching staff	Teaching Staff and Heads of Department
	Logistics of locations for work to be carried out communicated with pupils before start	
	Clear guidance on time allowed to be given by Teaching Staff	
	Deadlines published and clear for all pupils	
	Criteria for different levels of attainment shared with pupils and information on where to access appropriate help via exam board websites shared	
Accommodation		

Accommodation



Insufficient space in classrooms for candidates	Once group sizes are known at the start of the year, flag instances where regular classroom space may not be suitable to conduct controlled assessment	Use more than one classroom or multiple sittings where necessary	Heads of Department
Insufficient facilities for all candidates	Careful planning ahead and booking of rooms / centre facilities		Heads of Department
Downloading awarding body set tasks			
IT system unavailable on day of	Download tasks well ahead of scheduled	Book IT equipment well ahead and	Heads of Department
assessment	assessment date in all cases	download tasks before scheduled date of	& Teaching Staff
		assessment	
Teaching staff unable to access task	Test secure access rights ahead of	Ensure teaching staff have access rights	Heads of Department
details	schedule every year and every session	for correct area of awarding body secure	& IT
		extranet sites ahead of time	
Loss of task details in transmission	Download tasks well ahead of scheduled	Report loss to awarding body for	Heads of Department
	assessment date	replacement; download again	
Absent candidates			
Candidates absent for all or part of assessment (various reasons)	Plan alternative session(s) for candidates		Heads of Department



Candidates have a scheduling clash for	Always consider candidate timetables	Check before booking the date; provide	Heads of Department
exams or assessment	well ahead and decide on priorities in	an alternative date, where necessary and	& Exams Office
	advance to scheduling clashes	consult awarding body procedures for	
		dealing with timetabling clashes	
		N.B. retakes of NEA are limited	
Control levels for task taking			
Assessment is undertaken under	Heads of Department to be fully	Seek guidance from the awarding body	Heads of Department &
incorrect level of control (time,	informed of exam board regulations and		Exams Office
resources, supervision and	procedures		
collaboration)			
Extra time candidates receive correct	Clear guidance for extra time candidates		Exams Office
time allocation	provided to teaching Staff		
Supervision			
Student study diary/plan not provided	Ensure teaching staff are aware of the	Ensure candidates start, continue and	Teaching Staff
or completed*	need for study diary/plans to be	complete study diary/plans that are	
	completed early in course	signed after every session	
There is consistency of support and	All teaching staff fully informed and		Heads of Department
opportunities within each	trained in exam board regulations and		
department	procedures		



Teaching staff do not understand	Ensure teaching staff understand nature	Heads of Department &
supervision of NEA is their	of NEA and their role in supervision	Exams Office
responsibility		
A suitable supervisor has not been	A suitable supervisor must be arranged	Heads of Department &
arranged for an assessment where	for any NEA where a teacher is not	Exams Office
teaching staff are not supervising	supervising, in line with the awarding	
	body specification	



Task setting			
Teaching staff fail to correctly set tasks	Ensure teaching staff understand the task setting arrangements as defined in the awarding body specification**	Seek guidance from the awarding body	Heads of Department & Exams Office
Assessments have not been moderated as required in the awarding body specification	Check specification and plan required moderation appropriately	Seek guidance from the awarding body	Heads of Department & Exams Office
Security of materials			
Assessment tasks not kept secure before assessment	Ensure teaching staff understand importance of task security	Request/obtain different assessment tasks	Heads of Department & Exams Office
Candidates' work not kept secure during or after assessment	Define appropriate level of security, in line with awarding body requirements, for each department as necessary	Take materials to secure storage	Heads of Department & Exams Office
Insufficient or insecure storage space	Look at provision for suitable storage early in the course	Find alternative secure spaces	Heads of Department
Storage of NEAs	NEA to be stored in secure filing cabinets in departmental areas or Exams Office		Heads of Department
Lost NEA	Inform the Exams office ASAP	Head of department/ Head of Exams	



Deadlines			
Deadlines not met by candidates	Ensure all candidates are briefed on deadlines/penalties for not meeting them	Mark what candidates have produced by deadline and seek guidance from awarding body on further action.	Heads of Department & Exams Office
Deadlines for marking and/or paperwork not met by teaching staff	Ensure teaching staff are given clear deadlines (prior to awarding body ones) to complete marking/paperwork so the exams office can process and send off marks ahead of AB deadlines	Seek guidance from awarding body	Heads of Department & Exams Office
Authentication			
Candidate fails to sign authentication form	Ensure all candidates have authentication forms to sign and attach to work when it is completed before handing in	Find candidate and ensure form is signed	Teaching Staff
Teaching staff fail to complete authentication forms or leave before completing authentication	Ensure teaching staff understand importance of authentication forms and the requirement of a signature	Return form to staff for signature. Ensure forms are signed as work is marked, not at end of season	Heads of Department
Candidates engaging in plagiarism, cheating, seeking unauthorised assistants from others or using Artificial Intelligence (AI)		Send JCQ documents to teaching staff and candidates	Head of Department & Exams Office



Marking			
Teaching staff/assessors interpret	Ensure appropriate training and practicing of	Arrange for remarking. Consult	Heads of Department &
marking descriptions incorrectly	marking. Plan for sampling of marking during	awarding body specification for	Exams Office
	the practice phase. Guidance on marking will	appropriate procedure	
	include details on how marking is monitored		
	and how re-sits are managed		
Centre does not run standardisation	Plan against the requirements for	Check with the awarding body	Heads of Department
activity as required by the awarding	standardisation for the awarding body when	whether a later standardisation	
body	and how this activity will be conducted.	event can be arranged.	
Internal Appeals			
Understanding what constitutes	Appeals can be made against the consistency	Statement made to pupils:	Exams Office
appropriate grounds for appeal	of regulations and conduct of the NEA.	"If at any stage during your exam	
		courses you have concerns about	
		the procedures used in assessing	
		your internally marked work for	
		public exams you should see the	
		Examinations Officer as soon as	
		possible".	
How should records of internal appeal	The Exams Office will hold all records of		Exams Office
be stored	Internal Appeals and will communicate these		
	with Heads of Department as required		

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A record of all Internal Appeals is kept in case	
the awarding body wishes to see them.	

^{*} Not all NEA will require the completion of a study diary or study plans

^{**} All tasks whether set by the awarding body or the centre must be developed in line with the requirements of the specification.



Appendix 1 Appeals against internal assessment decisions (centre assessed marks - NEA)

Policy Statement

This procedure confirms Surbiton High School compliance with JCQ's General Regulations for Approved Centres 2024-2025, section 5.7 that the centre "have in place and be available for inspection purposes, a written internal appeals procedure relating to internal assessment decisions and to ensure that details of this procedure are communicated, made widely"

Certain components of GCSE and A Level qualifications that contribute to the final grade of the qualification are internally assessed (marked) by the subject teacher. The marks awarded (the internal assessment decisions) are then submitted by the deadline set by the awarding body for external moderation.

Surbiton High School is committed to ensuring that whenever its staff mark candidates' work this is done fairly, consistently and in accordance with the awarding body's specification and subject-specific associated documents.

An internally assessed component is a requirement for the following GCSE and GCE subjects examined at Surbiton High School (Centre no. 14427).

GCSE	A Level
Art	Art
Photography	Photography
Dance	Computer Science
Design & Technology	Design & Technology
Drama	Dance
Music	Drama
PE	English Literature
	English Language
	Geography
	History
	Music
	PE



Surbiton High School ensures that all centre staff follow the *NEA* (*Non-examination assessment*) policy for the management of GCE and GCSE non-examination assessments. This policy details all procedures relating to non-examination assessments, including the marking and quality assurance processes which relevant teaching staff are required to follow.

Procedures

Candidates' work will be marked by staff who have appropriate knowledge, understanding and skill, and who have been trained in this activity. Surbiton High School is committed to ensuring that work produced by candidates is authenticated in line with the requirements of the awarding body. Where a number of subject teachers are involved in marking candidates' work, internal moderation and standardisation will ensure consistency of marking.

On being informed of their centre assessed marks, if a candidate believes that the above procedures were not followed in relation to the marking of her work, or that the assessor has not properly applied the mark scheme to her marking, then she may make use of this appeals procedure to consider whether to request a review of the centre's marking.

- 1. At the beginning of the GCSE and A Level courses, all candidates will be informed of the NEA appeals process. All information required can be found on the school website.
- Surbiton High School will ensure that candidates are informed of their centre assessed marks so that they may request a review of the centre's marking before marks are submitted to the awarding body.
- 3. Surbiton High School will inform candidates that they may request copies of materials (for example, a copy of their marked work, the relevant specification, the mark scheme and any other associated subject-specific documents) to assist them in considering whether to request a review of the centre's marking of the assessment.
- 4. Surbiton High School will, having received a request for copies of materials, promptly make them available to the candidate within 2 calendar days.
- 5. Requests for reviews of marking **must** be made in writing within 2 calendar days of receiving copies of the requested materials by completing the **internal appeals form**.



- 6. Surbiton High School will ensure that the review of marking is carried out by an assessor who has appropriate competence, has had no previous involvement in the assessment of that candidate and has no personal interest in the review.
- 7. Surbiton High School will instruct the reviewer to ensure that the candidate's mark is consistent with the standard set by the centre.
- 8. The candidate will be informed in writing of the outcome of the review of the centre's marking.
- 9. The outcome of the review of the centre's marking will be made known to the head of centre and will be logged as a complaint. A written record will be kept and made available to the awarding body upon request. Should the review of the centre's marking bring any irregularity in procedures to light, the awarding body will be informed immediately.

After candidates' work has been internally assessed, it is moderated by the awarding body to ensure consistency in marking between centres. The moderation process may lead to mark changes. This process is outside the control of Surbiton High School and is not covered by this procedure.

Appeals against the centre's decision not to support a clerical check, a review of marking, a review of moderation or an appeal

This procedure confirms Surbiton High School compliance with JCQ's General Regulations for Approved Centres 2024-2025, section 5.13 that the centre "have available for inspection purposes and draw to the attention of candidates and their parents/carers, a written internal appeals procedure to manage disputes when a candidate disagrees with a centre decision not to support an application for a clerical re-check, a review of marking, a review of moderation or an appeal;"

Following the issue of results, awarding bodies make post-results services available. Full details of these services, internal deadlines for requesting a service and fees charged are provided by the exams officer.

Candidates are also informed of the arrangements for post-results services **before** they sit any exams and the accessibility of senior members of centre staff immediately after the publication of results by letter in June.

If the centre or a candidate (or parent/carer) has a concern and believes a result may not be accurate, an enquiry about the result may be requested.

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Post Results Services offers three services.

- Service 1 clerical re-check
- Service 2 review of marking
- Service 3 review of moderation (this service is not available to an individual candidate)

Written candidate consent (informed consent via candidate email is acceptable) is required in all cases before a request for an ROM service 1 or 2 is submitted to the awarding body as with these services candidates' marks and subject grades may be lowered. Candidate consent can only be collected after the publication of results.

Where the centre does not uphold a request from a candidate and the candidate (or her parent/carer) believes there is grounds to appeal against the centre's decision not to support an enquiry, an internal appeal can be submitted to the centre—by completing the internal appeals form at least 7 calendar days prior to the internal deadline for submitting a review of marking.

The appellant will be informed of the outcome of her appeal before the internal deadline for submitting a review of marking.

Following the review of marking outcome, an external appeals process is available if the head of centre remains dissatisfied with the outcome and believes there are grounds for appeal. The JCQ publications *Post-Results Services* and *JCQ Appeals Booklet* (*A guide to the awarding bodies' appeals processes*) will be consulted to determine the acceptable grounds for a preliminary appeal.

Where the head of centre is satisfied after receiving the review of marking outcome, but the candidate (or her parent/carer) believes there are grounds for a preliminary appeal to the awarding body, a further internal appeal may be made to the head of centre. Following this, the head of centre's decision as to whether to proceed with a preliminary appeal will be based upon the acceptable grounds as detailed in the *JCQ Appeals Booklet*. Candidates or parents/carers are not permitted to make direct representations to an awarding body.

The **internal appeals form** should be completed and submitted to the centre within 7 calendar days of the notification of the outcome of the review of marking. Subject to the head of centre's decision, this will allow the centre to process the preliminary appeal and submit to the awarding body within the required **30 calendar days** of receiving the outcome of the enquiry about results process. Awarding body fees which may be charged for the preliminary appeal must be paid to the centre by the appellant before the preliminary appeal is submitted to the awarding body (fees are available from the exams officer). If the appeal is upheld by the awarding body, this fee (minus an admin fee of £6) will be refunded by the awarding body and repaid to the appellant by the centre.



FOR CENTRE USE ONLY **Internal appeals form** Date received Please tick box to indicate the nature of your appeal and complete Reference No. all white boxes on the form below Appeal against an internal assessment decision and/or request for a review of marking Appeal against the centre's decision not to support a clerical check, a review of marking, a review of moderation or an appeal **Candidate name** Name of different appellant appellant Awarding body Exam paper code Subject Exam paper title Please state the grounds for your appeal below (If applicable, tick below) Where my appeal is against an internal assessment decision I wish to request a review of the centre's marking If necessary continue on an additional page if this form is being completed electronically or overleaf if hard copy being completed

This form must be signed, dated and returned to the exams officer on behalf of the head of centre to the timescale indicated in the relevant appeals procedure

Date of signature:

Appellant signature:



5. Document Information

Version Number	6
Reason for Version Change	Annual review
Name of owner/author	James Flynn
Name of individual/department responsible	James Flynn, Vice Principal, in conjunction with Exams Office
Target Audience	staff
Date issued	18 th October 2024
Where available	MIS
Review Date	October 2025