

Exams archiving policy

2020/21

This policy is annually reviewed to ensure that records are archived/retained in accordance with current requirements

Approved/reviewed by	
Pam Thompson	
Date of next review	September 2021

Key staff involved in the exams archiving process

Role	Name(s)
Exams Officer	Pam Thompson
Head of centre	Mandy Wilton
SEnCo	Jill Corfield/Luke Baker

Purpose of the policy

The purpose of this policy is to:

- ▶ identify exams-related information/records held by the exams office
- ▶ identify the retention period
- ▶ determine the action required at the end of the retention period and the method of disposal
- ▶ inform or supplement the centre-wide records management policy

Record type	Record(s) description (where required)	Retention information/period	Action at end of retention period (method of disposal)
Access arrangements information	Any hard copy information kept by the EO relating to an access arrangement candidate.	To be returned to SENCo as records owner at end of the candidate's final exam series.	
Attendance register copies		<p><i>...keep signed records of the seating plan, the invigilation arrangements and the centre's copies of the attendance registers for each examination. The awarding bodies may need to refer to these records. You must keep them until the deadline for reviews of marking has passed or until any appeal, malpractice or other results enquiry has been completed, whichever is later.</i></p> <p>[Reference ICE 12, 22]</p>	Confidential waste/shredding
Awarding body administrative information	Any hard copy publications provided by awarding bodies.	To be retained until the current academic year update is provided.	
Candidates' scripts	Any unwanted copies of scripts returned to the centre through the Access to Scripts (ATS) service.	<p>To be retained securely until the awarding body's earliest date for confidential disposal of unwanted scripts.</p> <p><i>Where teachers have used copies of candidates' scripts for teaching and learning purposes but no longer wish to retain them, they must ensure that the scripts are disposed of in a confidential manner.</i></p> <p>[Reference PRS 6]</p>	Confidential disposal
Candidates' work	Non-examination assessment work returned to the centre by the awarding body at the end of the moderation period.	<p>To be logged on return to the centre and immediately returned to subject staff as records owner.</p> <p>To be stored safely and securely along with work that did not form part of the moderation sample (including materials stored electronically) <i>until the deadline for a review of moderation has passed or until a review of moderation, an appeal or a malpractice investigation has been completed, whichever is later (for the exam series).</i></p> <p>[Reference GR 3]</p>	Returned to candidates or safe disposal

Record type	Record(s) description (where required)	Retention information/period	Action at end of retention period (method of disposal)
Certificates	Candidate certificates issued by awarding bodies.	<p><i>...retain all unclaimed certificates under secure conditions for a minimum of 12 months from the date of issue</i></p> <p>[Reference GR 5]</p>	Confidential destruction
Certificate destruction information	A record of unclaimed certificates that have been destroyed.	<p><i>...destroy any unclaimed certificates after retaining them for a minimum of 12 months. They must be destroyed in a confidential manner. Centres that do not have a means of destroying certificates confidentially may return them to the respective awarding body. A record of certificates that have been destroyed should be retained for four years from their date of destruction. However, candidates should be informed that some awarding bodies do not offer a replacement certificate service. In such circumstances the awarding body will issue a Certifying Statement of Results;</i></p> <p>[Reference GR 5]</p>	Confidential destruction
Certificate issue information	A record of certificates that have been issued.	<p><i>...distribute certificates to all candidates without delay and regardless of any disputes (such as non-payment of fees). Certificates must not be withheld without prior permission from an awarding body which will only be given in very exceptional circumstances. A record should be kept of the certificates that are issued;</i></p> <p>[Reference GR 5]</p>	
Dispatch logs	Proof of dispatch of exam script packages to awarding body examiners covered by the DfE (Standards & Testing Agency) yellow label service	Until after RoRs deadlines have passed.	Shredding
Exam question papers	Question papers for timetabled written exams.	<p><i>For confidentiality purposes question papers must not be released to centre personnel for use in accordance with the above licence until after the awarding body's published finishing time for the examination or, in the case of a timetable variation, until all candidates within the centre have</i></p>	Issued to subject staff

Record type	Record(s) description (where required)	Retention information/period	Action at end of retention period (method of disposal)
		<p><i>completed the examination. This does not restrict access to question papers by authorised centre personnel for the purpose of conducting examinations.</i></p> <p>[Reference GR 6]</p>	
Exam room checklists	Checklists confirming exam room conditions and invigilation arrangements for each exam session.	Until after RoRs deadlines.	Shredding
Exam room incident logs	Logs recording any incidents or irregularities in exam rooms for each exam session.	Until after RoRs deadlines.	Shredding
Exam stationery	Awarding body exam stationery provided solely for the purpose of external exams.	<p><i>Unused stationery will be returned to the centre's secure storage facility until needed for a future examination. Surplus stationery must not be used for internal school tests, mock examinations and non-examination assessments.</i></p> <p><i>Any surplus or out-of-date stationery will be confidentially destroyed.</i></p> <p>[Reference ICE 30]</p>	Confidential destruction
Examiner reports		To be immediately provided to head of department as records owner.	
Finance information	Copy invoices for exams-related fees.	To be returned to Finance department as records owner at the end of the academic year.	
JCQ publications	Any hard copy publications provided by JCQ.	To be retained until the current academic year update is provided.	
Moderator reports		To be immediately provided to head of department as records owner.	
Proof of postage – candidates' work	Proof of postage of sample of candidates' work submitted to awarding body moderators.	<i>(Centres not involved in the secure despatch of exam scripts service:</i>	

Record type	Record(s) description (where required)	Retention information/period	Action at end of retention period (method of disposal)
	(Proof of postage of candidates' scripts to awarding body examiners/markers)	<p><i>a) must obtain proof of postage/despatch for each packet of scripts, which must be retained on the centre's files until the results are published, in case of loss or damage. (Proof of postage will provide evidence that the candidates' scripts have left the centre. This is taken to indicate that the scripts were written at the appointed time and that, should the scripts not be received by the awarding body/examiner, then special consideration may be possible.)</i></p> <p>[Reference ICE 29])</p>	
Resolving timetable clashes information	Any hard copy information relating to the resolution of a candidate's clash of timetabled exam papers		
Results information	Broadsheets of results summarising candidate final grades by subject by exam series.	Records for current year plus previous 6 years to be retained as a minimum.	
Seating plans	Plans showing the seating arrangements of all candidates for every exam taken.	<p><i>...keep signed records of the seating plan, the invigilation arrangements and the centre's copies of the attendance registers for each examination. The awarding bodies may need to refer to these records. You must keep them until the deadline for reviews of marking has passed or until any appeal, malpractice or other results enquiry has been completed, whichever is later.</i></p> <p>[Reference ICE 6]</p>	Shredding
Special consideration information	Any hard copy information relating to a special consideration request and supporting evidence submitted to an awarding body for a candidate.	<p><i>Where a candidate is present but disadvantaged for a timetabled written examination a proportion of cases will be sampled for quality assurance purposes. A centre may be asked by an awarding body to provide evidence in support of an application. The centre must retain evidence supporting an on-line special consideration application until after the publication of results.</i></p>	Shredding

Record type	Record(s) description (where required)	Retention information/period	Action at end of retention period (method of disposal)
		<p><i>Where a candidate is absent from an examination for an acceptable reason a proportion of cases will be sampled for quality assurance purposes. A centre may be asked by an awarding body to provide evidence in support of an application. The centre must retain evidence supporting a candidate's absence from an examination until after the publication of results.</i></p> <p>[Reference <u>§6</u>]</p>	
Very late arrival reports/outcomes	Any hard copy information relating to a candidate arriving very late to an exam. Reports submitted online via CAP.		