



SHIRELAND
COLLEGIATE ACADEMY
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Exams archiving policy

2025/26

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

Approved/reviewed by	
T Reade/ J Kaur/M Salloo	
Date of next review	Dec 2026

Key staff involved in the exams archiving process

Role	Name(s)
Exams officer	M Salloo
Head of centre	Thomas Daly

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	All information stored electronically in secure SENCo area on SEN site	Stored online until the end of the candidate's last exam season	Electronical documents to be permanently deleted
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 disposal
Awarding body administrative information	Any hard copy publications provided by awarding bodies.	To be retained until the current academic year update is provided.	
Candidate 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 after awarding body moderation.	<p>To be logged on return to 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	...retain all unclaimed certificates under secure conditions for a minimum of 12 months from the date of issue [Reference GR 5]	Confidential disposal
Certificate destruction information	A record of unclaimed certificates that have been destroyed.	...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; [Reference GR 5]	Confidential destruction
Certificate issue information	A record of certificates that have been distributed to students on site and the recorded post log for certificates which were posted out	...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; [Reference GR 5]	
Confidential materials: initial point of delivery logs	Logs recording awarding body confidential exam materials received at the initial point of delivery in the centre to the point where materials are securely issued to an authorised member of staff.	To be retained until the following examination season.	
Confidential materials: receipt, secure movement and secure storage logs	Logs recording the receipt, checking, secure movement and secure storage of confidential exam materials.	To be retained until the following examination season.	

Record type	Record(s) description (where required)	Retention information/period	Action at end of retention period (method of disposal)
Conflicts of Interest records	Records demonstrating the management of Conflicts of Interest (electronic files)	<p><i>...The records may be inspected by a JCQ Centre Inspector and/or awarding body staff. They might be requested in the event of concerns being reported to an awarding body. The records must be 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.</i></p> <p>[Reference GR 5]</p>	To be archived electronically by Exams Officer
Dispatch logs	Proof of dispatch of exam script packages to awarding body examiners covered by the DfE (Standards & Testing Agency) yellow label service	To be retained until after the issuing of results for the examination period.	
Entry information	Any hard copy information relating to candidates' entries.	To be retained until after the issuing of results for the examination period.	
Exam question papers	Question papers for timetabled written exams.	<p>Issued to teaching staff 24 hours after completion of the examination within the centre.</p> <p>At teaching staff request, issued after the published finishing time of the exam and only when all candidates in the centre have completed the exam.</p> <p>Instructions issued by an individual awarding body relating to the use of question papers for vocational qualifications after the examination has taken place are followed.</p> <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 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>	Issued to subject staff

Record type	Record(s) description (where required)	Retention information/period	Action at end of retention period (method of disposal)
Exam room checklists	Checklists confirming room conditions and invigilation arrangements for each exam room.	<p>...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.</p> <p>[Reference ICE 12, 22]</p>	Confidential disposal
Exam room incident logs	Logs recording any incidents or irregularities in exam rooms for each exam session.	<p>...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.</p> <p>[Reference ICE 12, 22]</p>	Confidential disposal
Exam stationery	Awarding body exam stationery provided solely for the purpose of external exams.	<p>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.</p> <p>Any surplus or out-of-date stationery will be confidentially destroyed.</p> <p>[Reference ICE 30]</p>	Confidential disposal
Examiner reports		To be immediately provided to head of department as records owner.	
Finance information	Copy of invoices for exam-related fees	Sent directly to Finance department	
Invigilation arrangements	Hard copies which are used during the exam season and electronic copies stored on the EO's secure area	<p>...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</p>	Confidential disposal

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		<p><i>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>	
Invigilator and facilitator training records	<p>Using the Exams Office proforma a record is kept of all training delivered and all invigilators/facilitators to sign the document to confirm attendance</p>	<p><i>A record of the content of the training given to invigilators must be available for inspection and retained on file 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><i>A record of the content of the training given to invigilators and those facilitating an access arrangement for a candidate under examination conditions must be available for inspection and retained on file 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> [Reference ICE 12, 13]</p>	Confidential disposal
Moderator reports		<p>To be immediately provided to head of department as records owner.</p>	
Overnight supervision information	<p>JCQ form <i>Timetable variation and confidentiality declaration for overnight supervision</i> for any candidate eligible for these arrangements.</p>	<p><i>...keep for inspection all completed forms available in your centre until the deadline for reviews of marking has passed or until any appeal, malpractice or other results enquiry has been completed, whichever is later. Forms may be stored electronically or in hard copy paper format and must not be sent to an awarding body, unless specifically requested;</i></p> <p>[Reference ICE 8]</p>	
Post-results services: confirmation of candidate consent information	<p>Hard copy or email record of candidate consent</p>	<p><i>Consent forms or e-mails from candidates must be retained by the centre and kept for at least six months following the outcome of the clerical re-check or review of marking or any subsequent appeal. The awarding bodies reserve the right to inspect such documentation.</i></p> <p>ATS consent to be retained for at least six months from the date consent given.</p> <p>[Reference PRS 4, appendix A and B]</p>	

Record type	Record(s) description (where required)	Retention information/period	Action at end of retention period (method of disposal)
Post-results services: requests/outcome information	Any hard copy information relating to a post-results service request (RoRs, appeals, ATS) submitted to an awarding body for a candidate and outcome information from the awarding body.	To be retained until the certificates have been received in centre and checked for amendments.	Confidential disposal
Post-results services: tracking logs	Logs tracking to resolution all post-results service requests submitted to awarding bodies.	To be retained until certificates are received in centre and checked for amendments.	To be archived electronically by Exams Officer
Private candidate information	Any hard copy information relating to private candidates' entries.	To be retained until certificates are provided to the private candidates.	Electronic information to be archived and hard copies to be destroyed confidentially
Proof of postage – candidate work	Proof of postage of sample of candidates' work submitted to awarding body moderators. (Proof of postage of candidates' scripts to awarding body examiners/markers)	Held by individual Heads of Department <i>(Centres not involved in the secure despatch of exam scripts service:</i> <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> [Reference ICE 29])	
Resolving timetable clashes information	Any hard copy information relating to the resolution of a candidate's clash of timetables exam papers	To be retained until the end of the examination period.	Confidential disposal
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 – held by Data Manager	Electronic archiving
Seating plans	Plans showing the seating arrangements of all candidates for every exam taken.	<i>...keep signed records of the seating plan, the invigilation arrangements and the centre's copies</i>	Confidential disposal

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		<p><i>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>	
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> <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 SC 6]</p>	Confidential disposal
Suspected malpractice reports/outcomes	Any hard copy information relating to a suspected or actual malpractice investigation/report submitted to an awarding body and outcome information from the awarding body.	To be retained until after the deadline for RoRs or until any appeal, malpractice or other results enquiry has been completed, whichever is later.	Confidential disposal
Transferred candidate arrangements	Any hard copy information relating to a transferred candidate arrangement. Applications submitted online via CAP.	To be retained until the transfer arrangements are confirmed by the awarding body.	Confidential disposal
Very late arrival reports/outcomes	Any hard copy information relating to a candidate arriving very late to an exam. Reports submitted online via CAP.	To be retained until after the deadline for RoRs or until any appeal, malpractice or other results enquiry has been completed, whichever is later.	Confidential disposal