

Exams Archiving Policy

Hele's School

Exams Archiving Policy

Centre name	Hele's School
Centre number	54435
Date policy first created	19/09/2023
Current policy approved by	Ms Emma Clapham
Current policy reviewed by	Kristina Packer - Exams Officer
Date of review	11/10/2025
Date of next review	19/10/2026

Key staff involved in the policy

Role	Name
Head of centre	Ms Emma Clapham
Senior leader(s)	Ms Emma Clapham - SLT Lead to Exams
Exams officer	Kristina Packer
SENCo (or equivalent role)	Mrs Angela Byrne
IT manager	Mr Paul Cooper
Finance manager	Carolyn Hamblin
Head(s) of department	Not Applicable
Other staff (if applicable)	Craig Maw - Deputy Exams Officer

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

References in this policy to GR, ICE, SC and PRS refer to the JCQ documents **General Regulations for Approved Centres**, **Instructions for conducting examinations**, **A guide to the special consideration process** and **Post-Results Services**.

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/data retention policy

Where a particular record or information type is not held in, or not applicable to Hele's School, this is indicated.

1. Access arrangements information

Record(s) description

Any hard copy information kept by the EO relating to an access arrangement candidate.

Retention information/period

To be stored in the exam cupboard for twelve months after the candidates last exam

Action at the end of retention period (method of disposal)

Confidential waste/ shredding

2. Alternative site arrangements

Record(s) description

Any hard copy information generated on alternative site arrangements. Notification submitted online.

Retention information/period

To be retained until after the deadline for EARs or until any appeal, malpractice or other results enquiry has been completed, whichever is later.

Action at the end of retention period (method of disposal)

Confidential waste/shredding

3. Attendance register copies

Record(s) description

Attendance registers

Retention information/period

To be retained until after the deadline for EARs or until any appeal, malpractice or other results enquiry has been completed, whichever is later.

Action at the end of retention period (method of disposal)

Confidential waste/shredding.

4. Awarding body exams administration information

Record(s) description

Any hard copy publications provided by awarding bodies.

Retention information/period

To be retained until the current academic year update is provided

Action at the end of retention period (method of disposal)

Dispose of in recycling

5. Candidates' scripts

Record(s) description

Any unwanted copies of scripts to be returned to the centre through ATS

Retention information/period

To be retained securely.

Can be destroyed in confidential waste after the deadline for EARs or until any appeal, malpractice or other results enquiry has been completed, whichever is later.

Scripts used for teaching and learning purposes no longer required.

Action at the end of retention period (method of disposal)

Confidential destruction

6. Candidates' work**Record(s) description**

Non-examination assessment work (Inc. controlled assessment, coursework, portfolios) returned to the centre after awarding body moderation.

Retention information/period

To be immediately returned to HOD's as records owner. (recorded on spreadsheet)

To be stored safely and securely along with work that did not form part of the moderation sample (including materials stored electronically) until after the deadline for EARs or the resolution of any outstanding enquiry/appeal or malpractice investigations for the exam series.

Action at the end of retention period (method of disposal)

Returned to candidates or safe disposal.

7. Centre consortium arrangements for centre assessed work**Record(s) description**

Any hard copy information generated or relating to consortium arrangements for centre assessed work. Applications submitted online via CAP.

Retention information/period

To be retained until after the deadline for EARs or until any appeal, malpractice or other results enquiry has been completed, whichever is later.

Action at the end of retention period (method of disposal)

Confidential destruction.

8. Certificates**Record(s) description**

Candidate certificates issued by awarding bodies.

Retention information/period

Unclaimed/uncollected certificates to be retained securely for a minimum of 12 months from date of issue in Main Reception

After 12 months stored securely in the Exams Office.

Action at the end of retention period (method of disposal)

Confidential destruction, if required.

9. Certificate destruction information**Record(s) description**

A record of unclaimed certificates that have been destroyed.

Retention information/period

To be retained for 4 years from the date of certificate destruction

Action at the end of retention period (method of disposal)

Confidential destruction

10. Certificate issue information

Record(s) description

A record of certificates that have been issued to candidates

Retention information/period

Signed sheets are kept for a minimum of 12 months

Action at the end of retention period (method of disposal)

Confidential destruction

11. Confidential materials: initial point of delivery logs

Record(s) description

A Log recording awarding body confidential exam material received by an authorised member of staff at the initial point of delivery and the secure movement of packages by an authorised member of staff to the secure room for transferal to the centre's secure storage facility.

Retention information/period

Recorded by Reception Staff in a log.
To be kept for the duration of the exam series

Action at the end of retention period (method of disposal)

Confidential destruction

12. Confidential materials: receipt, secure movement, checking and secure storage logs

Record(s) description

A log recording confidential exam materials received (including encrypted materials received via email or downloaded from an awarding body's secure extranet site), checked and placed in the secure storage facility by the exams officer (or other authorised member of centre staff) throughout the period the materials are confidential

Retention information/period

Record sheet kept in Exams Office
To be kept for the duration of the exam series.

Action at the end of retention period (method of disposal)

Destruction

13. Conflicts of interest records

Record(s) description

Records demonstrating the management of Conflicts of Interest

Retention information/period

To be retained by the Exams officer for the duration of the exam series

Action at the end of retention period (method of disposal)

Confidential destruction

14. Dispatch logs

Record(s) description

Proof of dispatch of exam script packages to awarding body examiners covered by the DfE (Standards & Testing Agency) yellow label service

Retention information/period

Record kept in Reception File for the duration of the exam series

Action at the end of retention period (method of disposal)

Destruction

15. Entry information

Record(s) description

Any hard copy information relating to candidates' entries

Retention information/period

Kept in the Exams Office File, for 12 months after the exam series has finished

Action at the end of retention period (method of disposal)

Confidential destruction

16. Exam question papers

Record(s) description

Question papers for timetabled written exams.

Retention information/period

Issued to teaching staff after the published finishing time of the exam and only when all candidates in the centre have completed the exam.

This would normally be the following day.

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.

Action at the end of retention period (method of disposal)

Destroyed once finished with or returned to the Awarding Body as per their instructions.

17. Exam room checklists

Record(s) description

Checklists confirming room conditions and invigilation arrangements for each exam room.

Retention information/period

To be retained until after the deadline for EARs or until any appeal, malpractice or other results enquiry has been completed, whichever is later.

Kept on file for 12 months after the exam series has finished.

Action at the end of retention period (method of disposal)

Confidential destruction.

18. Exam room incident logs

Record(s) description

Logs recording any incidents or irregularities in exam rooms.

Retention information/period

Kept in the log book. For a minimum of the duration of the exam series, or until the book is full.

Action at the end of retention period (method of disposal)

Confidential disposal.

19. Exam stationery

Record(s) description

Awarding body exam stationery provided solely for the purpose of external exams.

Retention information/period

Any unused exam stationery will be returned to the secure storage facility or secure room until needed for a future examination.

When awarding body or JCQ common stationery is considered surplus or is out-of-date it will be disposed of.

Action at the end of retention period (method of disposal)

Confidential disposal.

20. Examiner reports

Record(s) description

Examiner reports.

Retention information/period

To be immediately provided to head of department as records owner.

Action at the end of retention period (method of disposal)

Confidential disposal.

21. Finance information

Record(s) description

Copy invoices for exams-related fees.

Retention information/period

To be returned to Finance department as records owner as they are received. Kept for current year plus archived for further 6 years.

Action at the end of retention period (method of disposal)

Confidential disposal

22. Handling secure electronic materials logs

Record(s) description

Logs recording the handling of secure electronic materials

Retention information/period

Until the deadline of EAR has passed

Action at the end of retention period (method of disposal)

Confidential shredding

23. Invigilation arrangements**Record(s) description**

Checklists confirming room conditions and invigilation arrangements for each exam room

Retention information/period

To be retained until after the deadline for EARs or until any appeal, malpractice or other results enquiry has been completed, whichever is later.

Kept on file for 12 months after the exam series has finished

Action at the end of retention period (method of disposal)

Confidential destruction

24. Invigilator and facilitator training records**Record(s) description**

Attendance registers

PowerPoint presentations

Invigilator Packs

Retention information/period

Record kept of all training and those who attend. To be kept on file until deadline for reviews of marking has passed or appeals or malpractice has been completed

Action at the end of retention period (method of disposal)

Confidential disposal

25. Moderator reports**Record(s) description**

Moderator reports

Retention information/period

To be immediately provided to head of department as records owner

Action at the end of retention period (method of disposal)

Confidential disposal when no longer required

26. Moderation return logs**Record(s) description**

Electronic record on movement of NEA. Logged when leaving/returning to centre

Retention information/period

Retained until end of reviews of marking has passed or appeals or malpractice has been completed

Action at the end of retention period (method of disposal)

Delete file

27. Overnight supervision information

Record(s) description

The JCQ Overnight Supervision form is completed online using CAP. The JCQ Overnight Supervision Declaration form is downloaded from CAP) for signing by the candidate, the supervisor and the head of centre.

Retention information/period

To be retained for JCQ inspection purposes for the relevant exam series.
Kept on file for a further 12 months.

Action at the end of retention period (method of disposal)

Confidential disposal.

28. Post-results services: confirmation of candidate consent information

Record(s) description

Hard copy or email record of candidate consent for an EAR or ATS request to be submitted to an awarding body.

Retention information/period

EAR consent to be retained for at least six months following the outcome of the enquiry or any subsequent appeal.

ATS consent to be retained for at least six months from the date consent given.

Kept on file for 6 months after the exam series.

Action at the end of retention period (method of disposal)

Confidential disposal.

29. Post-results services: request/outcome information

Record(s) description

Any hard copy information relating to a post-results service request (EARs, appeals, ATS) submitted to an awarding body for a candidate and outcome information from the awarding body.

Retention information/period

Kept on file for a further 12 months after the exam series.

Action at the end of retention period (method of disposal)

Confidential disposal

30. Post-results services: tracking logs

Record(s) description

A log tracking to resolution all post-results service requests submitted to awarding bodies.

Retention information/period

Retained on file for 12 months after the exam series.

Action at the end of retention period (method of disposal)

Confidential disposal.

31. Private candidate information

Record(s) description

Any hard copy information relating to private candidates' entries. Proof of identification

Retention information/period

Retained on file for 12 months after the exams series.

Action at the end of retention period (method of disposal)

Confidential disposal.

32. Proof of postage - candidates' work

Record(s) description

Proof of postage of sample of candidates' work to awarding body moderators.

Retention information/period

Retained in Reception for duration of exam series.

Action at the end of retention period (method of disposal)

Confidential disposal.

33. Resilience arrangements: Evidence of candidate performance

Record(s) description

The collection of evidence of student performance to ensure resilience in the qualifications system.

Retention information/period

Retention of the work - Student work, either the original or a copy, must always be retained by the centre. Student work can be retained digitally or physically. Students may be given copies, or the original work, where this would support their study.

Action at the end of retention period (method of disposal)

Confidential Disposal.

34. Resolving timetable clashes

Record(s) description

Any hard copy information relating to the resolution of a candidate's clash of exam papers or a timetable variation.

Retention information/period

Retained on file for 12 months after the exam series.

Action at the end of retention period (method of disposal)

Confidential disposal.

35. Results information

Record(s) description

Broadsheets of results summarising candidate final grades by subject by exam series

Retention information/period

Records for current year plus previous 6 years to be retained as a minimum. Kept electronically.
[Reference Records Management Toolkit for Schools]

Action at the end of retention period (method of disposal)

Confidential disposal

36. Seating plans

Record(s) description

Plans showing the seating arrangements of all candidates for every exam taken.

Retention information/period

To be retained until after the deadline for EARs or until any appeal, malpractice or other results enquiry has been completed, whichever is later.

Must be signed by Invigilator.

Kept for 12 months after the end of the exam series.

Action at the end of retention period (method of disposal)

Confidential disposal.

37. Second pair of eyes check records/forms

Record(s) description

Second pair of eyes & ears check is completed on the secure materials log in the secure store

Retention information/period

Kept for 12 months in the exam drawers in the office

Action at the end of retention period (method of disposal)

Confidential shredding or archived

38. Special consideration information

Record(s) description

Any hard copy information relating to a special consideration request and supporting evidence submitted to an awarding body for a candidate and signed evidence produced by a senior leader in support of the application

Retention information/period

Evidence must be produced by a member of the senior leadership team to support an on-line special consideration application and

evidence supporting a candidate's absence from an exam must be kept until after the publication of results.

Kept for 12 months after the end of the exam

Action at the end of retention period (method of disposal)

Confidential disposal

39. Suspected malpractice reports/outcomes

Record(s) description

Any hard copy information relating to a suspected malpractice investigation/report submitted to an awarding body and outcome information from the awarding body

Retention information/period

Kept on file

Action at the end of retention period (method of disposal)

Confidential disposal

40. Transferred candidate arrangements

Record(s) description

Any hard copy information relating to an application for a transferred candidate arrangement submitted to an awarding body for a candidate

Retention information/period

To be retained until the transfer arrangements are confirmed by the awarding body

Action at the end of retention period (method of disposal)

Confidential disposal

41. Very late arrival reports/outcomes

Record(s) description

Any hard copy information relating to a very late arrival report submitted to an awarding body for a candidate and outcome information from the awarding body

Retention information/period

To be retained on file until after the exam series and for a further 12 months.

Action at the end of retention period (method of disposal)

Confidential disposal.

42a. Any other records/documentation/materials

Record(s) description

not applicable

Retention information/period

After the deadline for reviews of results or other results enquiries

Action at the end of retention period (method of disposal)

Confidential disposal

42b. Any other records/documentation/materials

Record(s) description

not applicable

Retention information/period

12 months from the relevant series

Action at the end of retention period (method of disposal)

Confidential disposal

Changes 2025/2026

(Added) Record type - **25. Malpractice reports and outcomes** (Updated 27/07/2025 to remove this record type as it is a duplication of record type 39)

(Changed) Slight wording changes made in JCQ reference prompts to reflect wording changes in relevant JCQ documents

Centre-specific changes

Upon review, no centre-specific changes