

Assessment Malpractice Policy



Redbridge Community School

This Policy relates to malpractice in any assessment and certification context and sets out the rights and responsibilities with regard to malpractice of learners and staff of Redbridge Community School and should be read in conjunction with the School's Assessment and Appeals Policy, the Plagiarism Policy, Behaviour Policy and Staff Disciplinary Policy.

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Context/Aim: **Assessment Malpractice consists of those acts which undermine the integrity and validity of assessment, the certification of qualifications and/or damage of authority of those responsible for conducting the assessment certification.**

1. Policy Statement

Redbridge Community School does not tolerate actions (or attempted actions) of malpractice by:

- Students
- Staff of Redbridge Community School
- Other stakeholders eg parents, spouses, staff of associated colleges, invigilators and any other persons in connection with any assessments and certification.

Redbridge Community School will impose the Disciplinary Procedure with students or staff of Redbridge Community School where incidents (or attempted incidents) of malpractice have been proven. Where assessment malpractice is proven awarding bodies may also impose penalties or sanctions.

2. Requirements for Implementation

1. Students will be informed of the School's policy on assessment malpractice and plagiarism during exam induction and through the exam information pack.
2. Students will be shown the appropriate formats to record cited texts and other materials or information including websites, during lessons.
3. Redbridge Community School staff should include assessment procedures which reduce the opportunity for malpractice including for example:
 - Periods of supervised sessions during which evidence for assessments is produced by the student.
 - Altering assessment assignments/task/tools on a regular basis as directed by exam boards.
 - Ensuring access controls which prevent students from accessing and using other people's work when using networked computers.
4. Students should be asked to declare that their work is their own when submitting assessments.
5. Incidents of student assessment malpractice should be reported to the Examinations Officer.
6. Incidents of staff assessment malpractice should be reported to the Head of Centre.
7. When a case of alleged assessment malpractice has been reported the incident should be investigated using the appropriate disciplinary procedure and the exam board notified immediately.

3. Scope of Assessment Malpractice

The following are examples of malpractice by students. This list is not exhaustive and other instances of malpractice may be considered by the School at its discretion.

- Plagiarism by copying and passing off, as the student's own, the whole or part(s) of another person's work, including artwork, images, words, computer generated work (including internet sources), thoughts, inventions and/or discoveries whether published or not, with or without the originator's permission and without appropriately acknowledging the source.
- Collusion by working collaboratively with other students to produce work that is submitted as individual student work. Students should not be discouraged from teamwork, as this is an essential key skill for many areas.
- Impersonation by pretending to be someone else in order to produce the work for another.
- Fabrication of results or evidence.
- Failing to abide by instructions.
- Misuse of assessment, examination material.
- Introduction of unauthorised material.
- Alteration of any results document.
- Cheating to gain an unfair advantage.

The following are examples of malpractice by staff. This list is not exhaustive and other instances of malpractice may be considered by the School at its discretion.

- Failing to keep assessment mark schemes secure.
- Alteration of assessment mark scheme.
- Alteration of awarding bodies assessment and grading criteria.
- Assisting students in the production of work for assessment, where the support has the potential to influence the outcomes of assessment, for example where the assistance involves staff producing work for the student.
- Producing falsified witness statements, for example for evidence the student has not generated.
- Allowing evidence, which is known by the staff not to be the student's own to be included in the student's assignment/task/portfolio/coursework.
- Misusing the conditions of special access arrangements.
- Failing to keep student computer files secure.
- Falsifying records/certificates.
- Fraudulent certificate claims that is claiming for a certificate prior to the student completing all the requirements of the assessment.
- Failing to keep assessment/examination test papers secure prior to the assessment/examination/test.

In the academic year 2020-2021, students will be awarded grades based on teacher assessments, and so there is an increased risk of certain types of malpractice. The following list gives some examples of the types of malpractice that may be more likely to occur this year, but is not exhaustive, and other instances of malpractice may be considered by the School at its discretion.

- Breaches of internal security;
- Deception;
- Improper assistance to students;
- Failure to appropriately authenticate a student's work;

- Over direction of students in preparation for common assessments;
- Allegations that centres submit grades not supported by evidence that they know to be accurate;
- Centres enter students who were not originally intended to be entered in the Summer 2021 series;
- Failure to engage as requested with awarding organisations during the External Quality Assurance and appeal stages; and
- Failure to keep appropriate records of decisions made and teacher assessed grades.

4. Invigilators

It should be noted that all invigilators receive the necessary training, to successfully and competently undertake their role, which is in accordance with J.C.Q regulations. This take place every year for all invigilators.