

Learner Assessment Appeals Policy

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Person Responsible	Assistant Principal, Teaching & Learning
Approval/ review body	SLT
Frequency of Review*	24 months

** Policies will be reviewed more frequently if legal changes or good practice require*

Review History:		
Date of review	Reviewed by	Reason for review
April 2011		
September 2013	D T&L	Minor amendments, title changes
December 2015	AP T&L	Title changes and minor amendments
November 2017	AP T&L	Minor amendments

Contents

1.	Appeals by Learners.....	1
1.1.	Stage 1 – Tutor/Assessor and Learner	1
1.2.	Stage 2 – Lead Internal Verifier.....	1
1.3.	Stage 3 – Appeals Panel.....	2
	Stage 1 Appeals Procedure	3
	Assessment Appeals Form	4

1. Appeals by Learners

This procedure applies specifically to those further education learners who undertake an examination or assessment that is within the control of North Kent College.

If a learner believes that they have a justified grievance related to an assessment process or decision, the appeals should follow the process set out below:

1.1. Stage 1 – Tutor/Assessor and Learner

The learner should discuss the matter with the tutor who undertook the assessment in the first instance within **five** working days of receiving their assessment decision.

The Tutor/Assessor must consider the reasons and look again at the assessment. He or she must then give the learner a response which must be either:

1.1.1. confirmation in writing that the original assessment decision stands; or

1.1.2. a new decision with an explanation of the reason for the change.

The response must be filed either in the Lead Internal Verifier (or equivalent) Programme Quality file, electronically or on paper (as appropriate).

If the learner accepts the tutor's response, then the appeal stops at this point.

If the learner is still unhappy with the decision, he/she must tell the tutor within five working days of receipt. **The appeal will move to Stage 2.**

1.2. Stage 2 – Lead Internal Verifier

Following notification that the learner is still unhappy with the assessment decision, the tutor must give the Lead Internal Verifier, or equivalent, the following information within **two** working days of the appeal reaching **Stage 2**:

1.2.1. the original assessment record and learner's evidence, where appropriate; and

1.2.2. the written explanation and confirmation of the assessment decision.

The Lead Internal Verifier will reconsider the assessment decision, taking the following into account:

- 1.2.3. the learner's reason for appeal;
- 1.2.4. the learner's evidence and associated records;
- 1.2.5. the assessor's reason for the decision; and
- 1.2.6. the opinion of another assessor from the centre.

The Lead Internal Verifier, or equivalent, must then give the reconsidered decision, in writing, within **five** working days of receiving the appeal, to both learner and Tutor.

The learner must tell the Lead Internal Verifier and confirm in writing if they are still dissatisfied with the reconsidered assessment decision within **five** working days of receipt of the decision. If so, the appeal moves to **Stage 3**.

1.3. **Stage 3 – Appeals Panel**

If the learner is dissatisfied with the decision after Stage 2, they have the right to go to an Appeals Panel. The staff member who conducted the Stage 2 process must send the following details to the Quality Nominee:

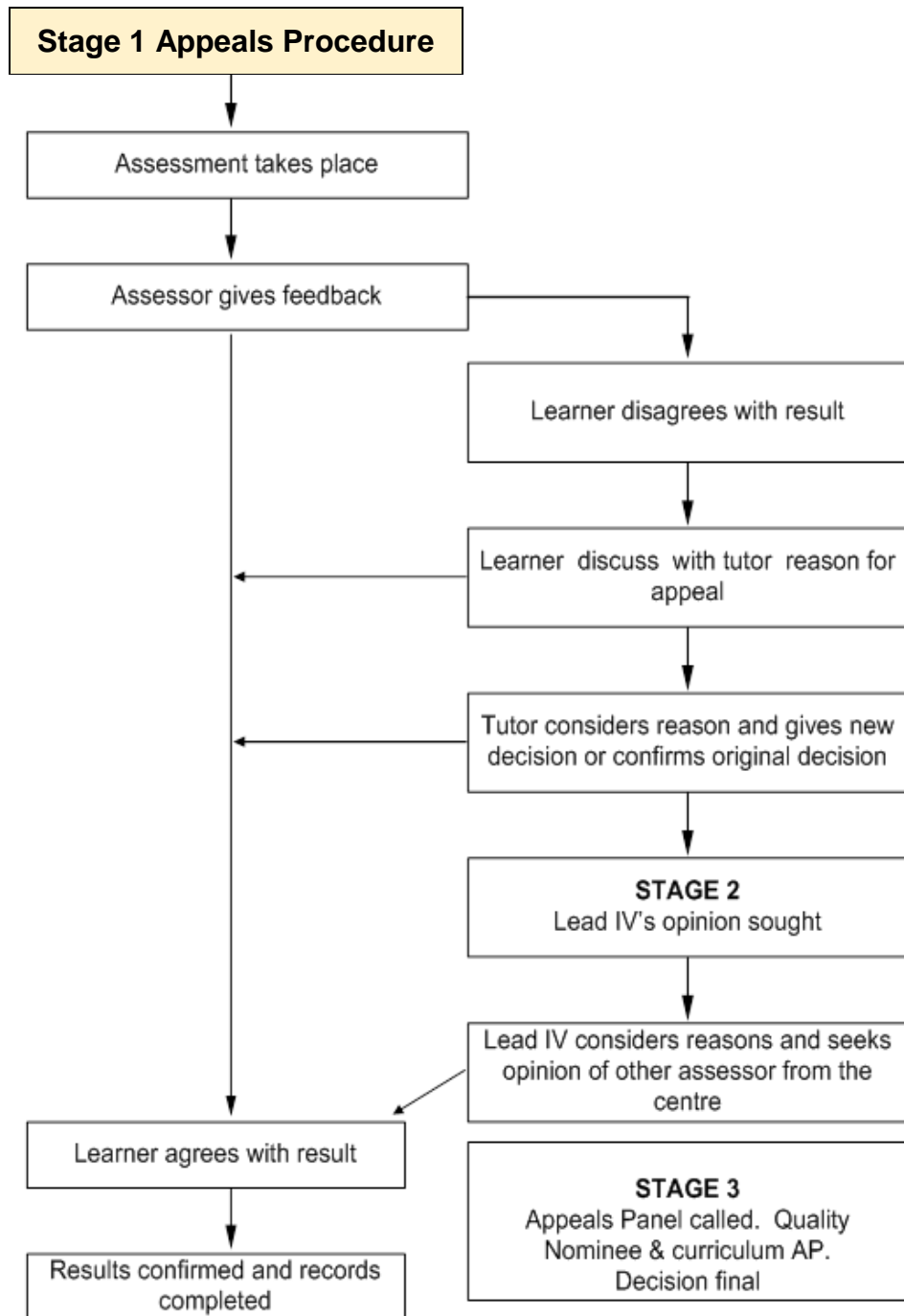
- 1.3.1. the written explanation and confirmation of the assessment decision;
- 1.3.2. the assessment record sheets; and
- 1.3.3. any written comments.

Within **ten** working days of receiving the appeal, the Quality Nominee will convene a College Appeals Panel to hear the appeal. The Appeals Panel will consist of the Quality Nominee, a subject expert chosen by the Chair (internal or external to the College) and the Assistant Principal of the department concerned.

The learner may speak to the Appeals Panel and may be accompanied by an adviser, and/or make a written submission. The tutor who made the original decision will be asked to attend the Appeals Panel to answer questions.

The Appeals Panel will then discuss the matter in private and reach a majority decision. All parties will then be informed of the decision.

The decision of the Appeals Panel is final, although learners may appeal to the Awarding Body once the internal appeals decision has been completed. Set out below is a flow chart of the Learner Appeals Process.



Stage 2

Stage 2: Lead Internal Verifier's comments:

Signature.....

Date.....

Outcome of Stage 2 appeal sent to:

Date

Lead Internal Verifier

.....

Curriculum Manager

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Assistant Principal, Teaching & Learning

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Final Assessment Decision:

Stage 3

Date of Stage 3 letter of appeal received:

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Acknowledgement letter sent:

Appeal Panel Date:

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Chair of Appeals Panel:

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Members of Appeals Panel:

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Invitation to appeals panel sent:

Comments (Appeals Panel)

Chair of Appeals Panel Signature

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Date.....

Final Assessment Decision:

Outcome of Appeals Panel (Stage 3) sent to:

Date:

Learner

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Tutor/Assessor

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Lead IV

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Curriculum Manager

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Quality Nominee

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Curriculum AP

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Entered on Appeals Record Log

Date Appeal Logged:

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