

WHITWORTH COMMUNITY HIGH SCHOOL

EXAM HANDLING

POLICY 2026

Date effective from:	January 2026
Prepared by:	C Lord / P Bland
Date of next review:	January 2027

Version control record

Please note that where policy is LCC model policy, then the version details will be provided by LCC in the document.

Version numbers ending in a letter relate to documents under review and awaiting approval. Once a document has been approved then the version number will increase e.g. version 1a = approved version 1 being reviewed. Once version 1a has been approved it will then move to version 2.

Version Number	Date of change	Reviewed by	Brief reason for changes
1.0			Creation of document
2.0	31.01.2024	PB	Annual Review
3.0	31.01.2025	PB	Annual Review
4.0	31.01.2026	PB	Annual Review

Date approved: January 2026

Recommended review period: Annual

Date for review: January 2027

Leadership team role responsible for the operation of the policy: Deputy Headteacher

Centre authorisation

4.1 Electronic question paper materials must only be handled by members of staff authorised to do so by the head of centre.

4.2 The head of centre must ensure that authorised staff are familiar with the most recent instructions issued by the relevant awarding bodies.

4.3 At least two and no more than six members of centre staff should be authorised to handle secure electronic materials. Other members of centre staff may assist with printing and collation provided they are under supervision. Secure account management

4.4 Email accounts used for secure material access must belong to named individuals or be a group email account accessed solely by individuals authorised by the head of centre to handle secure materials. Where group email accounts are in place, regular checks must be conducted to ensure all authorised individuals in the group still require access

4.5 Files must only be accessed by the named individual(s) to whom they have been sent. Emails or links to secure materials must never be forwarded or shared.

4.6 By accessing secure material, the individual is accepting personal responsibility for maintaining the security of the material.

4.7 Accounts used to access secure material must be audited regularly. Any unused or unneeded accounts must be closed promptly, for example when a member of staff has left the centre or changed roles.

4.8 Accounts must be reviewed by the head of centre ahead of each examination series to ensure that users have appropriate levels of access and all inactive accounts have been removed.

4.9 Secure password management is critical. Passwords used to access secure material must be strong and changed regularly. Passwords must never be written down or shared. Accessing and printing secure files

4.10 The integrity and security of the electronic question paper must be maintained during the downloading, printing and collating process.

4.11 The file must be accessed and downloaded only for the use of the candidate(s) who have been entered for the examination.

4.12 The file must be stored locally only for the purposes of printing and must then be deleted immediately. The file must then be deleted from the deleted items folder.

4.13 Any emails or links associated with the secure file must also be immediately deleted and then deleted from the deleted items folder.

4.14 Do not create any unnecessary hard copies of the file, and securely destroy any unneeded hard copies once printing has been completed.

4.15 Secure files must be accessed and printed within a secure environment. Only authorised members of staff must be present in the room.

4.16 Arrangements for handling secure electronic materials 12 4.16 Once printed, question papers must be sealed within a non-transparent envelope marked clearly with the exam details on the outside of the envelope. The envelope must be stored securely ready for transfer to the examination room at the appropriate time, in line with the requirements in section 3. Reporting to an awarding body

4.17 Report any deviation from these instructions to the awarding body using JCQ Form M2. 4.18 Report any concerns of a potential breach of security to the awarding