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**Focus 1st Academy is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment!**

Working in Partnership with North London Schools & Local Authorities; Est. 2000

Accredited Independent School Status 2014 (Registration N0. 308/6003)

Focus Inception

*Focus 1st Academy was set up in the year 2000 using European Social Fund to provide education and training and to-date has defied all the odds and was awarded the Independent School status in August 2014. This enables us to work in partnership with schools and local authorities to provide an alternative method of education for 14 to 16 year olds. Our student referrals are some of the most vulnerable young people and it is our duty to ensure that they are equipped with the appropriate skills and qualifications to ensure full participation within the modern workplace. Our team of professionals consisting of tutors, tutor assistance, pastoral support staff and mentors to nurture the students ensuring our work-based-learning approach alongside a variety of techniques are utilised and compatible to ensure the prevention of social and economic exclusion prior to adulthood which is underpinned through the subjects delivered whilst in classroom environment as well as on an individual basis.*

Focus Ethos

*Our programme fulfils the need of students who are disengaged from academic studies and may be exhibiting behavioural problems as a result. Our hands-on approach to learning creates an inspirational motivation for students wishing to pursue a career via the vocational route. The students are taught methods on how to improve their social skills in preparation for work/apprenticeship schemes and/or further education by learning in real-life situations and participating in sports, art and drama to express emotions. We believe that all individuals have a certain quality, which is sometimes concealed due to lack of confidence, mixed sentiments or disabilities. As such, recognising and coming to terms with barriers is a small part of the conflict, we are certain that all individuals are aware of their own weaknesses; the most vital part is engaging with professionals and adhere to individual training plans set which in turn prepares our students for economic and social integration into adulthood.*

Exam’s Appeal Policy

Introduction

This policy addresses the situation where students may wish to appeal against exam conditions or grade he/she has received for a qualification.

Access

Students are made aware of the existence of this policy and have open access to it. It can be found in reception in a folder called Policies and Procedures and online at focustraining.org.uk along with the appeals policies for each of the awarding bodies used by Focus 1st Academy (Such as AQA, BCS, Pearson, NCFE and OCR). All tutors are made aware of these policies and how to access them in order that students can be supported.

This policy is reviewed annually and may be amended in response to feedback from students, staff, parents and external organisations.

Policy Statement

All students at Focus 1st Academy have the right to make an appeal about exam conditions and any of the marks received for the qualifications they are undertaking.

If any student wishes to appeal a decision, they should follow the following procedure.

1. If possible, speak to the member of staff responsible for teaching the qualification in the first instance about the reason they wish to appeal.
2. The member of staff has a responsibility to explain to the candidate why he/she received the grade/mark.
3. If the student is not satisfied with the explanation, the piece of work will be re-marked by another member of staff also involved with that qualification.
4. The student will be informed of the outcome of the re-marking by letter.
5. If the student wants to continue the appeal, he/she needs to contact the exams officer, who will provide the student with information about the appeals procedure for the relevant awarding body and explain what is involved. The exams officer will assist with the completion of any forms and will correspond with the awarding body on behalf of the student.
6. For BCS tests: If the student is not able to resolve an appeal after following the Centre procedure, the student has the right to submit an appeal directly to BCS. This must be submitted within 20 working days of the date of the assessment or test.

Please note: a student must have the support of the centre to be able to appeal against a result.

Latest review September 2021

Reviewed June 2022