

# **Conflict of Interest Guidance for Centres**

As a recognised centre delivering Gateway Qualifications, you are required to actively monitor, manage, and report any potential or actual conflicts of interest in line with our **Conflict of Interest Policy**.

#### **Monitoring and Reporting**

- Centres must regularly monitor for any conflicts of interest that may arise in the delivery, assessment, or quality assurance of qualifications.
- Any identified or suspected conflict of interest must be reported promptly to the Gateway Qualifications Centre Compliance Team via our online declaration form.
- When submitting a declaration, you must clearly outline the mitigations you will implement to manage the conflict effectively.

### **Identifying Conflicts of Interest**

- COIs can be personal, professional or financial.
- They can be perceived, potential, or actual

Scenario	Description	Suggested Mitigation
Family or personal relationships	A staff member is assessing or internally verifying a learner who is a relative or close friend.	Explore the possibility of using a different provider, or allocate a different assessor and IQA with no personal connection to the learner.
Dual roles	A staff member holds multiple roles (e.g. tutor and IQA) that could compromise objectivity.	Separate the roles and ensure independent IQA is assigned.
Financial interest	A staff member has a financial interest in the outcome of a learner's assessment.	Ensure clear separation of duties and no overlap in learner access or assessment.

# **Compliance and Support**

 Centres are expected to **fully comply** with any requests for information made by the Centre Compliance Team.



 You must also support and facilitate any external quality assurance activities that may be required in relation to the conflict.

## **Accessing Policy and Forms**

- The <u>Conflict of Interest Policy</u> and the <u>Centre Declaration of Interest Form</u> are available on our website.
- These documents are also included in the Centre Handbook, which can be accessed online.

# **Further Reading and Regulatory Guidance**

For more information on regulatory expectations, you may refer to the following resources:

- Ofqual Handbook General Conditions of Recognition, Section A: Governance
- QAA Conflicts of Interest Policy

#### **Need Help?**

If you are unsure whether a situation constitutes a conflict of interest, please contact the **Centre Compliance Team** at:

centrecompliance@gatewayqualifications.org.uk