

Office of Qualifications and Examinations Regulation Spring Place Coventry Business Park Herald Avenue Coventry CV5 6UB

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Notice of a Monetary Penalty

In accordance with its powers under Section 151A(2) of the Apprenticeships, Skills, Children and Learning Act 2009 (**the 2009 Act**), and pursuant to its obligations under Section 151A(8) of the 2009 Act, the Office of Qualifications and Examinations Regulation (Ofqual) gives notice that it has decided to impose a monetary penalty on Pearson Education Limited (Pearson) in the sum of £85,000 (eighty-five thousand pounds) (the **Monetary Penalty**).

- 1. On 22 September 2016 Ofqual gave notice, in accordance with Sections 151A(4) and 151A(5) of the Apprenticeships, Skills, Children and Learning Act 2009, that it intended to impose the Monetary Penalty on Pearson.
- 2. Ofqual published Notice of Intention to impose the Monetary Penalty on its website https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/pearson-notice-of-intention-to-fine-september-2016 and, in accordance with Section 151A(6) of the 2009 Act, Ofqual allowed until 4pm on 21 October 2016 for representations to be made by Pearson and by interested parties. No representations have been received.

Final Decision

3. For the reasons set out in the Notice of Intention to impose a monetary dated 22 September 2016, the Ofqual Enforcement Committee has decided to impose the Monetary Penalty on Pearson.

Payment

- 4. Within 40 days of the date of this Notice, Pearson must pay the Monetary Penalty in accordance with the invoice attached to this Notice.
- 5. In the event of non-payment, interest may be charged and the outstanding amount may be recovered as a debt, in accordance with Section 151D of the 2009 Act.

Appeals

- 6. Pearson may appeal to the First Tier Tribunal in respect of Ofqual's decision to impose the Monetary Penalty and / or in respect of the amount of that penalty, in accordance with Section 151C of the 2009 Act.
- 7. An appeal may be made on the grounds:
 - a. That the decision was based on an error of fact;
 - b. That the decision was wrong in law;
 - c. That the decision was unreasonable.
- 8. Any appeal must be made within 28 days of the date of this Notice. Further information is available from HM Courts and Tribunals Service at: https://www.gov.uk/guidance/exam-boards-appeal-to-a-tribunal-against-amonetary-penalty.

Signed:

Anne Heal

Chair of the Enforcement Committee

Date: 11 November 2016

Enforcement Committee:

Anne Heal; Neil Watts; Barnaby Lenon.

NOTE:

1) Ofqual will publish this Notice on its website.