

17<sup>th</sup> April 2026

Dear Parent(s)/Carer(s),

## **RE: FINAL EXAMINATIONS INFORMATION**

The final GCSE examinations for Year 11 commence week beginning 4th May (some of our pupils have art and photography exams and languages speaking exams prior to this). In advance of the exams, the information below outlines key arrangements to be aware of during this period.

Students have been given a timetable for their examinations and should arrive no later than 8.30am for morning examinations so that they can enter the exam hall by 8.45am. Students will need to be lined up on the 6th Form car park by 12.50pm for afternoon examinations so that they can start by 1pm. On the days when there is an afternoon exam, Year 11 will have an early lunch at 12.20pm to accommodate the timing of the session. Once an afternoon exam has finished, students will be expected to leave the school site. Any students who are waiting for transport can study in the library until the end of the normal school day. If students are staying on site for a revision session, they should wait in the library for this so as not to disturb lessons taking place around the school.

It is vital that students have the correct equipment for their examinations so that they are able to access all papers. Students should ensure that they have: two black biros, a pencil and sharpener, an eraser, a ruler, a compass, a protractor and a scientific calculator. If they bring a pencil case, it should be clear, and with no writing on.

In addition to the work that we have done, and continue to do, to prepare students for their final exams, we will be running pre-exam briefings in most subjects. These are short, sharp 15-minute sessions before the beginning of exams to outline key points ahead of each one, such as reminders of which sections to answer, how long to spend on each part of the exam and other key information. They are not formal revision sessions and won't be used to add additional stress ahead of the exam - quite the opposite - the briefings will offer last-minute guidance and reassurance to students. Morning briefings will start at 8.30am and afternoon briefings will start at 12.35pm – the location of each of the briefings will be on a timetable given to students in due course; the information will also be on the school website. Pupils must arrive on time for these and behave well, or they may not be able to attend future briefings. Students arriving late after 8.30am will not be admitted to the briefings.

Students have had a range of assemblies during the year to support them in making preparations for their final exams and a variety of information, including the exam timetable and revision support materials, which can be found on the school website [here](#) and [here](#).

In advance of the examinations, it is important that all students familiarise themselves with the information on the JCQ website regarding examination procedure and conduct. This can be found [here](#).

External GCSE exams do not run by the school's rules - the rules and dates are laid down by the Exam Boards. This means that we have to follow them to the letter and, if they are broken, then the student could be disqualified.

During the exam period, we have external inspections to ensure everything is as it should be and this is why we need the following basic rules adhered to at all times:

- Arrive for the exam on time (as outlined above)
- No notes, phones, watches of any kind, or other mobile/electronic devices are allowed in the Exam Hall – they **must be left outside** in bags or not brought in at all.
- Follow all invigilator instructions at all times.
- Water bottles must be clear, have all labelling removed and contain only water.
- No leaving the exam room without an invigilator, or permission.
- No communication, or attempt at communication, once in the examination hall.

Students are expected to attend school full time and as normal during their examinations up until the English Language exam on Thursday 21st May. After this exam, students are only expected to attend for examinations or if they wish to attend a lesson for a subject where the exam has not taken place - timetabled lessons will continue to run throughout the exam period until the final exam in each subject has been completed. Students will need to sign in at main reception when they arrive for lessons and out upon leaving for fire evacuation and safeguarding reasons. Where students have an exam in the morning and one in the afternoon, they can go home in between exams after 21st May. For students who are unable to go home, the library will be available in between exams for quiet study.

Revision sessions will continue during the examination period and will include additional maths sessions prior to the second and third maths papers. The school will communicate various updates regarding additional sessions, along with information about revision support, on satchel one, so please ensure that your child continues to engage with this throughout. Our [social media pages](#) and the [MyChildatSchool app](#) will also be used to share important updates, so please keep an eye on these too.

After the English Language exam on 21st May, there will be an opportunity for students to sign shirts if they wish to. Students will be expected to attend in full uniform for the exam as normal and should bring a spare shirt if they wish to take part in the signing. They will then leave the site immediately after this.

Students are expected to wear full uniform throughout the exam period. Our high expectations for good conduct around the school site remain in place before and after examinations to ensure that lessons for all other year groups are not disturbed.

Please note that the contingency date for the 2026 examinations is the afternoon of 24th June. Contingency days are for use in the event of national or significant local disruption to exams in the UK.

Further details regarding prom and a leavers' assembly will be released by the Year Office in due course.

GCSE results day this year is on Thursday 20th August and the school will be open at 9am. Students will collect their results from the library and further details with all arrangements will be sent out towards the end of term and will be posted on our school website, and social media.

We are tremendously proud of the levels of application and determination that each and every one of our Year 11 students has shown in completing their studies. There is still lots of hard work and preparation to come, however, I am sure that you will join us in wishing them the very best in their final exams.

Yours sincerely



**Mr J Cain**  
**Deputy Headteacher**