



PENKETH HIGH SCHOOL

*High Expectations,
Outstanding Young People*

Dear **Parents / Carers**,

We are writing to all families to remind everyone of the importance of full attendance and punctuality at external GCSE examinations. As we approach the summer exam season, it is vital that every pupil understands the expectations and responsibilities associated with these nationally regulated examinations.

Attendance at GCSE Examinations

GCSE examinations are formal, externally assessed qualifications. Each paper must be taken on the exact date and at the exact time set by the Awarding Organisations. These timings cannot be changed for any reason, including illness, family events or holidays, personal commitments, medical or dental appointments.

If a student misses a scheduled GCSE exam, they cannot take it at another time. The exam boards will award 0 marks for the paper. This can have a significant impact on the overall GCSE grade and future opportunities.

Punctuality to GCSE Examinations

It is essential that students arrive on time for every exam. Arriving even slightly late can also cause unnecessary stress and impact performance. Very late arrivals can result in a student is refused entry to the examination.

Importance of Regular Attendance Before Exams

Strong attendance in school is essential in the lead up to GCSEs. Students who attend consistently keep up to date with curriculum content, receive vital teacher guidance, reduce gaps in learning and achieve better outcomes.

National evidence shows that students with over 95% attendance are far more likely to achieve strong passes in their GCSEs than those with lower attendance.

How Parents and Carers Can Support

We ask for your support in ensuring your child:

- attends all scheduled GCSE exams on time, fully prepared, and without exception.
- plans personal commitments around the national exam timetable.
- understands that missing an exam puts their final results, and future opportunities, at risk.



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Principal : Mr J Carlin BA(Hons)
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If there are barriers to attendance or concerns you wish to discuss, please contact us at Exams@penkethhigh.org so that we can offer the appropriate support.

We are in the process of finalising individual pupil timetables for the summer exams, and will be sharing these with pupils in the next few weeks.

Thank you for your continued cooperation in helping all students approach their GCSE examinations responsibly and successfully.

Yours sincerely,

Mr P Cordingley
Curriculum and Data Operations Manager



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