

Monday 15th July 2019

Dear Parent/Carer

The summer 2020 exams may seem a long way away at the moment, but we have just become aware of some important information that we need to share with you to avoid any issues next summer.

During the spring term students will be given their individualised timetables that will highlight the exams they have been entered for and will confirm when their final exam will take place. The summer exams usually run from early May, however, some practical subjects and MFL speaking exams often commence late March, with formal written exams following throughout May and into June.

However, 2020 will be a little different. A contingency day has been arranged by exam boards as requested by the Government and will be added to each student's timetable (footnote). The date set aside as the contingency day is Wednesday 24th June 2020.

The designation of a contingency day within the common examination timetable is "in the event of widespread, sustained national or local disruption to examinations". This means that students must be available and able to come into school up to and including Wednesday **24th June 2020** to sit any exam that had to be postponed during the exam season.

The decision comes following the tragic events of previous summers, namely the Manchester attacks and the Grenfell Tower fire. The Joint Council for Qualifications have decided that they need the option to postpone an exam in the event of an incident and rearrange for a later date to allow students a fair and equal chance. The decision is not a school decision and does apply to all candidates in all schools.

Please can all parents and carers make a note of the new reserved date. It will be common and completely understandable for many families to book holidays in June and July, however, it will be devastating for a student to miss out on a good grade after working so hard for two years because they might be absent from a re arranged exam.

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Christa Emberson". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Mrs Christa Emberson- Examinations Officer