

1st October 2025

Dear Parent/Carer

We are writing to inform you that the exam boards have released the exam dates for Summer 2026. Our exam team have now completed the year group specific timetables which can be found on our website on the 'Exams Information Summer 2026' page held within the 'School Information' tab on the homepage – [Exams Information Summer 2026](#). Student specific timetables, including specific exam start times, exam room and seating information will be issued in April.

When finalising the summer exam dates, the Joint Council for Qualifications (JCQ), have informed us that there is one contingency date during the exam season - this day exists to allow exam boards / JCQ to re-arrange exams that have been subject to disruption nationally, or locally. The contingency days were introduced in the aftermath of the Manchester Arena bombings in 2017. For Summer 2026, one contingency date has been declared, and it is on Wednesday 24th June (all day).

Therefore, students need to make sure they are available on this day and must not arrange a holiday until after 24th June – the last possible day exams will take place.

The JCQ go on to say, if students are not available because they are on holiday and one of their exams is rescheduled to this day, they will not be eligible for special consideration by the exam boards. For this reason, the JCQ request all schools inform parents and students of this date so that it can be taken into account when making plans for the summer.

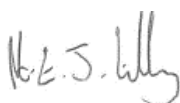
We hope that the use of the contingency days will not be necessary. However, we feel duty bound to pass on the JCQ information and request that students be available on 24th June, in case it is required.

If you have any queries about any of the information contained in the above letter or on our exam information web page then please contact our Exams Officer, Peter Lilley – peter.lilley@whitleybayhighschool.org.

Yours faithfully



Steve Wilson
Headteacher



Peter Lilley
Exams Officer