

Holmer Green Senior School

Parents' Information Evening – Exams

Summer 2026

Aims



Logistics



Malpractice

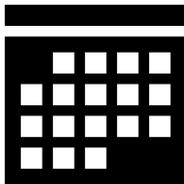


Sports Hall Zoning

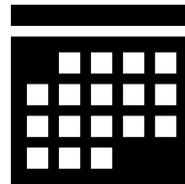
We have three main aims this evening:

1. To talk you through the logistics of the summer examination season
2. To outline the nature of malpractice, including potential sanctions how we safeguard against it here at HGSS
3. To show you what the exams hall looks like and briefly outline how exams concessions are met

Aims



Thursday 16 April
2026



Thursday 18 June
2026

Exams start in roughly 37 days time – albeit these are speaking exams for our languages qualifications and other practical exams

The first exam in the sport hall is taking place on Tuesday 5 May – a further 19 days down the line.

They last until the 18 June, however not all children will be in exams at this time.

The day/night before

Exam timetable



Start time



Subject content



Seat number

Organise



Clear pencil case



Lesson materials

Get some rest



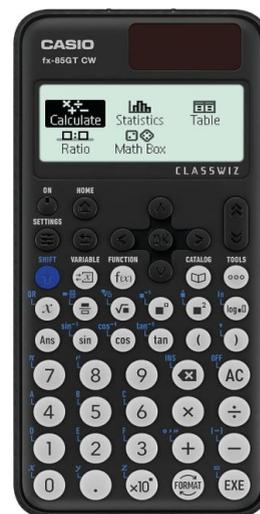
The routines put in place the night before each exams are very important.

Students should check their exam timetable so that they are aware of the subject content and time of their exam. They should also memorise their seating number for each exam

They should organise their equipment ready for the exam, making sure they have a clear plastic pencil case with the required equipment – including a calculator

Rest is also important – cramming until 2am is not good. Getting a good night's sleep is far better

Equipment



The equipment your son/daughter needs is on the screen.

Student should have a pencil case and it must be clear. They should have black pens and pencils. They should have mathematics equipment and a working calculator.

Please audit this material at home prior to the exams so that the stress of being unprepared is alleviated. We can support here when necessary.

Timings



Session	Start time	Lined-up by
Morning	9:00	8:45
Afternoon	13:00	12:45

Two exams sessions each day.

Exams should start at 9:00am and at 1:00pm. We are very adept at getting students in on time, despite having over 280 of them in some exams.

Your son/daughter will line up outside the Sports Hall/in a classroom at the times show in red.

Timings



Phone school immediately if running late
NO access to mobile/laptop devices past 9:00am



Non-attendance will trigger school follow-up
Staff visiting homes to collect students

Exam start times are nationally published and recognised, meaning that if a child is running late we must be informed.

If a child arrives in school after the published start time, we must be happy that they have had no access to the internet via a laptop or mobile phone, and they must not have been in communication with anyone else outside of the immediate family unit. If we have concerns, these must be reported to JCQ – the organisation responsible for delivering examinations.

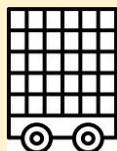
Please just keep us in the loop.

If a child does not attend school on the morning/afternoon of the exam, we will contact you. We will always make provision to collect children from their home address to get them in the exam – we have successfully completed this task for the past three years. The message from us is always to finish what you started.

If a child is physically unable to attend an exam, we will follow the advice given to us by the exam boards for each exam.

On the day – before entering the exam hall

Belongings



Sports cap lid
No label

Clear pencil case

Line up



Silent

Seat Order



Perfect Uniform

Before students enter the exam hall, they are asked to place their belongings in a locked cage. This includes coats, bags and all unauthorised items (watches, phone lockers, etc.).

They then line up in seat order number in silence and immaculate uniform. They are checked with a metal detector prior to entry to safeguard against taking in unauthorised items.

On the day – before entering the exam hall



Here are some examples of water bottles that will not be allowed during the exam period. The left hand side may be frosted or clear but with any form of writing on it can not be accepted. This is down to JCQ regulations and something that we as a school must enforce.

The ones on the right of the screen that are metal or have any form of measurements on it are also not allowed as per the rules from JCQ. If these are seen in the exam hall they will be taken and put to one side and returned at the end of the exam.

On the day – before entering the exam hall

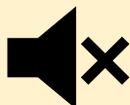


Here are some examples of clear plastic water bottles.

If it does not have a sport cap, it will be allowed in but must be placed on the floor. Only those with a sports lid will be allowed to sit on the desk but again it must be clear with no label or writing of any kind.

On the day - leaving the exam hall

Silence

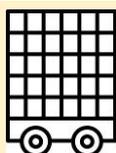


Row-by-row



Outside door

Belongings



Destination

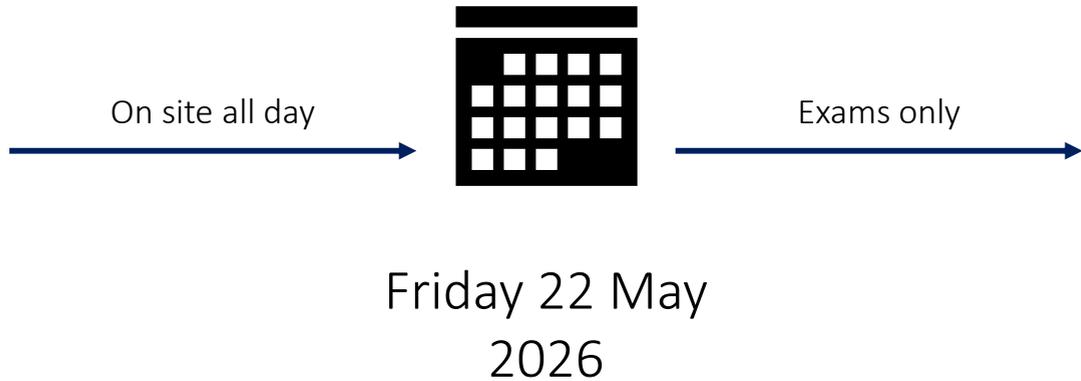


At the end of the exam, silence is still required. There may be other, lengthier exams taking place. Some students have extra time too.

Students will be dismissed row-by-row, making their way to the cages to collect their belongings.

Once they are reunited with their belongings, students should then make their way to their next destination – lessons, the dining room, or home after 1 June.

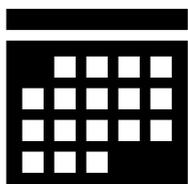
Attendance



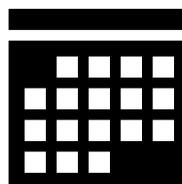
Students are expected on site all day until the end of Friday 22 May.

From Monday 1 June, students are only expected to attend their examinations each day.

Double-days



Till Fri 22 May
2026



From Mon 1 June
2026

Some students have 'double-days', in which they sit two exams.

We will ensure that they have time to eat, drink, go to the toilet and work appropriately in the time/space between each exam.

After May half term, any student wishing to stay on site between two exams can use the dining room as a working space.

Aims



Logistics



Malpractice



Sports Hall Zoning

Part 1 done.

On to malpractice

Malpractice

Malpractice in GCSE, AS and A level: summer 2025 exam series

ofqual

Malpractice cases - Students

5,025 cases

with penalties issued in summer 2025

a decrease from 5,155 in summer 2024

Student malpractice involving a mobile phone or other communications device



of all student malpractice cases in summer 2025

an increase from 41.5% in summer 2024

Malpractice cases - Staff

465 cases

with penalties issued in summer 2025

an increase from 245 in summer 2024

Malpractice cases - School and college

200 cases

with penalties issued in summer 2025

an increase from 145 in summer 2024

Malpractice does occur.

Last year's statistics are shown here:

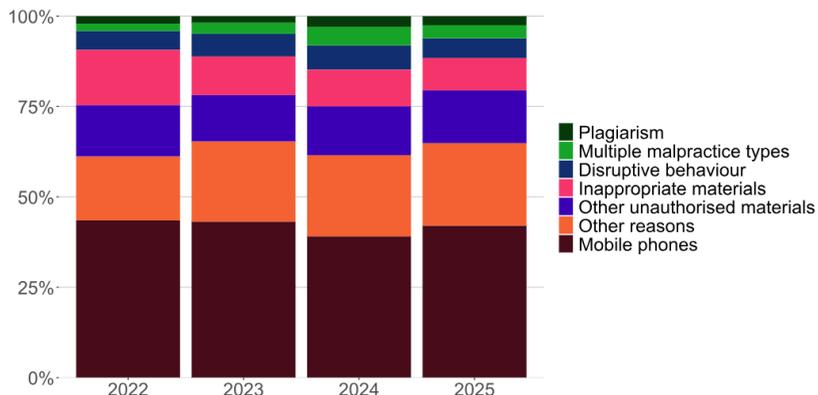
- +5000 cases linked to students
- 465 linked to staff practice
- 200 linked to schools

Malpractice does occur here at HGSS. In every case, this malpractice is reported to JCQ. Failure to do so puts our ability to host public examinations at risk and we are not prepared to do that.

Malpractice

Introduction of mobile phone and other communication devices remained the most common type of offence for student malpractice in 2025

Percentage of proven student malpractice cases by type of offence, 2022 to 2025



Last summer, most of the malpractice seen was linked to mobile phones.

Thankfully we have a system to mitigate this issue at HGSS – our mobile phone lockers.

We did not have these in place last summer, but our forensic ‘checking’ prior to entry meant that this did not impact us at all. Two years ago, we had one issue with a phone – it was the only time the student in question had ever brought their phone to school. It was not used in the exam however the student received a message and the alert was audible.

Mobile phones



Year 11 Students must continue to use mobile phone lockers during exam period

Our lockers safeguard against this issue for Year 11 students. Year 13 students will need to be mindful of the rules.

The lockers must be used by Year 11 students until the end of their last exam. After 1 June, they should bring a bag to keep their locker in during exams. The bags will be locked in the cages as outlined previously.

Malpractice



No unauthorised items



Listen to all instructions



Silence



No interaction

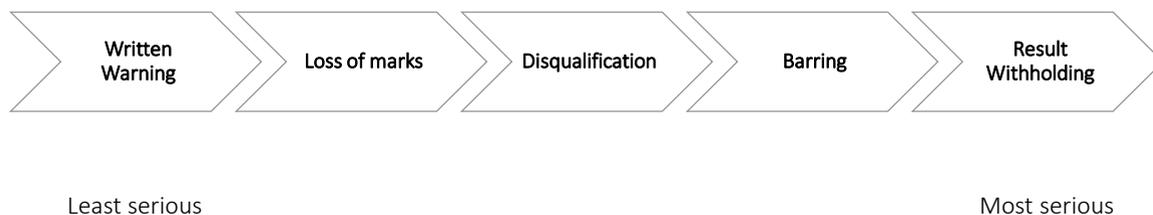


Hands up

This is the information your son/daughter will receive regarding their behaviour in the examination hall.

Any discrepancy from the above will result in a malpractice report being generated.

Malpractice



Sanctions linked to malpractice are applied according to the nature of the offence, and on a sliding scale.

Malpractice at HGSS last year was sanctioned with warnings only.

Previously, students have lost component marks and have been disqualified from a whole suite of examinations led by one exam board. The ramifications of this are clearly significant.

Aims



Logistics



Malpractice



Sports Hall Zoning

Part 2 done

On the day – entering the exam hall ZONES



Main Space

This is the main zone of the main hall where the majority of students will sit their exams.

On the day – entering the exam hall ZONES



Laptops

This space is used by the students who have PC access arrangements

On the day – entering the exam hall ZONES



Quiet zone

This space is used by students who would have worked in a small room setting previously.

All exams, regardless of zone, start and end at the same time.

All zones allow for the provision of all exam access arrangements

During the exam – toilets/rest breaks



- Medical exemptions only
- No access to toilets for anyone else at any time



- Usual way of working
- One student at a time

During the exam we have a registered list of those who are medically able to use the toilet during exam – for anyone else it's a firm no.

Rest breaks work the same way as they have for class and previous exam hall mocks. This is typically no longer than 5 mins per hour. So a student has a 2-hour exam for example, that's one rest break per hour. However if it's a 90 min exam there will be one rest break awarded.

This happens one student at a time as they will need to leave their allocated Zone with an invigilator

Time spent in the toilet, or on a rest break, gets added on to the end of the exam.

Aims



Logistics



Malpractice



Sports Hall Zoning

All done



Questions

Please send questions to either:

Mr Wooller - woollera@holmer.org.uk

Ms Kirkpatrick - kirkpatrickj@holmer.org.uk

Mrs Lee – leea@holmer.org.uk

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We all want to wish you all the very best of luck and if you do have any questions please feel free to find JKI/AWO/ALEE and we will try to get back to you as quickly as we can