



**THE HART
SCHOOL**
*Creative
Education
Trust*

My Exams

Important Information

Use before, during and after your exams

Introduction

The aim of this guide is to help you get through the exam period by explaining the procedures and by answering some of the questions you may have.

Please read it carefully and if you are not sure about anything ask your Form Tutor or the Exams Officer.

Public exams can be a stressful time for you and your family, and it is important that those involved are as well informed as possible. Well informed students will realise the rules and regulations are designed to ensure fairness and minimize disturbance. It is in the best interest of all that the exams run smoothly.

The Hart School will make every effort to ensure that you received the best possible preparation for your exams, that the administrative arrangements run smoothly, and that the exams are conducted in a way that will cause as little stress as possible and help you achieve your best. Pre-Public Exams (PPEs) are run to the same standards and rules to help you familiarise yourself with the processes beforehand.

This booklet is intended to inform you about the exam procedures, to answer some of the most frequently asked questions, and to help guide and support you and your family through the exam process.

It also contains the formal notices that are required by regulation to be given to each student taking exams.

Coursework & Non-Examination Assessments

Some of the subjects you are studying may have an element of coursework or non-examination assessments (NEA) included in them which has to be completed, marked and internally moderated. The marks and work will then be sent to the Awarding Bodies (Examination Boards) well before the formal written exam sessions take place. The School set deadlines that allow time for this process and to meet the exam board deadlines. These cannot be changed. Students who do not submit coursework on time will not be allocated a mark for this part of the qualification and their overall grade will be affected. They may also not be eligible for special consideration for the formal written exams should they be ill as they will not have completed the minimum requirement of the course. Your work will be marked by teachers who have appropriate knowledge, understanding and skill, and who have been trained in this activity. The Hart School is committed to ensuring that work produced by you is authenticated in line with the requirements of the awarding body. Where a number of subject teachers are involved in marking candidates' work, internal moderation and standardisation will ensure consistency of marking.

These marks are known as 'centre assessed marks'.

Review of centre assessed marks

The Hart School will ensure that you are informed of your centre assessed marks so that you may request a review of the marking before marks are submitted to the awarding body.

You may request copies of materials to help you decide whether to request a review of marking of your assessment. Students are allowed sufficient time in order to review copies of materials and reach a decision.

You **must** make Requests for reviews of marking in writing to the Exams Officer, after which sufficient time will be allowed for the review to be carried out, to make any necessary changes to marks and to inform you of the outcome, all before the awarding body's deadline.

The Hart School will ensure that the review of marking is carried out by an assessor who has appropriate competence, has had no previous involvement in the assessment of you and has no personal interest in the review. The reviewer will ensure that your mark is consistent with the standard set by school.

You will be informed in writing of the outcome of the review. A written record will be kept and made available to the exam board upon request. If the review of marking brings any irregularity in procedures to light, the exam board will be informed immediately.

After your work has been internally assessed, it is moderated by the awarding body to ensure consistency in marking between centres. This moderation process may lead to mark changes. This process is outside the control of The Hart School and is not covered by this procedure.

Before You Sit Your Exam

Your subject teacher will have informed the Exams Officer which exams you need to be entered for. Most of this entry data is sent through the Internet using a special electronic delivery system (which complies with Data Protection rules and regulations).

Once this information is sent off you will be given a paper copy of your "Statement of Entry" with all your personal details and exams listed.

YOU MUST CHECK THIS STATEMENT VERY CAREFULLY.

The details to check are:

- Your personal details – this means the correct spelling of your legal (not your preferred) name and your correct date of birth. These details are how they will appear on your exam certificates which are legal documents and must be correct.
- The examination units you are taking, especially the level of the paper e.g. Foundation or Higher. If you have been entered for the wrong exam, you will be given the wrong paper.

If anything is incorrect, you must let the Exams Officer know immediately.

Centre and Candidate Numbers

You will be given a four digit unique candidate number. Please try to remember this number and write it on every exam paper you take. Your candidate number will stay the same throughout your School career.

My Candidate Number is				
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(Please complete and remember)

You will also have to write The Hart School's Centre Number on every exam paper you complete. The exam invigilator will remind you of this on the day:

The Hart School

30385

Your Exam Timetable

When you are issued with your exam timetable it will look like the example below. Read it carefully to make sure you know where and when your exams take place. Put it somewhere safe and obvious at home so that you and your family can see it and that you all know when you should be at school taking an exam.

Individual Candidate Timetable

Season : External Public Exams 2020

Name :

Candidate Number :

UCI :

Centre Number : 30385

Year :

Reg Group :

ULN :

Date	Start Time	Board	Level	Element Code	Element Title	Component Code	Component Title	Duration	Room	Seat
Tue 12 May	1:10PM	AQA	GCSE/9D	8464F	Combined Sci: Trilogy Tier F	8464/B/1F	Combined Sci Trilogy Biology P1F	1h 15m	GYM	A2
Thu 14 May	9:15AM	AQA	GCSE/9D	8464F	Combined Sci: Trilogy Tier F	8464/C/1F	Combined Sci Trilogy Chemistry P1F	1h 15m	GYM	A2
Tue 19 May	9:15AM	EDEXL/GCSE	GCSE/9FC	1MA1F	Mathematics Option F	1MA1 1F	Non Calculator (F)	1h 30m	GYM	A2
Wed 20 May	9:15AM	AQA	GCSE/9FC	8698F	Spanish Tier F	8698/LF	Spanish Listening Test Tier F	0h 35m	LIB	A1
Wed 20 May	9:55AM	AQA	GCSE/9FC	8698F	Spanish Tier F	8698/RF	Spanish Reading Test Tier F	0h 45m	LIB	A1
Wed 20 May	1:10PM	AQA	GCSE/9D	8464F	Combined Sci: Trilogy Tier F	8464/P/1F	Combined Sci Trilogy Physics P1F	1h 15m	GYM	A2
Mon 01 Jun	9:15AM	OCR	GCSE/9FC	J411EF	History B (Shp) Option EF	J411/21	Hist B: History Around US Wtn	1h 00m	GYM	A1
Mon 01 Jun	1:10PM	AQA	GCSE/9D	8464F	Combined Sci: Trilogy Tier F	8464/B/2F	Combined Sci Trilogy Biology P2F	1h 15m	GYM	A2

Before the Exam and Last Minute Exam Tips

- Organise and plan your programme of revision.
- Do not rely on learning it the night before.
- Include appropriate leisure activities in your plan (regular, short intervals but not too many!)
- Be organised – know when and where you need to be and get your equipment ready – find out what is involved in each of the exams that you are going to sit.
- Equipment you need for the exam: **Black** Pen / Pencil / Ruler / Calculator / Sharpener and eraser / Spare pens and pencils. *If you use a pencil case make sure it is see through or it cannot be used in the exam room.*
- Get a good night's sleep (don't forget to set your alarm if you have a morning exam).
- School uniform must be worn for all exams.
- Check you have the correct equipment with you before you leave the house.
- Leave for the exam in plenty of time – don't forget to have that all important breakfast!
- Know the exam regulations – a copy will have been issued with your exam timetable. Remember that these rules apply from the moment you enter the exam room.

- Arrive at your exam room at least 15 minutes before the exam starts. (Late arrivals require permission to enter, which can be refused on some papers).
- Know your row and seat number – you should be able to go directly to your seat when called in.
- Only bottles of still or flavoured water will be allowed in the exam room. Ensure all labels are removed from the bottle.

You may feel stressed – keep thinking “I CAN DO THIS!”

Exam Day

Morning exam procedures start at 8:30am with an official exam start time of 9:15am

Afternoon exam procedures start at 12:30pm with an official exam start time of 1:10pm

You will be asked to line up in row order outside of your exam venue, ready to be admitted 15 minutes before the exam is due to start. Normally exams are held in the school gym and library.

You will be called into your exam room by the Invigilators 10-15 minutes before the official exam start time. You are called in ahead of this time so you can be seated and be in place to hear all the announcements relating to the exam before you start.

It is important to arrive early as you may miss some important information if you arrive after this.

If you have Special Arrangements in place for your exam which means that you are in a separate room to the main exam venue then you will be notified of your allocated exam room on your timetable, and should arrive and wait outside of this room 15 minutes before the exam is due to start.

It is important that you sit at the correct desk in your exam room. To find out where you sit for the exam in that session you need to look at the seating plan (please see example below). These are displayed outside the assembly point to each exam room. Look for your name on the list (which is always in candidate number order) and then you can see where your seat is:

Seating Plan Report

Hart School Hall

Date

Start Time: 9:00 AM

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
1	Surname, First Name 1MAOF 8133 10:45am	Surname, First Name 1MAOF 8152 10:45am	Surname, First Name 1MAOF 8153 10:45am				
2	Surname, First Name 1MAOF 8134 10:45am	Surname, First Name 1MAOF 8151 10:45am	Surname, First Name 1MAOF 8154 10:45am				
3	Surname, First Name 1MAOF 8135 10:45am	Surname, First Name 1MAOF 8150 10:45am	Surname, First Name 1MAOF 8155 10:45am				
4	Surname, First Name 1MAOF 8136 10:45am	Surname, First Name 1MAOF 8149 10:45am	Surname, First Name 1MAOF 8156 10:45am				
5	Surname, First Name 1MAOF 8137 10:45am	Surname, First Name 1MAOF 8148 10:45am	Surname, First Name 1MAOF 8157 10:45am				
6	Surname, First Name 1MAOF 8138 10:45am	Surname, First Name 1MAOF 8147 10:45am	Surname, First Name 1MAOF 8158 10:45am				
7	Surname, First Name 1MAOF 8139 10:45am	Surname, First Name 1MAOF 8146 10:45am	Surname, First Name 1MAOF 8159 10:45am				
8	Surname, First Name 1MAOF 8140 10:45am	Surname, First Name 1MAOF 8145 10:45am	Surname, First Name 1MAOF 8160 10:45am				
9	Surname, First Name 1MAOF 8141 10:45am	Surname, First Name 1MAOF 8144 10:45am	Surname, First Name 1MAOF 8161 10:45am				
10	Surname, First Name 1MAOF 8142 10:45am	Surname, First Name 1MAOF 8143 10:45am	Surname, First Name 1MAOF 8162 10:45am				

By following the plans on the wall, you should be able to clearly identify which row and seat number is yours. To further help an exam label with your name and candidate number will be placed on your desk prior to you entering the exam room.

Please remember that Exam Board rules are very strict in order to ensure fairness and to minimize disturbance. It is in everyone's best interest that exams always run smoothly. Please do not to behave in any way that may jeopardize your chances or those of other people in the exam room.

In the Exam



Mobile Phones, Watches and other forms of communication are strictly prohibited in exams.

- Mobile phones, MP3 Players, iPods and Watches are not allowed into the exam room under any circumstances.
- If you are found to have a phone or watch in your possession once seated in the exam room you are at risk of being disqualified from that exam subject and in extreme cases you may be banned from all future examinations of all GCE and GCSE Awarding Bodies.

**Please do not risk being disqualified from an exam by forgetting that you have your mobile phone, watch or an electronic device on you at the time of an exam.
There are no exceptions!**

- Read the exam paper instructions carefully, plan your time and make sure you answer the right questions that you have studied towards. Look through the paper carefully and mark difficult questions / initial thoughts.
- Use the marks available to determine how long you should spend on a question. Use the information provided on the paper (the answer's often nearly all there).
- Pace yourself and allow enough time to answer all the required questions.
- Write as neatly as possible and remember to pay attention to your spelling and grammar.
- For longer answers, take a few minutes before you begin to produce a structured plan of what you are going to include in each section.
- Allow yourself time at the end to read your answers and correct any mistakes.
- Remember even scrap paper will be collected and sent off. Show any working you need to do on the answer paper provided. Cross out any section of your work you do not wish to be marked.

What if the Fire Alarm sounds..?

In the event of a fire alarm you will be removed from your exam room but MUST remain under exam conditions. Please note the following:

- Remain calm and silent at all times
- Leave all exam papers and materials on your desk
- Leave your personal belongings in the exam room
- You will be escorted by an invigilator or member of staff to the nearest fire exit and taken to your Year Group Zone. You must remain silent and not try to communicate with any other exam candidates or peers from your year group on your zone.
- It is important to remember that you are still under exam board conditions and under no circumstances should you talk to one another.
- Remain calm and silent and wait until the Invigilator gives you further instructions once an outcome to the evacuation has been assessed.

Breaching these regulations could mean disqualification from your examination.

And after all that hard work.....Results!

After years of hard work, getting your results can be both exciting and nerve-racking. The best piece of advice anyone can offer is to stay calm - if you don't get the results you were expecting and your grades are higher or lower than predicted, there are lots of options available – The Hart School Leadership Team and Teaching staff will be on hand on results day to offer advice, support and guidance.

GCE Results (A Level) Day

Thursday 18 August 2022

GCSE Results Day

Thursday 25 August 2022

Please note - Results will not be given over the telephone or by email and will only be given to other people by prior arrangement.

If you are unable to collect your results in person you can leave a stamped addressed envelope (with the correct postage please) with the Exams Office and we will post them to you. Alternatively, if someone is collecting your results on your behalf they must have a letter signed by yourself giving them permission to collect your results. We are unable to release results to anyone without written permission from you, even if it is a parent.

Once you have received your results but find that you are unhappy with one of the grades you have been awarded by the Exam Boards you can speak to a member of the Hart School Senior Leadership Team to see if it is appropriate to submit a Review of Results (RoR) to the relevant Exam Board regarding your grade. The following procedures will apply to this process:

- 1) If you decide to go ahead with an RoR you should discuss it with the appropriate Faculty Director in the first instance. If they agree to the review then the school will fund the RoR.
- 2) If the Faculty Director disagrees that there is a valid case for a review but agrees that you can go ahead with the review then you must pay the appropriate fee for the RoR. The fee must be paid before the school will action the review.

- 3) All RoR requests must be received by the Exams Officer in school no later than 21 days after the publication of provisional results to allow time for processing the request.
- 4) No request can be actioned before the Exams Office receives a fully completed JCQ Candidate Consent Form, which you must sign and date. Copies of these blank forms will be distributed to you on exam results day.

Before you sign the form please be aware that the final subject grade you are awarded following an enquiry may be higher or lower than the original grade you were originally given.

- 5) You must fully complete and sign the form. Your Faculty Director will then complete a 'Request for RoR Form' fully outlining your details, all exam units concerned, and which RoR Service is required, this will then be submitted to the Exams Office.
- 6) Once the fully completed form is received and accepted by the Exams office, two members of the Exams and Data Team will together submit the RoR request online with the Exam Boards, ensuring that all information submitted is correct and reflects your original request detailed on your signed consent form.
- 7) The school will inform you as soon as possible about the outcome of any RoR.



Exam Certificates – will not be available until the beginning of November as the exam boards do not issue them to school until then. The statement of results you are issued with on results day will suffice for colleges etc.

Remember - it's not about success or failure. It's all about what you do next that counts!

FAQs

Can students take holidays during term time and exam seasons?

Dates for external exams are rigidly fixed by the Awarding Bodies and are subject to change until close to the time that the exams begin. Parents are reminded that they require the Principal's permission to take students out of school (for exceptional circumstances only) and that they book holidays during term time at their own risk. It is strongly against good practice, careful preparation and School policy to take student holidays in term time. Any holiday leave will be recorded as absence, which will then result in the involvement of the Educational Welfare Officer.

How are students supervised?

Adult external invigilators will supervise you under the guidance of the Exams Officer. Once you enter the exam room you must remain supervised and follow the invigilators instructions at all times. The Invigilators are trained and experienced in exam procedures and subject to strict regulation, references and police checks. They usually work in teams and will contact the Exams Officer to resolve any issues. The Invigilators will call you into the exam room according to the seating plan. You will find your desk with your candidate exam information on it. In some sessions, exam packs will already be open or exam papers will be on desks, these must not be opened until you are advised to do so.

How should students dress for their exams?

You MUST always be in full school uniform, including black shoes (no trainers). Sixth Form students should continue to adhere to the Sixth Form Student dress code. Rules on jewellery still apply. Failure to comply could prevent you from being allowed to sit your exam.

What happens if a student cannot find their place in the exam room?

Occasionally problems arise because your name card is not where you think it should be. There are a number of possible reasons for this and the situation has to be investigated. You will be asked to wait at the front for a few moments whilst the Invigilator on duty in that room checks with the Exams Officer. Every effort is made to keep any problems to a minimum and they will not prejudice any your chance of taking an exam for which you have been entered. If you have officially been withdrawn from an exam you will not be permitted to sit the paper. It is helpful if you have your statement of entry or exam timetable with you.

What if I forget to come for an exam?

You can only take an exam at the set date and time, so if you forget to come in to school then you will have missed the exam. **You will be charged for any exam that you have been entered for but do not attend due to any reason other than severe illness which is verified by a doctor's letter.**

What if I am late?

If you arrive within one hour of the national official start time of the exam, (9:00am for morning exams and 1:30pm for afternoon exams) you may still be allowed to take the exam. The Exams Officer will determine if this can be allowed and the full amount of time can be granted to you.

What if I am ill?

If you are ill, you should always try and sit the exam no matter how unwell you are feeling. Unless your illness is contagious or you have a severe stomach upset then you should always try your very best to attend. If you turn up for the exam and are unwell then your parents or carer should write a letter to the Exams Officer explaining the circumstances in order for Special Consideration to be applied for (see below).

If you are too ill to sit the exam on the day then your parents or carers must telephone the school before 8:45am to record your non-attendance. You should then provide a Doctor's Note to cover this absence, and Special Consideration can then be applied for.

Special Consideration

The School can apply to the Awarding Bodies to ask for special consideration in exceptional circumstances for you if you attended your exam but were disadvantaged or absent from the exam due to illness.

Special Consideration is a post examination adjustment to your mark or grade to reflect temporary injury, illness or other indisposition at the time of the exam / assessment.

The decision whether special consideration will be applied to you will be made solely by the exam boards and we cannot guarantee that this will always be awarded.

What if the fire alarm sounds?

If the fire alarm does sound during an exam, you will be asked to stop writing, put down your pen, sit in silence and wait for instructions.

If the fire alarm is genuine, you will be asked to leave everything exactly where it is (including your exam papers) and you will be led to the fire evacuation assembly point in an orderly manner. Remember that you will still be under exam conditions and should not communicate in any way with other students. The length of time of the disruption will be noted by the Invigilator and you will be given that time at the end of the exam.

What if I need to go to the toilet during an exam?

If it is really necessary for you to go to the toilet during the exam, raise your hand and wait for an invigilator to come to you. They will decide if this can be allowed and if so the invigilator will then be required to accompany you to the toilet as per exam board regulations.

Remember – going to the toilet not only disturbs other people in the room, it also breaks your concentration. It should not be seen as a chance to have a break.

What if I feel unwell during the exam?

If you feel unwell during an exam, raise your hand and wait for an invigilator to come to you. You can leave the exam room under supervision and return to the room when you have recovered. You will be allowed any time you may have missed.

Remember – if you have a cold or hay fever, bring plenty of tissues with you and take medication if you have been prescribed it to help ease the symptoms.

What if I have two exams scheduled at the same time?

If you have two exams timetabled at the same time and they total less than three hours in duration, you will sit one exam after the other. Where they are more than three hours you will sit one in the morning and one in the afternoon. You will be supervised at all times between the two exams, including lunchtime and breaks.

And Finally

These exams represent the culmination of several years of your hard work here at The Hart School.

REMEMBER ...

“Recipe for success:

Study while others are sleeping;

Work while others are loafing;

Prepare while others are playing;

And dream while others are wishing”

William A. Ward

Please keep this booklet in a safe placeand the very best of luck!