



Merchant Taylors' School

Ambition | Character | Excellence

February 2020

Dear Parent/Guardian

Summer 2020 Examinations – Contingency Day

The summer examinations may seem like a long way away at the moment, but we need to share some important information to avoid any issues in June. During the spring term, students will be given individual timetables which will inform them of when their final written examinations will take place. Students will still receive their timetables but a contingency examination day has been arranged by the examination boards and should be borne in mind.

The contingency day has been arranged for “GCSE and/or GCE examinations, should sustained national or local disruption arise during the June 2020 examination series.” The decision comes following the tragic events of 2018, namely the Manchester attacks and the Grenfell Tower fire. The Joint Council for Qualifications have decided they need the option to postpone an examination in the event of an incident and rearrange for a later date to allow all students a fair and equal chance.

The date set aside for the contingency examination day is **Wednesday 24th June 2020** and examinations may be rescheduled anytime up to that day. Awarding bodies **will not** accept a pre-booked holiday as a valid excuse for missing a written examination. With this in mind, may I please encourage all parents and carers to make a note of the new reserve examination date and ensure availability; it would be devastating for a student to miss out on a good grade after working hard for two years because they might be absent from a rearranged final examination. If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours faithfully,

Jeanette Blease
Examinations Officer and Access Arrangements Assessor