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Daniel Gibbons  
Head of OLA

14 November 2023

Dear Parents / Guardians of Pupils Sitting Public Exams in Summer 2024,

**GCSE and GCE Exams (or equivalent) – Contingency Afternoons and Day 2024**

The public exams at the end of this academic year may seem like a long way away but we are writing to make you aware of some important information from the Examination boards which will affect all students taking examinations next Summer 2024.

For the Summer 2024 exam series a 'contingency' exam day and 2 afternoon 'contingency' sessions have been arranged. All students sitting exams next summer need to be aware of and available for these dates.

The contingency days for GCSE and GCE examinations have been put in place 'in the event of widespread, sustained national or local disruption to examinations during the June 2024 examinations series.' *(Please note that it is not a day that can be used because a candidate is unwell i.e. it is not a 'catch up' day.)*

This year JCQ have 3 separate dates set aside for possible contingency needs:

Thursday 6th June afternoon  
Thursday 13th June afternoon  
Wednesday 26th June all day

This means that all exam candidates **must** be available to sit exams from the date of their first exam up to, and including, Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> June 2024\*. This decision is not a school decision and does apply to all schools nationally and internationally that run GCSE and GCE exams. The school has no power to support any exam absence related to holidays or other activities taken on these dates.

We recommend that parents/guardians please make a note now that their child must be available to sit examinations until the 26th June. Holidays or other commitments for exam candidates should not be booked until after Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> June, regardless of when their final exam is scheduled to be\*\*.

If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact us [exams@ola.org.uk](mailto:exams@ola.org.uk)

Yours sincerely,

**Mr. D. Gibbons**  
Head of OLA

**Ms. V. Wiggins**  
Exams Officer

\* The main Summer 2024 exam series runs from Thursday 9th May until Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> June.

\*\* Exam candidate's final individual exam timetables will be sent out in Hilary Term.