



April 2026

THE GAINSBOROUGH ACADEMY

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Dear Parents and Carers,

HEADTEACHER: Mrs R Skelton

As we approach the final weeks of the academic year, I am writing to you regarding the final preparations for the GCSE examination period.

The exam season officially commenced this week with our Art and Photography practical assessments. I would like to take this opportunity to say how immensely proud we are of the students; they have started this challenging period with focus, maturity, and a positive mindset. I would also like to recognise the dedicated students who attended our booster sessions over the Easter holidays—your hard work and commitment will undoubtedly stand you in good stead.

If any student feels they require additional support with their revision, they are strongly encouraged to speak directly with their subject teachers. Our staff are on hand to provide resources and guidance to ensure every student feels confident heading into their papers.

Throughout the exam period, students will receive **weekly personalised timetables** by email. These will clearly outline their specific exams and the accompanying booster sessions.

For all morning examinations, we will be holding **booster sessions at 8:00 am in the Main Hall**. These sessions are vital as they:

- Allow students to settle and get into the right "exam mindset."
- Ensure punctuality for the start of the paper.
- Provide a final opportunity for key tips from subject specialists.

**Breakfast will be provided** for all students attending these 8:00 am sessions. Please note that during this time, our attendance team will be proactively phoning the homes of any students who have not yet arrived to ensure they are on their way to school.

Students are expected to be in school **every day** throughout the exam period. This ensures they have consistent access to their teachers for last-minute support and revision in the run-up to each paper. Please be aware that some exams are scheduled to finish after 3pm. This may be for all students sitting that exam or just for students who have an access arrangement of extra time. Students will need to remain in the exam until the end of the scheduled time. The start times for exams are set externally and this is something which the academy can't change. Where the exam finished beyond 3pm parents will need to arrange how their child will get home.

Please be aware of the following regulations regarding exam attendance:

- **Fines:** If a student misses an exam without a valid reason, parents will receive a **£60 fine per paper**.
- **Absence:** If there is an exceptional reason for absence (such as illness), we require formal evidence, such as a **medical certificate**, to submit to the exam board.
- **Uniform:** Students are required to wear **full school uniform** for the duration of the exam period.
- All **JCQ exam regulations** must be followed in the exam hall. Students are already aware of the behaviour expectations linked to these regulations. The academy has a duty to report any malpractice to the exam board, including student behaviour, which may result in the student being disqualified from the exam and further papers.

GCSE Results Day is **Thursday 20th August 2025**. Students are invited into school to collect their results, where staff will be available to provide support regarding next steps and college placements. Students will be able to collect their results between 9am and 10.30am. Further details will be sent nearer to the time.



- **Collection:** If a student cannot attend, results will be posted home.
- **Third-Party Collection:** Parents may only collect results on behalf of their child if they bring **written consent** signed by the student, with photo ID to confirm named person collecting.
- **DfE App:** The Department for Education has introduced a new app to allow students to share their grades with post-16 providers. We will be assisting students in setting this up shortly, and further information will follow.

We recognise that this can be a stressful time for both students and families. If you have any concerns regarding your child's wellbeing, please do not hesitate to contact us; we have various support systems in place within the academy.

Finally, we look forward to celebrating the end of this journey with the students at the **Leavers' Breakfast** and the **Prom**. Detailed information regarding these events will be sent to you over the next two weeks.

Thank you for your continued support in ensuring your child achieves their very best.

Yours sincerely,



Rachael Skelton  
**Headteacher**  
The Gainsborough Academy