

# The Ramsey Academy, Halstead

Colne Road, Halstead, Essex CO9 2HR. T: 01787 472481 F: 01787 474267  
E: office@ramseyacademy.com • W: www.ramseyacademy.com



Headteacher:  
Rob James

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Dear Parents/Carers

As the GCSE examinations are fast approaching, we would like to clarify the arrangements during the next few months regarding attendance and expectations.

A comprehensive Final Countdown programme has been constructed to allow students to focus on specific subjects based on the examination timetable. This consists, where possible, of a Final Countdown session up to two hours of focused revision with their subject teacher either on the day before the examination or the morning of the examination. Additionally, for every subject there is a 'Warm-up session' focused on key points to remember immediately prior to the examination.

The timetable of these sessions and details of the examinations can be found on the Academy website.

Students will be expected to attend lessons as normal unless they are completing a Final Countdown or Warm-up session until Friday 9 June.

From Monday 12 June, students will only be expected to attend Science lessons and the Final Countdown or Warm-up sessions. Staff will be available for additional support for those subjects in which they still have examinations to take during their normal timetabled lessons.

At other times, students will be able to sign out and complete independent study at home. If students wish to use the Library, it will be available during the day for revision purposes but they will not be allowed to use other areas of the school.

The official leaving date for students is the day of their final GCSE examination.

We would like to remind students that they are still expected to follow Academy rules with regard to uniform and behaviour. A student who is not wearing correct uniform will not be allowed to sit the examination. Any student displaying inappropriate behaviour will not be allowed onsite to attend Final Countdown or Warm-up session and if they cause disruption in the examination may not be allowed to complete the paper.

We are aware that a number of students have part-time jobs. Whilst we support this as it develops important life skills and provides some additional income, please discuss with your child, the short-term benefits of working long hours compared to the long-term benefits of gaining good GCSE/BTEC results.

Finally, a reminder that GCSE results day is Thursday 24 August and they can be collected from the Main Hall from 10.30 – 11.30 am. If a student is not able to collect the results personally, a letter authorising their release is required and the person collecting must have suitable identification.

On behalf of all the staff, I would like to wish the students good luck and thank you for your support in helping to prepare them for their GCSE examinations.

Yours sincerely

R James  
Headteacher

C Leys  
Deputy Headteacher