

# The Ramsey Academy, Halstead

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3 May 2018

Dear Parents/Carers

Headteacher:  
Rob James

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, there is a 'Warm-up session' focused on key points to remember immediately prior to the examination.

The timetable of these sessions will be distributed this week and details of the examinations will be available 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 25 May.

From Tuesday 5 June (Monday 4 June is a non-student day except for Countdown sessions), students will be expected to attend the Final Countdown and 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.

Please be aware that on Monday 4 June there will be no bus service as it is a non-student day. If this poses a problem for your child please contact Mrs Sterland.

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 be removed and may not be allowed to complete the paper. Students have been informed that inappropriate behaviour may result in the removal of their invitation to attend the end of year Prom.

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 23 August and they can be collected from the Main Hall from 10.00 – 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 Sterland (Mrs)  
Assistant Headteacher

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Registered office: Notley High School & Braintree Sixth Form, Notley Road, Braintree, Essex CM7 1WY.

## Countdown and Warm up session timetable

Date	Registration 8.30	Period 1 8.50 (Exams start at 9.30)	Period 2 9.50	Break 10.50	Period 3 11.10	Lunch 12.10	Period 4 1.00 (Exams start at 1.00)	Period 5 2.00
Thursday y 10 <sup>th</sup> May		Computer Science countdown ICT countdown	Computer Science countdown		Maths countdown			
Friday 11 <sup>th</sup> May		RE countdown			Biology countdown		Biology countdown	
Monday 14 <sup>th</sup> May (early lunch starts)	8.30 → 9.15 Computer Science warm up	Computer Science exam (1 h 45)	Computer Science exam (1 h 45)		11.45 → 12.15 RE students lunch	12.15 → 12.45 RE warm up	RE exam (1 h 45)	
	8.30 → 9.15 ICT warm up	ICT exam (1 h 30)						
	8.30 → 9.15 Health and Social Care warm up	Health and Social Care exam (1 hour)					French countdown	
Tuesday 15 <sup>th</sup> May	8.30 → 9.15 French warm up	French listening and reading exam (1h 20 or 1 h 45)			11.45 → 12.15 Lunch	12.15 → 12.45 Biology warm up	Biology exam (1h 10 or 1 h45)	
Wednes day 16 <sup>th</sup> May	8.30 → 9.15 PE warm up	PE exam (1 h 45)					RE exam (1 h 45)	
			10.00 start RE countdown				Chemistry countdown	
Thursday y 17 <sup>th</sup> May	8.30 → 9.15 Chemistry warm up	Chemistry exam (1 h 10 or 1 h 45)			11.45 → 12.15 Com Sci students Lunch	12.15 → 12.45 Computer Science warm up	Computer Science exam (2 h)	
							French countdown	

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Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> May	8.30 → 9.15 French warm up	French exam (1 h or 1 h 15)			11.45 → 12.15 Drama and PE students lunch	12.15 → 12.45 Drama warm up	Drama exam (1 h 30)	
					Drama countdown			
			PE countdown			12.15 → 12.45 PE warm up	PE exam (1 h 15)	
Monday 21 <sup>st</sup> May		English countdown			Maths countdown		Geography countdown	
Tuesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> May	8.30 → 9.15 English warm up	English exam (1 h 45)			11.45 → 12.15 Geography students lunch	12.15 → 12.45 Geography warm up	Geography exam (1 h 30)	
					Physics countdown			Textiles countdown
Wednesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> May						12.15 → 12.45 Physics warm up	Physics exam (1 h 10 or 1 h 45)	
Thursday 24 <sup>th</sup> May	8.30 → 9.15 Maths warm up	Maths exam (1 h 30)						
Friday 25 <sup>th</sup> May	8.30 → 9.15 English warm up	English exam (2 h 15)			11.45 → 12.15 Textiles students lunch	12.15 → 12.45 Textiles warm up	Textiles exam (2 h)	
							JG	History countdown
<b>HALF TERM</b>								

Date	Registration 8.30	Period 1 8.50 (Exams start at 9.30)	Period 2 9.50	Break 10.50	Period 3 11.10	Lunch 12.10	Period 4 1.00 (Exams start at 1.00)	Period 5 2.00
<b>Monday 4<sup>th</sup> June</b>	8.30 → 9.15 History warm up	History exam (1 h)			Geography countdown		English countdown	
<b>Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> June</b>	8.30 → 9.15 English warm up	English exam (1 h 45)			11.45 → 12.15 Geography students lunch	12.15 → 12.45 Geography warm up	Geography exam (1 h 30)	
<b>Wednes day 6<sup>th</sup> June</b>	8.30 → 9.15 Spanish warm up	Spanish exam (85 m and 45 m)			Maths countdown		History countdown	
<b>Thursda y 7<sup>th</sup> June</b>	8.30 → 9.15 Maths warm up	Maths exam (1 h 30)					Maths countdown	
<b>Friday 8<sup>th</sup> June</b>	8.30 → 9.15 English warm up	English exam (1 h 45)			11.45 → 12.15 History students lunch	12.15 → 12.45 History warm up	History exam (1 h 45)	
<b>Monday 11<sup>th</sup> June</b>	8.30 → 9.15 Biology warm up	Biology exam (1 h 10 or 1 h 45)			Geography countdown		Biology countdown	
<b>Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> June</b>	8.30 → 9.15 Maths warm up	Maths exam (1 h 30)			11.45 → 12.15 Geography students lunch	12.15 → 12.45 Geography warm up	Geography exam (1 h 45) History countdown	
					11.45 → 12.15 History students lunch	12.15 → 12.45 History warm up	History exam (1 h 45)	Chemistry countdown

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Wednes day 13 <sup>th</sup> June	8.30 → 9.15 Chemistry warm up	Chemistry exam (1 h 10 or 1 h 45)						
Thursda y 14 <sup>th</sup> June	8.30 → 9.15 Spanish warm up	Spanish exam (1 h)			11.45 → 12.15 Food students lunch	12.15 → 12.45 Food prep and nutrition warm up	Physics countdown  Food prep and nutrition exam (1 h 45)	
Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> June	8.30 → 9.15 Physics warm up	Physics exam (1 h 10 or 1 h 45)					Polish exam (50 m)  German countdown	
Monday 18 <sup>th</sup> June	8.30 → 9.15 German warm up	German exam (1 h 20 or 1 h 45)						
Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup> June		Dance countdown			11.45 → 12.15 Dance students lunch	12.15 → 12.45 Dance warm up	Dance exam (1 h 30)	
Wednes day 20 <sup>th</sup> June		Polish exam (1 h and 1 h)					German countdown	
Thursda y 21 <sup>st</sup> June	8.30 → 9.15 German warm up	German exam (1h or 1 h 15)					Product Design countdown	
Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> June	8.30 → 9.15 Product Design warm up	Product Design exam (2 h)						