



Pensby High School

Irby Road, Heswall, Wirral.
CH61 6XN

T 0151 342 0570

F 0151 342 0571

E schooloffice@psf.wirral.sch.uk

www.pensbyhighschool.com

Headteacher: Mr K Flanagan

18 March 2026

Dear Parent/Carer

Year 11 Leaving Day and Examination arrangements 2026

I am writing to inform you of the arrangements for Year 11 students prior to the start of their examinations. All students have been issued with a guidance booklet about examinations.

Thursday 7th May 2026 is when many subjects have their first written papers, however, examinations continue until Wednesday 17th June 2026. Students will remain in school for all lessons and examinations up to, and including **Friday 5th June**, after which they will only need to attend for their GCSE examinations in accordance with the published timetable. If students do not have an exam on the days leading up to the 5th June they will continue to be taught in their lessons. We understand that this is a later date than some other schools, but having looked at the examination timetable, Friday 5th of June is the Friday before the last mathematics paper on Wednesday 10th June and covers all of the English Literature and Language papers, plus first papers in most papers. We believe that our students are most successful when they are supported through the GCSE period for as long as possible by their teachers, peers and the routines, and structures within school. We have spoken to the students about this and we hope you can speak with them about this at home.

Over the course of the examination period, there will be an increased opportunity to revise for forthcoming exams, please remind your child to bring additional revision materials to school to support them to revise independently across this time.

The examination body have also put in place contingency dates up to the 24th June just in case any examinations need to be moved. Parents are reminded to avoid planning holidays until after this contingency date. A simple guide to exam arrangements has been produced by OFQUAL and is available via this link, [Ofqual Guide to Exams 2026](#). We have also linked the JCQ exam guidance please read this carefully: [Written exams 2025-2026 – Joint Council for Qualifications](#). We have also attached the exam timetable to this letter. A reminder that our Period 6 revision sessions will continue up until the exams. As a school we believe that it is important that students in Year 11 are given an enjoyable and appropriate way in which to mark the 'end' of their Year 11.

'Leaver's Day' for Year 11 students will also take place on **Friday 5th June**. This has been selected as our celebration afternoon as there is a whole year group exam in the morning and Music exam in the afternoon. This will impact a small number of pupils, however due to exam timetable constraints we are limited to when we can proceed with the celebration. Pupils affected will be spoken to individually and alternative arrangements will be made to ensure they are part of the celebration, as soon as they are able to.

Activities during this afternoon will include a 'Leaver's Assembly' and activities including an inflatable assault course and ice cream. Our intention is that students will have an enjoyable and memorable day that provides a fitting way to mark them 'finishing' Year 11.

In order that the 'Leaver's Day' is as successful as possible I would ask that the following points are noted:

- i. Uniform and equipment - students must wear full school uniform on this day as all students have a GCSE examination and must have the equipment required. Once the morning examination has been completed, students will be given the opportunity to change into casual clothes, that are appropriate to the activities taking place. I will explain clearly to all students, through assembly time, what is acceptable in terms of dress and behaviour for this day. Students will need clothing suitable for physical activity during the course of the afternoon.
- ii. If any student wishes to bring a shirt for friends to sign then please could this be brought in their bag as such items should not be worn during the day, as we have a GCSE examination running for some of Year 11; please ask your children to think of their peers in the exam hall.
- iii. The 'Leavers Day' is meant to be an enjoyable and appropriate way for the students to mark the 'end' of Year 11. The overwhelming majority of students in Year 11 have behaved in a manner that brings credit to both themselves and their family during the course of the academic year. If student's behaviour has led to early study leave, attendance at alternative provision, or conduct themselves in a manner not befitting a Pensby student in their final term of school they will be asked not to attend the leavers day and associated prom. This decision will be made by the Headteacher. These expectations continue into the Year 11 'Leavers Day'. In the unlikely event that any student fails to adhere to the standards required at the school then they will be sent home. We will contact parents/carers and ask for that individual to be collected from school. However, I have to say that I have every confidence in our students conducting themselves in an exemplary manner.
- iv. In addition, the Year 11 Prom takes place at Thornton Hall on **Thursday 25th June 2026** - pupils who are attending should have paid for their ticket, please pay the balance if you haven't already done so (last day for payment is Friday 17th April). Please note you cannot pay on the day for this event. We can help with support for attendance to the Prom, please contact Mrs K Plunkett in the first instance. Support can take the form of a part-payment for a ticket or help for instance with a dress or suit.
- v. The last day for ordering leavers hoodies is **Friday 17th April** via the following link: [PHS Hoodies](#)

As a reminder, students must be in **full school uniform for examinations** have all the necessary equipment, so that they are not disrupting their flow in the exam. Mobile phones and other electronic devices, including smart watches **must not** be brought into any examination venue (even if they are turned off). Last year a student forgot to hand in their mobile phone which resulted in their GCSE examination papers being cancelled. Please remind your son or daughter of the importance of following the national body rules and check before entering the exam hall, we will also remind before every exam. All school textbooks and loaned materials must be returned to school after your son/daughter has completed their examinations. Any materials not returned will unfortunately have to be charged for.

National rules equally apply to the start times of examinations and that impacts on our students on a Wednesday. On Wednesday afternoons, students will need to make arrangements to get home, as school buses will have departed prior to the end of the GCSE exam.

The publication of GCSE results is on Thursday 20th August 2026. They will be available for students in the main hall from 9am on that morning. A large stamped self-addressed envelope with the correct postage can be handed into the Examinations Office for results to be posted out or students can have their results emailed to their school account, but please remember that these will be closed as we start the new academic year in September. Phone call or email requests for results on the day will not be responded to as the switchboard will not be manned. If you wish to collect results on behalf of your son or daughter, please ensure you bring some ID with you.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to wish all our students the very best of luck for the forthcoming examinations, but I have to say that for the vast majority of students, luck is being surpassed, but a phenomenal work rate. We are all very proud of your children and I know how much you contribute as parents too, thank you!

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'K Flanagan', written in a cursive style.

Mr K Flanagan
Headteacher

Spanish Oral Exams- w/c Monday 27th April

Art practical exam- Provisionally Tuesday 21st April and Tuesday 28th April

Graphic Communication- Provisionally Wednesday 22nd April and Monday 27th April

Week B

Date	P1 & 2	P3	P4 & 5
Monday 4 May	BANK HOLIDAY		
Tuesday 5 May	P1 & 2	P3	P4 & 5
Wednesday 6 May	P1 & 2	P3	P4 & 5
Thursday 7 May	P1 & 2	P3	P4 & 5 Edexcel Citizenship Paper 1- 1hr 45 mins Dance Studio
Friday 8 May	P1 & 2	P3	P4 & 5 AQA Drama Paper 8261W 1hr 45 mins Dance Studio

Week A

Date		P1 & 2		P3		P4 & 5
Monday 11 May	REG	AQA English Literature 8702 Paper 1- 1hr 45 mins Sports Hall and Dance Studio	BREAK		LUNCH	
Tuesday 12 May		P1 & 2		P3		P4 & 5
		AQA Religious Studies 8062 A Paper 1- 1hr 45 mins Dance Studio				Edexcel Biology and Combined Science- 1hr 10/ 1hr 45 mins Sports Hall and Dance Studio
Wednesday 13 May		P1 & 2		P3		P4 & 5
		AQA Geography 8035 Paper 1- 1hr 30 mins Sports Hall and Dance Studio				
Thursday 14 May		P1 & 2		P3		P4 & 5
		OCR Maths Paper 1F and 4H- 1hr 30 mins Sports Hall and Dance Studio				Edexcel Citizenship Paper 2- 1hr 45 mins Dance Studio
Friday 15 May		P1 & 2		P3		P4 & 5
		Edexcel History Paper 1 Medicine in Britain- 1hr 20 mins Sports Hall and Dance Studio				

Week B

Date		P1 & 2		P3		P4 & 5
Monday 18 May	REG	Edexcel Chemistry and Combined Science 1hr 10/ 1hr 45 mins Sports Hall and Dance Studio	BREAK		LUNCH	OCR Sports Science 1hr 15 mins Eduqas Media Studies paper 1- 1hr 30 mins Sports Hall, Dance Studio, singing room and DSB
Tuesday 19 May		P1 & 2 AQA English Literature 8702 Paper 2- 2hr 15 mins Sports Hall and Dance Studio		P3		OCR Child Development 1hr 15 mins Dance Studio
Wednesday 20 May		P1 & 2		P3		AQA Religious Studies 8062 Paper 2A- 1hr 45 mins OCR Enterprise and Marketing 1hr 15 mins Sports Hall, Dance Studio and singing room
Thursday 21 May		P1 & 2 AQA English Language 8700 Paper 1- 1hr 45 mins Sports Hall and Dance Studio		P3		P4 & 5 WJEC ICT on screen test- 1hr 20 mins 6th form block
Friday 22 May		P1 & 2		P3		P4 & 5

MAY HALF TERM

Week A

Date		P1 & 2		P3		P4 & 5
Monday 1 June	REG		BREAK		LUNCH	
Tuesday 2 June		P1 & 2		P3		P4 & 5
		Edexcel Physics and Combined Science 1hr 10/1hr 45 mins Sports Hall and Dance Studio				Eduqas Media Paper 2- 1hr 30 mins (watch extract) Dance Studio, DSB, DSA
						Edexcel Russian Listening and Reading 1hr 50 mins Singing room
Wednesday 3 June		P1 & 2		P3		P4 & 5
	OCR Maths Paper 2F and 5H- 1hr 30 mins Sports Hall and Dance Studio		AQA Geography 8035 Paper 2- 1hr 30 mins			
Thursday 4 June		P1 & 2		P3		P4 & 5
		Edexcel History Paper 2 Elizabeth and Superpowers- 1hr 50 mins Sports Hall and Dance Studio				
Friday 5 June		P1 & 2		P3		P4 & 5
		AQA English Language 8700 Paper 2- 1hr 45 mins Sports Hall and Dance Studio				AQA 8271 Music- 1hr 30 mins Dance Studio and Singing room

Week B

Date		P1 & 2		P3		P4 & 5
Monday 8 June	REG	Biology and Combined Science Paper 2- 1hr 10/1hr 45 mins Sports Hall and Dance Studio	BREAK		LUNCH	AQA Further Maths 8365 Paper 1- 1hr 45 mins Dance Studio
Tuesday 9 June		P1 & 2		P3		P4 & 5
		Edexcel Spanish Listening (F 45 mins, H 1hr) Dance Studio, DSB, Singing room, S2				Edexcel History Paper 3 Weimar and Nazi Germany- 1hr 30 mins Sports Hall and Dance Studio
Wednesday 10 June		P1 & 2		P3		P4 & 5
		OCR Maths Paper 3F and 6H- 1hr 30 mins Sports Hall and Dance Studio				AQA Design Technology 8552- 2 hours Dance Studio
						Edexcel Russian writing 1hr 25 mins Singing room
Thursday 11 June		P1 & 2		P3		P4 & 5
		AQA Geography 8035 Paper 3- 1hr 30 mins Sports Hall and Dance Studio				
Friday 12 June		P1 & 2		P3		P4 & 5
		Edexcel Chemistry Paper 2 and Combined Science- 1hr 10/1hr 45 mins Sports Hall and Dance Studio				Hospitality and Catering Paper- 1hr 20 mins Dance Studio

Week A

Date		P1 & 2		P3		P4 & 5
Monday 15 June	REG	Edexcel Physics Paper 2 and Combined Science- 1hr 10/1hr 45 mins Sports Hall and Dance Studio	BREAK		LUNCH	AQA Further Maths 8365 Paper 2- 1hr 45 mins Dance Studio
Tuesday 16 June		P1 & 2		P3		P4 & 5
		Edexcel Spanish Reading (F- 45 mins, H- 1hr) Dance Studio				
Wednesday 17 June		P1 & 2		P3		P4 & 5
		Edexcel Spanish writing (F- 1hr 15, H- 1hr 20 mins) Sports Hall and Dance Studio				
Thursday 18 June		P1 & 2		P3		P4 & 5
Friday 19 June		P1 & 2		P3		P4 & 5

GCSE Contingency Day- Wednesday 24th June- students need to be available up to and including this date.