



Blackfen School for Girls

Raising aspirations - releasing potential

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24th February 2026

YEAR 10 PRE-PUBLIC EXAMINATION TIMETABLE: 13th – 29th April 2026

Dear Year 10 Parent/Carers,

This letter notifies you of the forthcoming Year 10 Pre-Public Examinations (PPEs) which are scheduled on Wednesday 25th March and then run from Monday 13th April through to Wednesday 29th April 2026. It is essential that Year 10 students arrive punctually to school during this assessment period. Students continue to attend every lesson when they do not have an examination. They go back to lessons after their examinations and attend Community Time as usual. **Any absence from an examination when students are present in school or from lessons or Community Time will be treated as truancy and the usual sanctions will be applied.**

As the title suggests, Year 10 Pre-Public Examination results play a significant role in providing information to teachers, students and parents on progress made towards meeting target grades in next Summer's public examinations. They offer an important opportunity for students to reflect on their readiness to take up places in the Sixth Form and to be clear about the academic progress required in Year 11.

The timetable for Year 10 Pre-Public Examinations is attached at the end of this letter, as is the Student Guidance document outlining the rules and expectations of Pre-Public Examinations. Please make sure that you read these documents with your daughter and keep them safe. We are not expecting students to be absent from school due to family holidays or routine medical appointments. Their priority is to complete every assessment set to the best of their ability.

Please do not hesitate to contact your daughter's Form Tutor if you have further questions regarding these arrangements.

Yours sincerely,

Miss F Minnis
Deputy Headteacher



Guidance for students taking Key Stage 4 and Key Stage 5 Pre-Public Examinations (2025 - 2026)

This document sets out the guidance and rules for all students taking Pre-Public Examinations (PPEs) at Blackfen School. The information provided is based on the rules set by JCQ – “Joint Council for examinations” – which regulates the public examinations scheduled in the Summer term. Students will be sanctioned by any member of the Staff, Invigilation or Examination teams if they do not adhere to the guidance and rules provided.

Students should ensure that they are familiar with all of the JCQ documents on the ‘Examinations’ page of the school website: Go to [Blackfen School for Girls - JCQ Information for Candidates](#) to read the information that applies specifically to students. The school will always take the actions outlined in the **Malpractice policy**, regarding (but not limited to) the inappropriate completion of examination papers, coursework or non-examined assessment; inappropriate communication; inappropriate use of AI or any other action that is in breach of JCQ rules and protocols.

1) All students must attend school every day during the examination period. Students attend all of their usual lessons unless they are scheduled to complete an examination. Any student who fails to attend lessons between examinations or to attend Community Time, as instructed, will be issued with the school sanction for truancy.

2) Before examinations begin and in line with JCQ rules, **all mobile phones must be switched off** before students enter the examination room. Any student whose mobile phone rings during an examination and is found near or at their desk will have their work invalidated.

3) **All** watches, mobile phones and devices should be placed in the numbered bag on each examination desk which is kept at the end of each row of examination tables and in full view of students.

4) It is students’ responsibility to be in the right place at the right time in order to sit examinations as scheduled. They must line up outside the correct door of the examination room at the following times:

- Session 1: Students must be lined up by 8.20 am
- Session 2: Students must be lined up by 11.20 am
- Session 3: Students must be lined up by 1.50 pm

5) Students who arrive late to examinations without good reason, or who are not wearing correct school uniform, will not be admitted to the examination room. A ‘Fail’ grade will be recorded in their Pre-Public Examination report.

6) In the case of two examinations finishing within 15 minutes (or less) of each other, students will remain seated, in silence, until the second examination has finished and will then be dismissed at that time.

7) Students must bring the materials they need for each examination. Black biro pens, pencils, rulers, rubbers, calculators or other materials should be placed in a clear pencil case or in a small, clear plastic bag. It is not the school’s responsibility to provide these items. Tippex is not allowed in any examination.

8) Students may take a clear plastic bottle of water into the examination room. The label must be removed beforehand. Other drinks are not allowed.

9) It is the invigilators' responsibility to ensure that examination rules are applied in every room. Students must enter and leave the room in silence and remain silent during the course of their examination. **Communication between students or distracting behaviour counts as cheating and their work will be invalidated.** Any student who does not follow the instructions of invigilators will be required to leave the room. A 'Fail' grade will be recorded in their PPE report.

10) Students who miss examinations due to illness or other unavoidable absence will be scheduled to attend a catch-up session at another time during the examination period. Students must attend their catch-up session, as directed.

YEAR 10 PRE-PUBLIC EXAMINATION TIMETABLE: 13th – 29th April 2026

	Session 1 8.30 am – 10.30 am Lining up: 8.20 am	Session 2 11.30 am – 1.30 pm Lining up: 11.20 am	Session 3 2 pm – 3.30 pm Lining up: 1.50 am
Wednesday 25th March	GCSE Fine Art (39) 5 hours A2 / A3 5 hours		
Week B			
Monday 13th April	GCSE English Literature Paper 2 (210) 2 hours 15 minutes		GCSE French (34) GCSE Spanish (21) Reading 45 minutes
Tuesday 14th April	GCSE Photography (35) 5 hours 103 / 104		
	GCSE Music (14) PS Listening paper 1 hour 30 minutes		
Wednesday 15th April	GCSE Chemistry (21 + 177) SH + PS Triple Science (TS): 1 hour 45 minutes Combined Science (CS): 1 hour 15 minutes	GCSE Geography (88) 1 hour 30 minutes	
Thursday 16th April	GCSE History (78) 1 hour 20 minutes	GCSE Mathematics (210) Calculator 1 hour 30 minutes	
Friday 17th April	GCSE Textiles (21) 5 hours DT1		
	GCSE Drama (20) 1 hour 30 minutes GCSE Statistics (22) 1 hour 30 minutes CN Sports Studies (19) 1 hour 15 minutes	NCFE Food Technology (20) 1 hour 30 minutes GCSE Computing (9) 1 hour 30 minutes	
Week A			
	Session 1 8.30 am – 10.30 am Lining up: 8.20 am	Session 2 11.30 am – 1.30 pm Lining up: 11.20 am	Session 3 2 pm – 3.30 pm Lining up: 1.50 am
Monday 20th April	GCSE Biology (21 + 177) SH + PS TS:1 hour 45 minutes CS:1 hour 15 minutes	GCSE Spanish (21) Listening – Room 104 52 minutes	
Tuesday 21st April	GCSE Citizenship (143) 1 hour 45 minutes GCSE Religious Studies (63) 1 hour 45 minutes	GCSE French (34) Listening - Room 103 / 104 52 minutes	
Wednesday 22nd April	GCSE Triple Physics (21) 1 hour 45 minutes GCSE Dance (27) 1 hour 30 minutes	GCSE Business (44) 1 hour 45 minutes	
Thursday 23rd April	GCSE French & GCSE Spanish Speaking exams		
Friday 24th April	GCSE French & GCSE Spanish Speaking exams		
Week B			
	Monday 27th April – Wednesday 29th April GCSE French & GCSE Spanish Speaking exams		

After examinations have finished, Year 10 students return to their usual teaching room. They attend Break at the usual time, as well as Community Time. Absence from lessons or from examinations when students are on site will be treated as truancy and the usual sanctions will be applied.

Year 10 examinations take place in the Sports Hall unless stated otherwise. Students should line up outside the correct door of examination rooms at the following times:

Session 1 examinations: Line up by 8.20 am

Session 2 examinations: Line up by 11.20 am

Session 3 examinations: Line up by 1.50 pm. **Check the finish times of Session 3 examinations carefully.**