BANBRIDGE ACADEMY

ESTABLISHED 1786

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October 2026

Dear Pupil and Parent/Guardian

Please find below important information regarding both internal school assessments/examinations and public (GCSE & AS/A Level) examinations/controlled assessments taking place in the academic year 2026/27. Please note, in addition your child will continue to participate in on-going class assessment/tracking/homeworks etc and we would encourage you to keep engaging with your son/daughter in order to support them in their learning. You will realise the crucial importance of attendance; students who have a lower attendance rate often find that significant gaps develop in their learning. We know there is an **extremely close correlation between good attendance and good outcomes for a student**, therefore, it is exceedingly important that all students maximise their attendance throughout the academic year.

Internal School Examinations

The **winter** internal examination windows will span the following dates:

Year Group	**Dates**
Year 8 - 10	Monday 11 January – Monday 18 January 2027
Year 11 - 12	Monday 11 January – Friday 22 January 2027
Year 13 - 14	Monday 11 January – Wednesday 20 January 2027

The **summer** internal examination windows will span the following dates:

Year Group	**Dates**
Year 8 - 10	Friday 21 May – Friday 28 May 2027
Year 11	Monday 17 May - Friday 28 May 2027

Please note, Year 13 & 14 students will also have **Common Assessments in each subject -** the results of which will be issued to parents on **04 December 2026.**

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Parent-Teacher Consultations

The dates for Parent-Teacher Consultations are listed below.

Year 12 - Thursday 22 October 2026 (1.30pm - 3.30pm) in person at school
Year 8 - Wednesday 2 December 2026 (1.30pm - 3.30pm) Online (Schoolcloud)
Year 13/14 - Tuesday 8 December 2026 (1.30pm - 3.30pm) Online (Schoolcloud)

Years 11, 10, and 9 will be scheduled for after Christmas.

Public Examinations/Controlled Assessments

Year 12 parents please note that pupils will be sitting GCSE examination modules in **Double Award Science and Mathematics** in **November 2026**. Pupils will be signing their statement of entries and receiving their timetables before the half term break.

Year 11 parents please note that pupils will be sitting GCSE examination modules in **English Language, English Literature, Business Studies, Digital Technology, Geography, History and Technology** in **Summer 2027** (end of Year 11), as well as completing their **GCSE Religious Studies Short Course** examination.

In Summer 2027, Year 12 and Year 14 pupils will have the opportunity to **resit** module examinations from Summer 2026. Pupils should inform their subject teachers as soon as possible if they wish to resit any modules.

A full list of all public examinations and controlled assessments for each subject area is available on the following link:

Public Exams/Controlled Assessment 2026/2027

Coursework/Controlled Assessment - JCQ Regulations

Pupils who are being assessed via controlled assessment/coursework in certain subjects must adhere to **JCQ regulations**. This includes:

- Appropriate referencing of information taken from published sources (including AI);
- Avoiding plagiarism of other material and the resultant penalties

JCQ instructs all schools to furnish pupils with the **Information For Candidates** documentation on controlled assessment/coursework. A hard copy has been provided to all pupils in form class and it should be read carefully:

https://www.jcq.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/sites/2/2026/08/IFC-Coursework_Assessments_2026_FINAL.pdf

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Coursework/Controlled Assessment - Artificial Intelligence

Pupils must be extremely careful with regards to the use of AI chatbots for assistance with coursework/controlled assessment. Please read the JCQ regulations carefully in the link below and if a pupil is unsure as to the rules regarding the use of AI in a certain subject, they should speak directly with the teacher concerned.

https://www.jcq.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2024/02/JCQ-AI-poster-for-students-2.pdf

Coursework/Controlled Assessment - Internal Appeals Policy

Teachers will share marks for any coursework/controlled assessments with pupils. Should a pupil wish to ask for a review of the centre's marking, they must follow Banbridge Academy's Internal Appeals for Centre Assessed Work policy:

http://www.banbridgeacademy.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2025/09/Banbridge-Academy-Review-of-Marking-Centre-Assessed-Work-Policy.pdf

Yours sincerely

R S McLoughlin OBE
Principal