



JBT/JJA

27 March 2026

Dear Parent/Carer

RE: TEMPORARY CHANGE OF SCHOOL DAY – DUE TO GCSE EXAMINATIONS

I am writing to update you on the many positive developments at The Gateway Academy, as well as to inform you of a temporary adjustment to the school day during the forthcoming GCSE examination period.

The spring term has been incredibly busy and successful. We are currently offering more than 40 extracurricular clubs, ranging from Debate Club to Chess Club. Students have embraced these opportunities with enthusiasm, resulting in over 30,000 extracurricular engagements across all year groups. Impressively, more than 92% of Gateway students have attended at least one club this term.

We are also delighted that over 50 students chose to sit the MENSA assessment and we wait to hear the outcome very soon. Our recent Dance Show was another highlight, showcasing the exceptional talent and commitment of our performers. In sport, our Year U14 Girls and U12 boys both reached the Essex Basketball Final, narrowly missing the title but still an outstanding achievement.

As we move into May, our Year 11 students will begin their GCSE examinations. They have worked extremely hard and deserve the very best conditions in which to succeed. To ensure the smooth running of afternoon examinations, which begin at 1.00 pm, we will be introducing a temporary adjustment to the structure of the school day.

Please note that the overall start and finish times of the Academy Day will remain unchanged. Lunch will, however, move to 12.15 pm to 12.45 pm, with Period 5 beginning at 12.45 pm. A detailed schedule is included overleaf for your reference.

This temporary arrangement will run from **Tuesday 05 May until Friday 12 June 2026**. The normal school timetable will resume from **Monday 15 June 2026**.

If you have any questions regarding this adjustment, please contact your child's Progress Leader or Lead Coach, who will be happy to assist.

Thank you for your continued support. It is greatly appreciated.

Yours sincerely

Mr J Bonnett
VICE PRINCIPAL – CURRICULUM

THE GATEWAY ACADEMY TEMPORARY TIMINGS OF THE SCHOOL

DAY 2025 – 2026

Tuesday 05 May – Friday 12 June 2026

	YEARS 7 – 11
08.15	Period 1
08.45	Period 2
09.45	Period 3
10.45 – 11.15	Break
11.15	Period 4
12.15 – 12.45	Lunch
12.45	Period 5
13.45	Period 6
14.45	Year 7 & Year 8 Dismissal
14.50	Year 9, Year 10 and Year 11 Dismissal