



Queen Mary's Grammar School

Headmaster: T J Swain, M A

April 2017

Ramadan and exams 2017

Dear parent/guardian

As you will be aware, Ramadan falls within the exam season in 2017 and will do so for the next few years. In 2017, the last week of Ramadan will also coincide with the summer solstice. The School is aware of the pressures that this may put on some of our students who are observing the fast and therefore we are putting measures in place to minimise these.

First, the School is trying to create a positive dialogue on the subject and there will be coverage in whole school and Year assemblies. We will be encouraging our students to be respectful and understanding to their peers who may be fasting. Staff will be briefed on the matter, including those invigilating public exams. The School has no control over when these take place, but we are aware of the consultation which has happened on a national scale (through the JCQ). We will, of course, be making sure that the main exam rooms (mainly the sports hall) are cool and comfortable. There will also be a room designated close to the sports hall for students to use for prayer.

As well as exams, Ramadan may also impact upon other school activities, such as trips and sporting events. In these circumstances, I would ask you to consider the health and safety implications of your child taking part if they are fasting. We do, of course, take the issue of safeguarding very seriously and will contact parents if we feel that there is an issue related to a specific activity.

If you have any further questions, please do contact Mr Saran or myself at the School.

Yours sincerely

Richard Langton
Head of School

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