

Shetland Islands Council

CHILDREN'S SERVICES

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Dear AHS S5 & S6 Students and Parents/Carers

S5/S6: QS Qualifications/Exam Period, April-May 2026

As we work together towards completing your QS qualifications, please read the following information carefully.

When do the QS exams take place this year?

Most pupils in S5 and S6 have QS examinations between Wednesday 22 April and Friday 29 May 2026. Some pupils may not have exams and your individual arrangements will be discussed with Pupil Support/Support for Learning Teachers.

What about attendance at school?

Pupils are expected to attend until Tuesday 21 April. During this time there will be important assemblies with advice and instructions for the QS exams. You will also be receiving individual exam timetables during this time.

How do I complete assessments, prepare for exams and have study leave?

If you have exams, you are expected to attend class at least until all assessments are complete.

In Shetland, study leave is then available for those who have examinations, where this is the preferred and agreed best means of exam preparation.

Your existing timetable continues until the end of May, and pupils in S4, S5 and S6 are encouraged to attend school throughout this period when you require support with your studies.

Some subjects/teachers may organise specific revision days or Teams meetings to support revision. You will hear about these from your teacher if it is appropriate for your subject.

How do I access study leave in S5 and S6?

Study leave can only begin when all internal assessments have been completed, and teachers have signed the necessary paperwork. It may be that you need to make arrangements to complete any outstanding internal assessments during April/May.

Once all your assessments have been completed, and not before Wednesday 22 April 2026, you can sign in and out at the Pupil Support desk when you choose to study in school. You are asked to attend your normal timetabled classes, or to register with another agreed teacher. Please do not gather in dining areas or the S6 area.

What happens if I stay in the Halls of Residence?

If you are a halls resident, you can stay in the halls throughout April/May, until the end of your exams and college studies. If you are using the halls, please make sure you plan your stay in advance with the Team.

What are the key dates I need to know?

- **Assemblies:** Mr Redman will meet with **S5 pupils week beginning Monday 13 April 2026** and **S6 pupils on Tuesday 21 April 2026** to provide important information about the exam arrangements and study leave.
- **QS Examinations in AHS:** between Wednesday 22 April to Friday 29 May 2026.
- **New timetable for S6:** starts Tuesday 02 June 2026.

End of Year Form/Exam Timetable

I enclose an "End of Year" form which everyone should complete before the end of the exam period. The cost of books is now such that it is essential everything is returned for future use. Please ensure that no school books are left at home. In addition, a copy of the examination timetable is attached for your information.

I appreciate that this is an important time for you. The school is here to help you in any way we can. I wish everyone all the very best for the months ahead.

Yours sincerely



Robin Calder
Head Teacher

Enc: End of Year Form
QS Timetable