

# S5 & S6 Prelims January 2026: Information for Pupils



## Dear S5 and S6 students

Here are the main pieces of information that you need to help you with your prelims. You have done this before, so you know what to expect.

Remember:

- These are practice exams. You want to do your best, and then find out where your mistakes were so you can do better in the summer.
- You will be a bit nervous. This is normal and everyone feels that way. Generally the best way to deal with this is to try it out, ask for help and fix things.
- There are lots of instructions below for two reasons. Firstly, to make it feel exactly like real exams so you can learn to manage them. Secondly, because there are lots of people working to help you.
- Ask if you need help: your teachers, Mr Hayes, or Ms Hall for additional arrangements. The school office, the exam invigilators, and support for learning staff are all here to make things easier for you.
- All the information you need to know about qualifications is here. It is important you read this so you know what you must do [Your coursework - SQA https://www.sqa.org.uk/sqa/84153.8931.html](https://www.sqa.org.uk/sqa/84153.8931.html)
- Remember also that things may change a little – rooms, timings and so on. This is normal and that's why it's important that you come early to assessments and keep checking.

Well done for all your hard work so far!

Mr Hayes and Ms Paterson

## What to do now

1. **Check / highlight the assessments you are doing.**
2. You will be issued with a personal timetable nearer the time which has dates, times and locations for all assessments. Check it matches with this timetable and with any additional arrangements you have and if you think there's a mistake tell Ms Hall or Mr Hayes as soon as possible and at least a week before the exam.
3. Check you know where to go. Some of these will be different for different students (for example if you're using a computer). These rooms can change so always double check on your timetable and on the day.
4. Most assessments are in the:
  - Sports Hall
  - Dual Teaching Space (dts- rooms 3.03 and 3.19)
  - Dance studio (on ground floor of extension- access through first floor link)

## Attendance

- From **Friday 9<sup>th</sup> January** you will follow a different schedule of prelim assessments.
- There is **no study leave** for either S5s or S6s. You must attend your normal classes on days you do not have assessments where you will have a supervised study period or classwork. Please ensure you bring revision materials on these days. You may also have assignment preparation to work on.
- Days you **do have** an assessment - only attend this and not your normal classes. Arrive 15 minutes before the assessment starts and you must leave the school and go home afterwards.
- On **Monday 26<sup>th</sup> January** you will return to your normal timetable.

Practical assessments take place at different times. Your class teachers will remind you about these.

## On the day of your assessment

- Double check you know where to go and what time. If there are last minute changes they will be up on the board outside the school office.
- You must **wear school dress code**.
- Bring pens, pencils, rulers, calculators, protractors, language dictionaries and whatever else you may need for a specific assessment. They cannot be taken into the room inside a bag/pencil case.
- Be outside the assessment room at least **10 minutes before** the assessment is due to start.
- Listen carefully to instructions given in the assessment room.
- Leave all mobile phones and smart watches (e.g. Apple Watch) at home as they must not be taken into the assessment rooms (this follows SQA regulations).

- All outdoor clothing, bags, pencil cases etc. must be left at the side of the Room. Do not bring valuable items to assessments as there is nowhere secure to leave them.
- The only food or drink allowed is bottled water.
- Enter and leave the assessment room as quietly as possible in order not to disturb other candidates already at work. Do not linger outside or near any other classroom/assessment room.
- You may not leave the assessment room without the permission of the invigilator and only once you have double checked your work.
- No textbooks or notes are allowed in the assessment room unless authorised by the invigilator.
- Absolute silence must be maintained throughout all assessments. If you require more paper, or have a serious problem, raise your hand to attract the invigilator's attention.
- Do not attempt to communicate in any way with other candidates during the assessment.
- Leave the school and return home at the end of each assessment unless you have a second assessment that day. If you have an afternoon exam study in your usual classes.
- If you are late or have missed an exam you must contact the School Office immediately by telephoning 0131 229 9703 and let your teacher know.

Day		Exam name & paper	Level	Room	Start	Finish	
Friday	9th January	Maths AH Paper 1 non calc	AH	dts & studio	08:45:00	09:30:00	
		Maths AH Paper 2 Calc	AH	dts & studio	10:30:00	12:00:00	
		Maths Higher Paper 1 non-calc	Higher	hall	08:45:00	10:00:00	
		Maths Higher Paper 2 Calc	Higher	hall	11:00:00	12:30:00	
		Applications of Maths	Higher	computer	08:45:00	10:45:00	
		French Higher Paper 2 listening	Higher	hall	14:00:00	14:30:00	
		Photography	Higher	dts	14:00:00	15:00:00	
Monday	12th January	Biology	AH	dts	08:45:00	11:15:00	
		Biology Higher Paper 1	Higher	hall	08:45:00	09:25:00	
		Biology Higher Paper 2	Higher	hall	10:30:00	12:30:00	
		Human Biology Paper 1	higher	hall	08:45:00	09:20:00	
		Human Biology Paper 2	higher	hall	10:30:00	12:30:00	
		Biology	N5	hall	08:45:00	10:45:00	
		Graphic Comm	Higher	dance	08:45:00	11:15:00	
		Graphic Comm	AH	dance	08:45:00	11:15:00	
		German Paper 1 Reading and Writing	Higher	2.15	08:45:00	10:45:00	
		Applications of Maths N5 Paper 1 Non-Calc	N5	hall	13:00:00	13:50:00	
		Applications of Maths N5 Paper 2 Calc	N5	hall	14:00:00	15:40:00	
		Maths N5 Paper 1 Non-calc	N5	hall	13:00:00	14:00:00	
		Maths N5 Paper 2 Calc	N5	hall	14:45:00	16:15:00	
Tuesday	13th January	Geography	AH	dts & assembly hall	08:45:00	11:15:00	
		Geography - Paper 1	Higher	hall	08:45:00	10:00:00	

		Geography Paper 2	Higher	hall	08:45:00	09:45:00
		History	AH	2.15	08:45:00	10:45:00
		History Higher Paper 1	Higher	dance	08:45:00	10:15:00
		History Higher Paper 2	Higher	dance	11:00:00	12:30:00
		French Paper 1 Reading and Writing	Higher	hall	13:30:00	15:30:00
Wednesday	14th January	English AH Paper 1	AH	dts	08:45:00	10:15:00
		English AH Paper 2	AH	dts	11:30:00	13:00:00
		English Higher Paper 1	Higher	hall	08:45:00	10:15:00
		English Higher Paper 2	Higher	hall	11:30:00	13:15:00
		German Higher Paper 2 listening	Higher	dts	14:30:00	15:00:00
		Spanish Higher Paper 2 Listening	Higher	hall	14:30:00	15:00:00
Thursday	15th January	RMPS	AH	sports	08:45:00	11:45:00
		RMPS H Paper 1	Higher	dts	08:45:00	11:00:00
	-	RMPS H Paper 2	Higher	dts	11:30:00	12:15:00
	-	Computing Science	AH	hall	08:45:00	10:45:00
-		Computing Science	Higher	hall	08:45:00	10:30:00
		Computing Science	N5	hall	08:45:00	10:15:00
		Hospitality	N5	hall	08:45:00	11:15:00
		Business Management	AH	dts	13:30:00	16:15:00
		Business Management	Higher	hall	13:30:00	15:30:00
		Business Management	N5	hall	13:30:00	15:00:00
Friday	16th January	Modern Studies	AH	dts	08:45:00	11:45:00
		Modern Studies H Paper 1	Higher	hall	08:45:00	09:55:00
		Modern Studies H Paper 2	Higher	hall	11:00:00	12:15:00
		Modern Studies	N5	hall	08:45:00	10:40:00
		Spanish Paper 2 Listening and writing	AH	hall	14:00:00	15:20:00
		French Paper 2 Listening and writing	AH	2.15	14:00:00	15:20:00
		German Paper 2 Listening and writing	AH	dts	14:00:00	15:20:00
Monday	19th January	Spanish Higher Paper 1 Read & Writing	Higher	hall	08:45:00	10:45:00
		Mandarin Paper 1 reading & translation	Higher	hall	08:45:00	11:25:00

		Design & Manufacture	Adv Higher	hall	13:30:00	15:45:00
		Design & Manufacture	Higher	hall	13:30:00	15:45:00
		Art and Design	Higher	DTS	13:30:00	14:50:00
		Economics	Higher	hall	13:30:00	15:30:00
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Tuesday	20th January	Chemistry	AH	hall	08:45:00	11:45:00
-		Chemistry Higher Paper 1	Higher	hall	08:45:00	09:25:00
-		Chemistry Higher Paper 2	Higher	hall	10:30:00	12:50:00
-		Chemistry	N5	hall	08:45:00	
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		Health & Food Tech Higher	Higher	hall	13:30:00	15:30:00
		Health & Food Tech Higher	N5	hall	13:30:00	
Wednesday	21st January					
		Media Paper 1	Higher	hall	08:45:00	10:30:00
		Media Paper 2	Higher	hall	11:15:00	12:15:00
		PE	Higher	hall	08:45:00	10:45:00
		Statistics AH Paper 1	AH	dts	08:45:00	09:40:00
		Statistics AH Paper 2	AH	dts	10:15:00	12:15:00
		Spanish Paper 1 Reading and Translation	AH	2.15	13:30:00	15:00:00
		French Paper 1 Reading and Translation	AH	2.16	13:30:00	15:00:00
		German Paper 1 Reading and Translation	AH	2.13	13:30:00	15:00:00
		English N5 Paper 1	N5	dts	12:30:00	13:30:00
		English N5 Paper 2	N5	Dts	14:00:00	15:30:00
Thursday	22nd January	Physics Advanced Higher	AH	DTS	08:45:00	10:45:00
		Physics Higher Paper 1	Higher	hall	08:45:00	09:30:00
		Physics Higher Paper 2	Higher	hall	10:30:00	12:30:00
		Music	Higher	hall	13:30:00	14:30:00
		Music	AH	dance	13:30:00	14:45:00
		Drama	Higher	dts	13:30:00	15:30:00
Friday	23rd January					
		Philosophy Paper 1	Higher	hall	08:45:00	11:00:00
		Philosophy Paper 2	Higher	hall	12:00:00	13:45:00
		Mathematics of Mechanics	AH	hall	08:45:00	10:45:00
		Engineering Science	Higher	hall	8:45	11:15

		Mandarin Paper 2 listening	Higher	hall	<b>13:30:00</b>	<b>14:00:00</b>
Tuesday	27th January	Art practical	Higher	G.04 G.06	<b>Full Day</b>	