



Colchester High School

Wellesley Road
Colchester
Essex
CO3 3HD

T. 01206 573389 F. 01206 573114
E. info@colchesterhighschool.co.uk

www.colchesterhighschool.co.uk

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Dear Parents

Re: Trial and Public GCSE Examinations held in the Academic Year 2017 – 18

The Joint Council for Qualifications (JCQ) review the rules and regulations in respect of public examinations annually and all examination centres have to abide by these. We are inspected to ensure that we do.

I am writing to you all to inform you of a new rule which may affect some of our pupils if they wear a wrist watch. Candidates are not allowed to wear wrist watches any more in a timetabled written, on screen and timed Art examinations in an exam room. Under JCQ rules **'a head of centre may, if he/she so wishes, prohibit candidates bringing a wrist watch into the examination room. Candidates would be required to leave their watches outside of the examination room.'**

It is getting more difficult to distinguish between watches that can hold/transmit/store data. I hope that you will support the school in its decision to ban watches from the examination room during this academic year and they will therefore be treated as an unauthorised item. Any pupils that bring a wrist watch into school on either a trial examination or an actual timetabled GCSE or an Art timed exam will have to leave it in the senior school office in the same way that mobile phones are handed in.

If anyone has any queries or concerns surrounding this new rule then please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Joanna Cowell
Examinations Officer
Colchester High School