



OUR REF :

TRN : 10415399800000

Friday, 6th March 2026

To: The Parents of students in Years 1-13
WEEKLY CIRCULAR BEFORE THE SPRING BREAK

Dear Parents,

Greetings from Saint Mary's. Please read on to find out important information that is relevant to your child and their year group. We send our prayers for each and every one from our Marian Family for your safety during these current times.

NEW SPRING BREAK DATES: Today was the last day of school before the advanced Spring Break announced by the Education authorities. School re-opens on the 23rd of March after the Spring break and will be closed from 7th March to 22nd March 2026.

Kindly be advised that closure during this time also means that staff will not be available on email and the office will not be able to provide any documents. Please send any requests for documents only after the 22nd of March 2026.



The government and the KHDA will update us on the mode of learning post the Spring Break and we will update you with whatever directives we receive.

NEW UPDATES:

- **SUBJECT-OPTIONS CHOICE LETTER AND FORM - Parents of Year Eight.**

Link: <https://www.stmarysdubai.com/wp-content/uploads/2026/02/YEAR-8-SUBJECT-OPTION-LETTER.pdf>

- **GL PROGRESS TESTS (YEARS 4-10) - Please see attached circular.**

Link: <https://www.stmarysdubai.com/wp-content/uploads/2026/02/GL-PROGRESS-TESTS-YEARS-4-to-10-2026.pdf>

- **COMPUTING FINAL EXAMS (YEARS 2-10) / ENGLISH SPELLING TEST (YEARS 1-10) AND READING FOR PLEASURE (YEARS 1-10) – In circular.**

- **RE-REGISTRATION FOR THE ACADEMIC YEAR 2026-2027:**

Link: <https://www.stmarysdubai.com/wp-content/uploads/2026/02/RE-REGISTRATION-FOR-THE-ACADEMIC-YEAR-2026-2027.pdf>

- **APTITUDE / PSYCHOMETRIC TESTS YEAR 8 AND 11- Payment deadline extended to 12th March 2026.**

Link: <https://www.stmarysdubai.com/wp-content/uploads/2026/02/LETTER-FOR-PSYCHOMETRIC-TESTING.pdf>

- **ADMISSIONS FOR THE ACADEMIC YEAR 2026-2027: Please check all attachments/school website.**

Link: <https://www.stmarysdubai.com/admission/>

- **MOCK EXAMS FOR YEAR 11 AND YEAR 13 WILL COMMENCE FROM 23RD MARCH 2026.**

- **IGNITE INTEGRITY SPRING CAMP 2026 (FOR YEAR 7 TO YEAR 13): Please check attached flyer.**

PLEASE NOTE THAT ANY FEES THAT HAVE NOT BEEN PAID ARE NOW CONSIDERED OUTSTANDING. ANY STUDENT WHOSE FEES HAVE NOT BEEN PAID WILL BE CONSIDERED OUTSTANDING AND WE WILL NOT BE ABLE TO ISSUE ANY OFFICIAL SCHOOL DOCUMENTS, EXAMINATION ANSWER SCRIPTS, REPORT CARDS, ETC. . Please note: In cases of outstanding fees, RE-REGISTRATION MUST NOT BE PAID, even if paid, it is not considered as a re-registration but will be adjusted towards the outstanding fees. We urge parents to please be responsible and settle ALL OUTSTANDING fees without any further delay. Parents are strongly reminded that RE-REGISTRATION PAYMENT CAN ONLY BE MADE FROM 30TH MARCH 2026. Please wait for this ON SKIPLY and kindly do not use the ‘ OTHER PAYMENT OPTION ‘ ON SKIPLY TO MAKE THIS PAYMENT.

INDEFINITELY POSTPONED:

- Building our Future Stars Programme.
- Year 8 parent meeting with subject leaders on 7 March for subject choices.

1) SUBJECT-OPTIONS CHOICE LETTER and FORM(PARENTS OF YEAR 8 STUDENTS):

Parents of Year Eight students are requested to kindly go through this important document. Choosing GCSE subjects is significant and we have created a process to support both you and your child to make an informed decision. Kindly see the link below:

Link: <https://www.stmarysdubai.com/wp-content/uploads/2026/02/YEAR-8-SUBJECT-OPTION-LETTER.pdf>

2) GL EXAMINATIONS IN ENGLISH LANGUAGE, MATHS & SCIENCE YEARS

4-10: We are requesting parents of students in Years 4-10 to kindly check the separate circular on GL examinations. The timetable for these exams has also been included. **ALL STUDENTS MUST BE PRESENT ON THE DAY OF A GL EXAM WITH A FULLY CHARGED DEVICE. Any absence will require a medical certificate to reschedule the exam, even if the absence is only for ONE DAY.**

Link: <https://www.stmarysdubai.com/wp-content/uploads/2026/02/GL-PROGRESS-TESTS-YEARS-4-to-10-2026.pdf>

3) COMPUTING EXAMINATIONS (YEARS 2-6) / ENGLISH SPELLING TEST (YEARS 1-6) READING FOR PLEASURE (YEARS 1-10):

We would like to inform you that since the Computing Exam is a practical exam, it will be conducted during the regular Computing lessons as per the weekly timetable between the **27th of April and 1st of May 2026**. English Spelling test will also be conducted for Years 1-6 in their English lessons during the same week between the **27th of April and 1st of May 2026**. **Reading for Pleasure will be conducted on 1st May 2026.**

4) RE-REGISTRATION FOR THE NEXT ACADEMIC YEAR 2026-2027 – YEARS 1-10 AND YEAR 12:

We have attached an important circular with regard to re-registering your child for the next Academic Year 2026-2027. It is important that you go through the circular carefully. Kindly see the link below:

Link: <https://www.stmarysdubai.com/wp-content/uploads/2026/02/RE-REGISTRATION-FOR-THE-ACADEMIC-YEAR-2026-2027.pdf>

5) APTITUDE TESTING FOR STUDENTS OF YEAR 8 & 11: We have attached a separate circular for this. This is completely optional. The cost is AED 260/- per child if you choose to register and is completely optional but we encourage students to make use of this opportunity as this gives parents and students critical information before making these important subject-choice decisions. Payment is to be made on SKIPLY. Please email your child's class teacher the Skiplly receipt. **FINAL DEADLINE EXTENDED TO 12TH MARCH 2026.** Link: <https://www.stmarysdubai.com/wp-content/uploads/2026/02/LETTER-FOR-PSYCHOMETRIC-TESTING.pdf>

6) ADMISSIONS TO YEAR ONE, YEAR TWO and YEARS THREE TO TEN FOR THE ACADEMIC YEAR 2026- 2027: We would like to inform all parents that the admissions notices **for** the Academic Year 2026 – 2027 has been uploaded to the school website and we have attached the link below. Please go through them carefully.

Link: <https://www.stmarysdubai.com/admission/>

7) NGRT FORM C EXAMINATIONS FOR YEARS 2-10: Please note that Form C of the NGRT series will be conducted according to the schedule below. Parents have already paid for NGRT at the start of the year. **Any absence will require a medical certificate to reschedule the exam, even if the absence is only for ONE DAY.** . Kindly see the link below:

Tuesday, 5 th May 2026	YEAR 7 and 8	Bring in a fully charged device
Wednesday, 6 th May 2026	YEAR 9 and 10	Bring in a fully charged device
Thursday, 7 th May 2026	YEAR 2 A and 2B	In the Computer Labs
Friday, 8 th May 2026	YEAR 2C	In the Computer Labs
Monday, 11 th May 2026	YEAR 2D and 2E	In the Computer Labs
Monday, 11 th May 2026	YEAR 4 and 6	Bring in a fully charged device
Tuesday, 12 th May 2026	YEAR 3A, 3B & 3C	In the Computer Labs
Wednesday, 13 th May 2026	YEAR 3D	In the Computer Labs
Thursday, 14 th May 2026	YEAR 3E	In the Computer Labs
Thursday, 14 th May 2026	Year 5	Bring in a fully charged device
Friday, 18 th May 2026	YEAR 3F	In the Computer Labs

Link: <https://www.stmarysdubai.com/wp-content/uploads/2026/02/NGRT-EXAM-TIME-TABLE-YEARS-2-10.pdf>

8) YEAR 12 MOCK EXAM TIMETABLE: Parents of Year 12 students who are sitting for mock examinations are requested to kindly check the Mock Exam Timetable link below to this circular. [Link: https://www.stmarysdubai.com/wp-content/uploads/2026/02/YEAR-12-MOCK-EXAMINATIONS-2026.pdf](https://www.stmarysdubai.com/wp-content/uploads/2026/02/YEAR-12-MOCK-EXAMINATIONS-2026.pdf)

9) MOCK EXAMINATIONS YEARS 11 AND 13 AND SERIOUS TIME FOR STUDY NOW: The current regional situation has necessitated several postponements including the advancement of the Spring Break. We will publish updated timetables based on the latest updates in a few days. In case those change as well, we will update you as we receive further directives from the relevant authorities. [Mock exams will commence from 23rd March 2026.](#)

We urge parents to please monitor students doing board examinations as we have found a lack of seriousness among many students. This is a critical time for solving past papers, clearing doubts and undertaking intensive revision. While we understand that the current situation can be confusing, it is also important for our young adults to develop a resilient perspective and focus on meaningful study. Parents will need to be more active in monitoring their social media use and any other time that is not spent fruitfully. We urge children to use this short time left to maximise their revision and preparation for the Pearson Edexcel Exams in May-June 2026.

10) FOURTH SUBJECT DROP(GCE / IAL SUBJECTS ONLY) -YEAR 12 STUDENTS: We have been receiving subject drop forms signed by parents and these are being duly processed where required evidence of the requirement of only three subjects has been provided. Once a subject has been dropped it cannot later be re-taken due to a loss of curricular hours. Parents are therefore requested to carefully consider this decision There is no deadline for dropping the fourth subject.

11) INAPPROPRIATE USE OF SOCIAL MEDIA & CYBERBULLYIING: Please see the link to the circular.

Link: <https://www.stmarysdubai.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/09/CYBERBULLYING-BULLYING-SANCTIONS-AND-CONSEQUENCES-REMINDER-CIRCULAR.pdf>

12) SOCIAL MEDIA FREQUENT CHECKS BY PARENTS FOR SECONDARY & UPPER PRIMARY CHILDREN:

Parents of secondary and upper primary children are strongly encouraged to kindly make frequent checks of your child's use of Social Media. We have seen in many cases that minor children are being sought out on Instagram, Snapchat and other platforms by much older individuals for chats and conversations. It is important for parents to know who their children are conversing with to protect them from any potential safeguarding issues. We would also like to remind parents about your children's use of inappropriate content and language on Social Media Platforms which you will be aware of only if you make frequent checks of the same. Please have your child remove himself/herself from private social media groups that are not encouraged or recommended by us at St. Mary's. The school cannot take responsibility for private groups started by students, and we strongly discourage the formation of these groups as well as discourage student participation in them. It is once again important here that ALL PARENTS check your children's digital activity frequently including group activity if your child is part of private groups created by students.

13) STUDENT SCHOOL EMAIL ID: Your child's school email will be a focal point for our communication to you. **We will use a parent's email only to communicate outstanding fee or disciplinary issues.** A **CLASS GROUP EMAIL** has been created using the students 'official email ID for every class. This is for the dissemination of information daily from the class teacher to the parents of this class and we request parents not to write back to this address. We recommend that every parent checks this email after 6:00 pm everyday for important updates.

14) APPROVED KHDA CALENDAR FOR ACADEMIC YEAR 2025-2026: Parents are requested to check the approved KHDA School Calendar for the Academic Year 2025-2026 that has been attached to this circular for your easy reference. This will help you plan ahead. If the regulators make any changes to the same, we will inform you immediately. Please note that only emergency medical / bereavement leave will be approved during school days. Leave for family holidays and celebrations must coincide with the school holidays as per the KHDA calendar. **Leave for events like graduations, weddings, parties etc will not be granted during school days and if absences like this occur during exams, there will be no re-exams in that case. We expect parents to respect these dates and not request leave during school days.**

KEY DATES IN THE APPROVED KHDA CALENDAR

Parents are strongly reminded not to plan holidays/ celebrations and other events outside the approved holiday slots in the calendar as these will not be approved.

15) INTERNATIONAL BENCHMARK TESTS FOR THE ACADEMIC YEAR

2025- 2026 AND APPLICABLE PAYMENTS: Parents are requested to kindly go through this table carefully so that you will be aware of which International Benchmark tests are applicable to your child. Payments will be via Skippy and will be advised as these come up.

PRIMARY SCHOOL

YEAR GROUP	NGRT	CAT-4	GL	IBT ARABIC A	IBT ARABIC B
YEAR 1	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
YEAR 2	YES	NA	NA	NA	NA
YEAR 3	YES	NA	NA	NA	NA
YEAR 4	YES	YES	YES	NA	NA
YEAR 5	YES	NA	YES	YES	YES
YEAR 6	YES	YES	YES	YES	NA

SECONDARY SCHOOL

YEAR GROUP	NGRT	CAT-4	GL	IBT ARABIC A	IBT ARABIC B
YEAR 7	YES	NA	YES	YES	YES
YEAR 8	YES	YES	YES	YES	NA
YEAR 9	YES	NA	YES	YES	YES
YEAR 10	YES	YES	YES	YES	NA
YEAR 11	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
YEAR 12	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
YEAR 13	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA

PLEASE CHECK ERRATUM CORRECTED NOW IN BOTH RED BOXES ABOVE.

16) PREDICTED GRADES POLICY FOR YEARS 12 & 13: We would like to remind all parents and students to carefully go through this Policy that is available on our school website. The situation that unfolded over the last few years made many children realise, albeit too late the true value of being consistent with their study habits and not waiting until the last minute before exams to prepare and study. It is always best for every child to be **CONSISTENT AND HIGHLY REGULAR** with their study and ensure that they maintain a good level of attainment across all their assessment opportunities and prepare as well as they can for their Board Examinations. This will also help them to achieve better predicted grades as every assessment and examination counts towards the calculation of the same.

17) URGENT QUERIES AND CONCERNS: If you have any urgent queries and concerns, kindly send an email to our Vice Principal , Ms. Lise-Ann on l.pinto-smchs@smgeducation.org and she will get back to you. Please include your telephone number in case she needs to call you.

We take this opportunity to wish each one of you a safe Spring Break. We also thank the Government of the UAE for all its efforts in ensuring the safety of its citizens, residents and visitors. Please rely only on official government sources for information and do not share any unverified information on social media or via any other means of communication.

Stay safe! stay blessed and Spend some quality time with your families.

Yours sincerely,



Mr. Paul Asir Joseph
(Principal)





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FINAL EXAMINATIONS (YEARS 1 – 4) MAY 2026

DATE	DAY	YEAR ONE	YEAR TWO	YEAR THREE	YEAR FOUR
7 th May	Thu	English Writing	English Writing NGRT - Year 2A & 2B	PSHE & English Reading	English Language & French
8 th May	Fri	No Exam	Maths NGRT - Year 2C	UAE Social Stu.	Moral Education
11 th May	Mon	Science	English Reading NGRT - Year 2D & 2E	Maths	Maths NGRT - Year 4ABCDEF
12 th May	Tue	English Reading	No Exam	No Exam NGRT - Year 3A, 3B & 3C	English Lit.
13 th May	Wed	No Exam	Arabic	Geography NGRT - Year 3D	Arabic
14 th May	Thu	A day of Healthy eating	UAE Social Stu.	Moral Education NGRT - Year 3E	Islamic. Stu./ Values Ed/Ctz
15 th May	Fri	PSHE	Islamic. Stu./ Values Ed/Ctz	English Writing	GL MATHS Bring a fully charged device
18 th May	Mon	Maths	Science	Science NGRT - Year 3F	Science
19 th May	Tue	A day out	PSHE	Islamic. Stu./ Values Ed/Ctz	History
20 th May	Wed	Islamic. Stu./ Values Ed/Ctz	History	Arabic	Geography
21 st May	Thu	Arabic	Moral Education	History	UAE Social Stu
22 nd May	Fri			French	GL ENGLISH Bring a fully charged device

- On the 7th, 8th and 11th of May - Regular school days till 1:50 pm.
- 12th – 22nd May- Students leave after the exams at 11:30 am.
- When there is NO EXAM-students remain at home.



FINAL EXAMINATIONS (YEARS 5 & 6) MAY 2026

DATE	DAY	YEAR FIVE	YEAR SIX
7 th May	Thu	English Language & Art	English Language & Geography
8 th May	Fri	Moral Education	Islamic. Stu./ Values Ed/Ctz
11 th May	Mon	Geography & French	UAE Social Studies NGRT – Year 6ABCDEF
12 th May	Tue	Science	English Literature
13 th May	Wed	UAE Social Studies	Arabic
14 th May	Thu	History NGRT – Year 5ABCDEF	Moral Education
15 th May	Fri	Islamic Stu./ Values Ed /Ctz	GL ENGLISH Bring a fully charged device
18 th May	Mon	English Literature	French & History
19 th May	Tue	Maths	Maths
20 th May	Wed	Arabic	GL MATHS Bring a fully charged device
21 st May	Thu	GL ENGLISH Bring a fully charged device	Science
22 nd May	Fri	GL MATHS Bring a fully charged device	Art

- **On the 7th, 8th and 11th of May - Regular school days till 1:50 pm.**
- **12th – 22nd May - Students leave after the exams at 11:15 am.**



FINAL EXAMINATIONS – (YEARS 7 & 8) MAY 2026

DATE	DAY	YEAR SEVEN	YEAR EIGHT
7 th May	Thu	English Language 1 & 2 Paper 2 before break Paper 1 after break	English Language 1 & 2 Paper 2 before break Paper 1 after break
8 th May	Fri	French & Geography	Computing
11 th May	Mon	English Literature 1 & 2	Maths Paper 1 & 2 & Geography
12 th May	Tue	Moral Education & Islamic. Stu./ Values Ed/Ctz	English Literature 1 & 2
13 th May	Wed	GL ENGLISH Bring a fully charged device	UAE Social Studies & History
14 th May	Thu	Arabic	Moral Education & French
15 th May	Fri	History	Science
18 th May	Mon	Maths	
19 th May	Tue	UAE Social Studies	GL ENGLISH Bring a fully charged device
20 th May	Wed	Computing	Arabic
21 st May	Thu	Science	Islamic. Stu./ Values Ed/Ctz
22 nd May	Fri	Art	Art

- **On the 7th, 8th and 11th of May - Regular school days till 1:50 pm.**
- **12th – 22nd May - students leave after the exams at 11:15 am.**



FINAL EXAMINATIONS – (YEARS 9 & 10) MAY 2026

DATE	DAY	YEAR NINE	YEAR TEN
7 th May	Thu	English Language 2 English Language 1	English Language 2 English Language 1
8 th May	Fri	Islamic. Stu./ Values Ed	English Lit. 1 / History Paper 1
11 th May	Mon	Maths Cal and Non Cal	Maths Cal and Non Cal
12 th May	Tue	Biology /Accounting	Arabic
13 th May	Wed	Arabic	Physics/ Business & Moral Education
14 th May	Thu	Chemistry/ Economics & UAE SST	Psychology
15 th May	Fri	Psychology & Geography	Biology /Accounting
18 th May	Mon	English Lit 1/ History / Art	Islamic. Stu./ Values Ed & UAE SST
19 th May	Tue	English Lit 2/ Art	Chemistry/ Economics
20 th May	Wed	Physics/ Business	ICT/ Computer Science
21 st May	Thu	Moral Education	English Lit 2/ History Paper 2/Art
22 nd May	Fri	ICT/ Computer Science	Art

- **On the 7th , 8th and 11th of May - Regular school days till 1:50 pm.**
- **12th - 22nd May- students leave after the exams at 11:15 am.**
- **When there is NO EXAM-students remain at home.**
- **YEAR 10 Art exam will continue on 23rd May 2026.**



FINAL EXAMINATIONS – (YEAR 12) MAY 2026

DATE	DAY	SUBJECT
7 th May	Thu	Business Studies 1-2hrs & Moral Education A- 1 hour 30 min
8 th May	Fri	NO EXAM
11 th May	Mon	Chemistry 1-2hrs 30 min & Islamic Studies -2 hrs
12 th May	Tue	Psychology 1-2hrs 15 min
13 th May	Wed	Physics 1-2 hrs 30 min
14 th May	Thu	NO EXAM
15 th May	Fri	Mathematics (Pure)- 2hrs
18 th May	Mon	Mathematics (Statistics)- 2 hrs
19 th May	Tue	Biology 1- 2 hrs 30 min
20 th May	Wed	Economics 1-2hrs
21 st May	Thu	Arabic (A)- 2hrs 30 min Arabic (B) – 2 hrs
22 nd May	Fri	Regular lessons -Physics & Accounting

- **On the 7th , 8th and 11th of May regular school days till 1:50 pm.**
- **12th – 22nd May- Year 12 students leave after the exams, variable timings each day.**
- **When there is NO EXAM-students remain at home.**

ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

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OUR REF :

TRN : 10415399800000

DATE: 27 February 2026

To: Parents of students in Years FOUR THROUGH TEN: GL EXAMINATIONS IN ENGLISH LANGUAGE, MATHS & SCIENCE

Dear Parents,

Greetings from St. Mary's Catholic High School, Dubai. As part of our commitment to the National Agenda targets, and with a view to tracking progress and identify gaps in learning, our school will participate in the GL-Progress Tests in English, Math and Science which are online tests. GL Education , one of the leading research organizations in the world, develops this test and provides a range of Assessment services in many countries and works in close tandem with the KHDA here in Dubai. These are compulsory International Tests that have to be undertaken as mandated by KHDA.

GL EXAMINATIONS WILL CONTRIBUTE TO THE OVERALL MARKS FOR THE FINAL EXAMINATIONS.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE

YEAR GROUP	ASSESSMENT IN MAY	GL EXAMINATION	FINAL EXAMINATION RESULT
FOUR	APPLICABLE	APPLICABLE	Assessment + GL Result
FIVE	APPLICABLE	APPLICABLE	Assessment + GL Result
SIX	APPLICABLE	APPLICABLE	Assessment + GL Result
SEVEN	APPLICABLE	APPLICABLE	Assessment + GL Result
EIGHT	APPLICABLE	APPLICABLE	Assessment + GL Result
NINE	APPLICABLE	APPLICABLE	Assessment + GL Result
TEN	APPLICABLE	APPLICABLE	Assessment + GL Result

MATHEMATICS

YEAR GROUP	ASSESSMENT IN MAY	GL EXAMINATION	FINAL EXAMINATION RESULT
FOUR	APPLICABLE	APPLICABLE	Assessment + GL Result
FIVE	APPLICABLE	APPLICABLE	Assessment + GL Result
SIX	APPLICABLE	APPLICABLE	Assessment + GL Result
SEVEN	APPLICABLE	APPLICABLE	Assessment + GL Result
EIGHT	APPLICABLE	APPLICABLE	Assessment + GL Result
NINE	APPLICABLE	APPLICABLE	Assessment + GL Result
TEN	APPLICABLE	APPLICABLE	Assessment + GL Result

SCIENCE

YEAR GROUP	ASSESSMENT IN MAY	GL EXAMINATION	FINAL EXAMINATION RESULT
FOUR	APPLICABLE	APPLICABLE	Assessment + GL Result
FIVE	APPLICABLE	APPLICABLE	Assessment + GL Result
SIX	APPLICABLE	APPLICABLE	Assessment + GL Result
SEVEN	APPLICABLE	NOT APPLICABLE	Assessment
EIGHT	APPLICABLE	APPLICABLE	Assessment + GL Result
NINE	APPLICABLE	APPLICABLE	Assessment + GL Result
TEN	APPLICABLE	APPLICABLE	Assessment + GL Result

The entry fee is AED 100/- the exact amount of which must be paid via the SKIPLY APP.

Please be aware that these are COMPULSORY EXAMS as part of the NATIONAL AGENDA and THEY ALSO CONTRIBUTE TO THE OVERALL SCORE OF THE FINAL EXAMINATIONS FOR THESE THREE SUBJECTS and no exemption can be granted to any student. The Final date for payment of the GL fee is 30th March 2026.

These tests will be conducted in school during the months of May and June 2026. Please find the GL EXAMINATION TIMETABLE OVERLEAF. Attendance is mandatory. A medical certificate will be required in the event of any absence, even if for ONE DAY.

We would therefore ask you as parents to kindly make this payment of AED 100/- via the SKIPLY APP and kindly email the receipt to your child's class teacher when you make the payment.

Yours sincerely,



Mr. Paul Asir Joseph
(Principal)





ST. MARY'S *Catholic High School, Dubai*

PRIMARY GL EXAMINATION TIMETABLE MAY-JUNE 2026

DATE	DAY	YEAR FOUR	YEAR FIVE	YEAR SIX
15th May	FRI	MATHS Bring a fully charged device		ENGLISH Bring a fully charged device
20th May	WED			MATHS Bring a fully charged device
21st May	THU		ENGLISH Bring a fully charged device	
22nd May	FRI	ENGLISH Bring a fully charged device	MATHS Bring a fully charged device	
2nd June	TUE			SCIENCE Bring a fully charged device
3rd June	WED	SCIENCE Bring a fully charged device		
4th June	THU		SCIENCE Bring a fully charged device	



ST. MARY'S *Catholic High School, Dubai*

SECONDARY GL EXAMINATION TIMETABLE MAY-JUNE 2026

DATE	DAY	YEAR SEVEN	YEAR EIGHT	YEAR NINE	YEAR TEN
13th May	WED	ENGLISH Bring a fully charged device			
18th May	MON				
19th May	TUE		ENGLISH Bring a fully charged device		
2nd June	MON			ENGLISH Bring a fully charged device	ENGLISH Bring a fully charged device
3rd June	WED		MATHS Bring a fully charged device		
4th June	THU	MATHS Bring a fully charged device		SCIENCE Bring a fully charged device	MATHS Bring a fully charged device
8th June	MON		SCIENCE Bring a fully charged device	MATHS Bring a fully charged device	SCIENCE Bring a fully charged device



ST. MARY'S *Catholic High School, Dubai*

NGRT EXAMINATION TIMETABLE

MAY 2026

DATE	DAY	YEAR TWO	YEAR THREE	YEAR FOUR	YEAR FIVE	YEAR SIX
7th May	THU	NGRT 2A & 2B				
8th May	FRI	NGRT 2C				
11th May	MON	NGRT 2D & 2E		NGRT 4 ABCDEF		NGRT 6 ABCDEF
12th May	TUE		NGRT 3A, 3B & 3C			
13th May	WED		NGRT 3D			
14th May	THU		NGRT 3E		NGRT 5ABCDEF	
18th May	MON		NGRT 3F			

DATE	DAY	YEAR SEVEN	YEAR EIGHT	YEAR NINE	YEAR TEN
5th May	TUE	NGRT 7ABCDEF	NGRT 8ABCDEF		
6th May	WED			NGRT 9ABCDEF	NGRT 10ABCDEF



ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

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مدرسة القديسة مريم الكاثوليكية الثانوية

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موقع ويب : www.stmarysdubai.com

فاكس : ٣٣٦٨١١٩ ٤ ٩٧١ +

OUR REF :

TRN : 10415399800000

DATE: 27th February 2026

**To, Parents of ALL YEAR 8 students at Saint Mary's Catholic High School, Dubai-
Year Nine Subject Options for GCSE study**

Dear Parents,

Greetings from St. Mary's. We are writing to explain why it is going to be necessary to look at Year Nine options into GCSE study in a slightly different way.

Having considered the current subject option process and choices made, it has become clear that to meet the KHDA recommendations for the curriculum to meet the NCFE requirements for KS3 and considering the overwhelming impact that subject options have on future educational pathways, we have decided to now follow a two phased approach over Year Nine and Year Ten.

Attainment data of Year Nine strongly suggests that this new approach will support our ambitions for our students to have the best learning experience possible as we aim to not overwhelm them with all the subject option choices at one go.

In Year Nine, your child will enjoy a broad and balanced curriculum, designed to build essential knowledge and develop a love for learning. Studying English Literature, History and Art are very important in shaping cultural awareness and sensitivity. They will also have the opportunity to choose 4 GCSE options that reflect their interests, strengths and aspirations.

To our dear students, this is your opportunity to begin thinking realistically about your future, be aspirational in your thoughts and aim high. These GCSE years will of course bring increased challenges and greater depth of study, but also wonderful opportunities. With our dedicated Marian family, high academic expectations and supportive environment, we hope that our children will aim to achieve their very best. Many of our students go on to attend famed universities around the world, a true reflection of their hard work here at St. Mary's.

We know that choosing GCSE subjects can be a challenging task, however, please rest assured that our subject leaders and counsellors are here to guide you in every step of the way.

What will this change look like for YEAR Nine students in 2026-2027?

SUITE ONE

Students in Year Nine will study the following subjects as **COMPULSORY GCSE SUBJECTS**

- 1) English Language**
- 2) English Literature**
- 3) Mathematics**
- 4) History**
- 5) Art**
- 6) Geography**
- 7) Religious Studies / Psychology**

(Psychology is only for those students who do not take Islamic Studies or Values Education)

What is the COMPULSORY suite of subject options for students of Year Nine for 2026-2027?

ONE SCIENCE IS COMPULSORY FOR ALL STUDENTS

SUITE TWO

- 1) ICT or Computer Science (ANY ONE)**
- 2) Biology or Accounting (ANY ONE)**
- 3) Chemistry or Economics (ANY ONE)**
- 4) Physics or Business Studies (ANY ONE)**

**** Please note that ICT/Computer Science and one Science have been made compulsory to further closely align with the British Curriculum, as pointed out in our KHDA inspection process over the last few years with a view to furthering students access to technology, thus arming them with the requisite 21st Century skills.*

A minimum of one approved GCSE Science will also be required later if Equivalency is sought in the UAE.

COMPUTER SCIENCE: Kindly note that places for Computer Science will be restricted to those students who currently display a secure understanding and application of computational thinking and problem-solving skills. Programming skills are a core component of this course, and students will be required to have a knowledge of Python and be competent at designing, writing and debugging programmes . In case the places are oversubscribed, the school will have to allot seats strictly based on current academic competence in ICT.

What are the STATUTORY MOE SUBJECTS for students of Year Nine for 2026-2027?

SUITE THREE

- 1) Arabic B (compulsory for non-Arabs till Year 10)
- 2) Arabic A (compulsory for Arabs till Year 13)
- 3) MSC-Moral Social and Cultural Studies (compulsory for Non-Arabs till Year 10)
- 4) Islamic Studies A or B (Only for Muslim students and compulsory till Year 13)
- 5) Social Studies for Arabs (compulsory till Year 10)
- 6) Moral Education for Arabs (compulsory till Year 13)

What will be PHASE TWO of the Subject-Option Choices in Year Ten/ KS4?

Students will continue with the following COMPULSORY Subjects in YEAR TEN

- 1) Students will carry forward their 4 Subject choices from **SUITE 2**
- 2) Students will carry forward the 3 statutory subjects from **SUITE 3**
- 3) Students will continue with the following compulsory GCSE subjects
 - a) English Language
 - b) Mathematics
 - c) Religious Studies or Psychology
- 4) Students will choose **ANY ONE OPTION FROM** (English Literature or Art or History or Psychology)

Students will therefore have a minimum of Eight GCSE Pearson Edexcel Subjects and three Statutory MOE subjects in YEAR Ten.

TIMELINE FOR YEAR NINE SUBJECT CHOICE OPTIONS -SUPPORT AND GUIDANCE

	SUPPORTING EVENTS	DATES
1	Letter for Psychometric Testing (Aptitude Testing to parents of Year 8 students)	20 th February 2026
2	Window to decide on Optional Aptitude Testing	20 th February -2 nd March 2026
3	Tentative date for Aptitude and results explained -All online	28 th March 2026 - Online
4	Subject Orientation Sessions Biology, Accounting Business Studies and Physics-GIRLS -Mini Hall	25 th February 2026
5	Subject Orientation Sessions Economics, Chemistry, ICT and Computer Science-GIRLS-Mini Hall	26 th February 2026
6	Subject Orientation Sessions Biology, Accounting Business Studies and Physics-BOYS -Main Hall	27 th February 2026
7	Subject Orientation Sessions Economics, Chemistry, ICT and Computer Science-BOYS-Main Hall	2 nd March 2026
8	Orientation session presentations sent to parents	5 th March 2026
9	Availability of Subject leaders to meet with parents. Parents who wish to speak to subject leaders are invited to come to school and meet the subject leaders in the school library.	7 th March 2026. 8:00 -11:30 am
10	Final Date for return of Subject Option forms to class teachers	6 th April 2026

Parents are asked to complete this by **Monday, 6th April 2026.**

Kindly fill this in and scan it and email the same to your child's class teacher. This will be the final deadline for accepting subject choice forms.

Yours sincerely,

Mr. Paul Asir Joseph
(Principal)





ST. MARY'S *Catholic High School, Dubai*

**SUBJECT -OPTION CHOICE FORMS FOR STUDENTS
OF YEAR EIGHT GOING TO YEAR NINE
FOR THE ACADEMIC YEAR 2026-2027.**

NAME OF CHILD: _____

YEAR AND SECTION: _____

RELIGION : _____ **NATIONALITY :** _____

- 1) ENGLISH LANGUAGE (Compulsory)
- 2) ENGLISH LITERATURE (Compulsory)
- 3) MATHEMATICS (Compulsory)
- 4) GEOGRAPHY (Compulsory)
- 5) HISTORY (Compulsory)
- 6) ART (Compulsory)
- 7) RELIGIOUS STUDIES (Compulsory for students who take Islamic Studies and Values Education)
- 8) ARABIC A or B (Compulsory MOE subject)
- 9) MORAL AND SOCIAL CULTURAL STUDIES -MSC (Compulsory MOE subject)
- 10) PSYCHOLOGY (Compulsory for students who do not take Values Education or Islamic Studies)

PLEASE TURN OVERLEAF FOR THE OPTIONAL SUBJECT CHOICES

You can choose ONLY ONE SUBJECT FROM EACH OPTION

11) ICT or COMPUTER SCIENCE -Choose ANY ONE

12) BIOLOGY or ACCOUNTING- Choose ANY ONE

13) PHYSICS or BUSINESS STUDIES- Choose ANY ONE

14) CHEMISTRY or ECONOMICS- Choose ANY ONE

- **ONE SCIENCE IS COMPULSORY FOR ALL STUDENTS.**
- **IN ORDER TO TAKE A GIVEN SCIENCE AT A-LEVEL, THE STUDENT MUST HAVE TAKEN THE SCIENCE AT GCSE (effective August 2027).**

NAME OF PARENT: _____

PARENT MOBILE NUMBER: _____

PARENT EMAIL ID : _____

PARENT SIGNATURE: _____

DATE: _____