



Early Entry External Examinations (IGCSE, AS / AL)

What is an “Early Entry” exam?

1. IGCSE courses are designed and intended as two years courses completed in Year 10 and 11; therefore an “early entry” examination is any IGCSE exam completed before the May-June session in Year 11.
2. AS courses are designed and intended as one year courses completed in Year 12; therefore an “early entry” examination is any AS exam completed before the May-June session in Year 12.
3. Full AL (or A2) courses are designed and intended as two year courses, but we allow students to complete required AS / component parts of the exam in Year 12 (point 2 above applies).

What are school’s general conditions for Early Entry exams?

- Any student registering for an external examination at Doha Academy must be fully enrolled in the school with no outstanding fees.
- Parents are required to note the registration dates and relevant fees for ‘normal’, ‘late’, and ‘very late’ registrations.
- All early entries must be approved by the Secondary Head of Department (HoD) or Head of School to verify if the student has a good chance of passing.

When do external exams take place at Doha Academy?

UK Exam Board	October/November	January	April-June
Cambridge (CIE)	IGCSE, AS/AL		IGCSE, AS/AL
Pearson Edexcel	IGCSE, AS/AL	AS/AL	IGCSE, AS/AL

Year Group	Specific conditions
Year 10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Year 10 students can register for a maximum of two IGCSE exams in the May-June session (Arabic* and English) * <i>Or alternative subject if the student has a limited background in Arabic</i> • Year 10 students are not permitted study leave for early entry exams. • Year 10 students are required to continue attending all scheduled lessons in Year 11 including early entry subjects passed at the end of Year 10. • Year 10 students must also complete all internal examinations (e.g. early entry IGCSE Arabic does not substitute for the school-based Arabic exams).
Year 11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Year 11 students can register for a maximum of three early entry IGCSE's in the November session, or two if early entries occurred in Year 10. • Year 11 students may register for an IGCSE subject not taught by the school in November or May-June, although all students must follow all of the school-taught IGCSE subjects they selected. • Year 11 students are not permitted study leave for early entry exams (only authorised study leave for the May-June session). • Year 11 students are required to continue attending all scheduled lessons in Year 11 including early entry subjects passed in November, or in Year 10. • Year 11 students can be registered for AS Arabic in Year 11 (any session) if they passed IGCSE Arabic in Year 10. Students successfully passing AS Arabic are then expected to complete AL/A2 Arabic by the end of Year 12. • Year 11 students can only complete an AS exam during Year 11 (any session) if it is subject not taught by the school (e.g. Spanish).
Year 12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Year 12 students can register for early entry AS exams if it is a subject not taught by the school. • Year 12 students can only register for an AS exam in January if the unit being examined has been fully covered in Term 1 of Year 12 (e.g. Mathematics Pure 1).