

# Cambridge International announces support measures for its June 2021 exam series

## Press release

Islamabad, 10 December 2020: Cambridge International has announced today that it will be running its two exam series' in June and November next year.

Recognising the challenges many schools in Pakistan and around the world continue to face due to the Covid-19 pandemic, it has published details of a range of measures it is putting in place to help schools and students make a success of the June 2021 exam series.

Cambridge International, which provides education programmes and exams to more than 10,000 schools in over 160 countries worldwide, says the package of support aims to achieve its two key priorities, to keep students safe and enable them to obtain their qualifications so they can progress with their next steps in education.

The June exam series will run as planned in May and June 2021, but schools will have the opportunity to request exemptions from some exam papers, such as science practicals and language speaking tests, if teaching and assessment time has been disrupted by the pandemic.

Cambridge International has also published adjustments to its assessment criteria for a number of syllabuses, which schools can apply for, where it will make it safer for students to complete their qualifications. For example, where a student might have previously had to visit a physical location, or perform in front of a live audience as part of their final assessment, they will be able to do these tasks online or submit recordings.

The leading international education provider has also promised the standard for Cambridge International AS & A Levels and IGCSE and O Levels in June 2021, will be aligned with the standard of equivalent qualifications being taken in the UK in June. This will ensure its students can compete fairly with their UK counterparts for university places and jobs in Pakistan and anywhere in the world.

Christine Özden, Chief Executive, Cambridge International, said:

“We know that the pandemic has caused many challenges for our schools, but we are doing everything we can to support them.

“We are planning to run our exam series in June and November next year as we believe exams remain the fairest and most reliable way to assess student achievement and the majority of our schools have told us that they want to run exams.

“We have put together a range of measures to support our schools and their students with the June 21 exam series and as always, we will be ensuring that the standard aligns with the UK standard.

“We will continue to monitor the situation around the world, and listen to feedback from our schools to see what further support they need. I would like to thank all of our schools for the huge effort they continue to make to ensure their students achieve their qualifications and ultimately, fulfil their dreams and ambitions.”

Uzma Yousuf, Country Director, Pakistan, at Cambridge International, said:

“I would like to express my appreciation for Cambridge schools, teachers and parents in Pakistan for rising up to the challenge with such fortitude to help students continue their education despite school closures and countless other obstacles resulting from the pandemic. I thank you all for your dedication and commitment. Students have worked very hard under enormous pressure to continue their learning journey under the most extraordinary circumstances.”

“We consulted with Cambridge International schools in Pakistan, the government of Pakistan and indeed our schools around the world to inform our decisions about our May/June 2021 exam series and to develop a range of support measures. These measures will help students in Pakistan and around the world to achieve their qualifications next year and move ahead with their future plans.”

For students who may face exceptional circumstances or illness preventing them from sitting an exam paper, Cambridge International can give assessed grades, under its special consideration policy, provided they have completed most exam papers for a syllabus.

For more information about the support measures for Cambridge International schools taking part in the June 2021 exam series visit – <https://www.cambridgeinternational.org/covid/june-2021-exam-series/>

-Ends-

## Notes to editors

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