

Examination timetables

General Qualifications

How are general timetables constructed?

Each summer, Pearson sets over **550** exams for over **200** qualifications in **49** subject areas. These take place across **36** days, from May to July, in **68** available time slots. This timing ensures that schools and colleges have time to complete the teaching of the courses, while allowing us time to mark the papers accurately, so candidates receive their results in August.

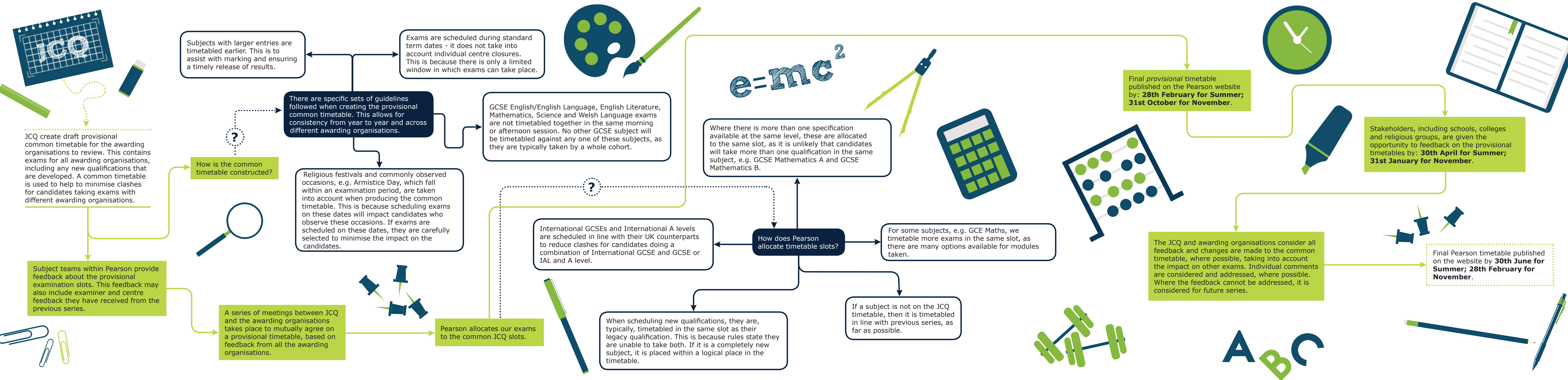
Each year, Pearson works with the Joint Council for Qualifications (JCQ), and other awarding organisations, to agree the timetable for the Summer exam series. About 18 months before the exams take place, the JCQ creates a draft provisional timetable for awarding organisations to review. The main aim when drawing up this draft timetable is to minimise the chances of a candidate having a 'clash', where a candidate would have to sit more than one exam in any morning or afternoon session.

The timetable is then reviewed by awarding organisations to ensure it meets the current needs of candidates, schools and colleges. This review also includes a consultation and considers comments from a wide range of stakeholders, including schools, colleges and religious groups. Due to there being a large number of candidates taking exams in a diverse range of subjects available, it is not always possible to meet every request. Pearson will always aim to be as fair as possible to all, and, if a small change can be made that does not impact negatively on the majority, it will be considered.

The final timetable is agreed upon, completed and published on Pearson's website.

The timetable for the November series is set in the same way, while timetables for our January and October series are set by the individual awarding organisations. These timetables also go through the draft phase and consultation period, before they are published as final on our website.

SUMMER AND NOVEMBER EXAMS



JANUARY AND OCTOBER EXAMS

