

Pakistan June 2021 series FAQs - 30 April 2021

Thank you for your questions. We have answered as many as we can below. However, schools should send any syllabus-specific queries to their British Council office at: cambridgeschools@britishcouncil.org.pk

1- Are all the June 2021 exams cancelled for both school and private candidates?

Due to increasing concerns across the country regarding the continuing spread of Covid-19, the Government of Pakistan has made the decision to cancel Cambridge International's June 2021 O Level and IGCSE exams for both school and private candidates. However, it has confirmed that Cambridge International A Level exams can go ahead, to make sure candidates can progress with their education beyond school. Please also see FAQ 'Can candidates still sit their AS Level components?'

2- Is it possible for a Cambridge O Level, IGCSE and AS Level candidate who has taken at least one component to get a grade?

If a Cambridge O Level, IGCSE or AS Level candidate has taken at least one component (apart from a component that does not have a weighting e.g. an endorsed component) it may still be possible for them to get a grade. For this reason, Cambridge will not automatically withdraw all Cambridge O Level, IGCSE or AS Level entries. We will provide more information shortly on the approach to requesting special considerations and the withdrawal for any entries.

Cambridge will provide a full credit for any entry which needs to be withdrawn.

3- Will candidates be automatically transferred to the November 2021 series?

Cambridge will not 'transfer' a candidate's entry to the November 2021 series. We will process any withdrawals requested for June 2021 and centres would need to re-enter candidates for the November 2021 series at the appropriate time. The fees for November 2021 exams series entries will be the same as those for June 2021 so there will be no increase.

4- Can candidates still sit their AS Level components?

Our understanding with the Government is that Cambridge International AS Level exams, taken as part of linear route A Levels, are going ahead as planned. The linear route is sometimes referred to as the full A Level, composite route or accelerated A Level.

Candidates who are entered for the AS Level as a standalone qualification must not take the AS Level exams in the June 2021 series. Similarly, candidates who are entered for the AS Level in the June 2021 series and who intend to complete their A Level in a later series must not take the AS Level exams in the June 2021 series, but take the AS Level exams in a future series. This is to reduce the number of candidates taking exams at any one time and is in accordance with the government of Pakistan's decision to allow Cambridge International A Level exams to go ahead.

5- Can candidates who have applied for exemptions receive a grade if they are unable to take any of the other components in the syllabus?

No, candidates will not have sufficient evidence for us to award a grade if they have not completed any components, even if they have an approved exemption from one of the other components. Candidates need to have sat at least one component to receive a grade.

6- Is it correct that Cambridge O Level and IGCSE candidates may have to sit exams in November 2021 at the same time as studying for their Cambridge International AS Levels?

Yes, candidates who defer to the November 2021 series may need to sit their exams while studying for other qualifications at the same time. The fees for November 2021 exams series entries will be the same as those for June 2021 so there will be no increase.

7- Can Cambridge International A Level candidates choose which exams they sit?

No, Cambridge International A Level candidates should be encouraged to attend all their exams. If they miss an exam for an acceptable reason, they may be eligible for special consideration. Please also see FAQ 'Can candidates still sit their AS Level components?'

For the June 2021 series Cambridge has expanded the special consideration process for candidates who, for an acceptable reason (i.e., illness, bereavement, injury or any disruption to exam), miss some components they were entered for. Candidates must be encouraged to sit all of the exams that they can safely attend because it gives them the best chance to show their ability. However, as long as these candidates have taken at least one eligible component, they can receive a grade. Please be aware that we cannot calculate an assessed mark for the following:

- Cambridge International A Levels where a candidate has not completed any A Level components in the exam series.
- Any component that does not have a weighting e.g. an endorsed component.

Our expanded special consideration process is a temporary measure in response to the Covid-19 pandemic. For more information about special consideration, including how to apply, see our website: www.cambridgeinternational.org/june-2021-special-consideration
The special consideration form for Pakistan is attached with this email

8- Will component exemptions approved for June 2021 still apply for Cambridge International AS Levels (taken as part of the A Level linear route) and International A Levels components?

Yes, any exemptions applied for and approved for individual candidates entered for Cambridge International AS Level components (taken as part of the linear route) and A Levels components will still apply. Candidates need to have sat at least one eligible component in order to receive a grade.

9- Will component exemptions be available in the November 2021 series?

Exemptions approved for June 2021 will not automatically apply in the November 2021 series. We understand that centres have questions about whether component adjustments and/or exemptions will be available in the November 2021 series. We will provide more information about this as soon as possible.

10-Will there be a way for candidates to complete their Cambridge International A Levels in the November 2021 series?

Under our usual rules, candidates who wish to take an AS Level in one exam series and complete their A Level in a later series are allowed to carry their AS Level result forward, provided that their A Level is completed within 13 months of their AS Level.

Given the unique circumstances in Pakistan, we have decided to allow an extension to this 13-month period in the following situation only. Candidates who:

- received a Cambridge International AS Level result in the June 2020 series, and
- intended to complete their A Level in the June 2021 series, but
- decided to defer their entry until the November 2021 series

will be allowed to complete their A Level in November 2021 by taking only the A2 components.

We will provide centres with more details about this soon.

11-Can an A2 candidate carry forward their June 2020 AS grade(s) to the November 2021 series if they take June 2021 exams but do not get the grade they want?

No, this is not possible, only candidates who meet the criteria outlined in the question above: 'Will there be a way for candidates to complete their Cambridge International A Levels in the November 2021 series?' will be able to carry forward their June 2020 AS grade(s) to the November 2021 series.

12-If a candidate takes their A2 exams in the June 2021 series and is not happy with the result, can they retake some or all of the exams in November 2021?

Yes, they would have to re-enter for the specific exams in the November 2021 series. See our carry forward rules on our [website](#).

16. Will the entry fees for the November 2021 series be the same as June 2021?

Yes, the fees for November 2021 exams series entries will be the same as those for June 2021 so there will be no increase.

17. Will linear route A Level candidates be able to receive a grade if they only sit one component and are then absent from the other components for acceptable reasons?

A Level candidates taking the linear route need to have taken at least one A Level (A2) component in order to be able to receive an A Level grade.

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