Key dates in the examination cycle

Vocational and Technical qualifications, January 2026 series

Produced on behalf of:

AQA
Questions matter

OCR
Oxford Cambridge and RSA

Pearson

wjec
cbac

The JCQ publishes key dates for examination series where they are common to all the JCQ awarding bodies.

Dates appear on timetables and in various awarding body and JCQ documents. However, sometimes a simple date cannot be found quickly when the need arises. The 'need to know' dates for the VTQ January 2026 examination series are listed on **page 2**.

The qualifications covered by this document are listed in **Appendix A**.

Key dates – VTQ January 2026 examination series

KEY DATE	DESCRIPTION	AWARDING BODY	CATEGORY
AUTUMN TERM 2025/26			
05/09/2025	Basedata for January 2026 series available	AQA, OCR, Pearson and WJEC	Entries
04/10/2025	Deadline for ordering modified papers	AQA, OCR, Pearson and WJEC	Access arrangements
21/10/2025	Deadline for entries	AQA, OCR, Pearson and WJEC	Entries
21/10/2025	Deadline to process applications for access arrangements	AQA, OCR, Pearson and WJEC	Access arrangements
02/12/2025	Deadline for requesting transferred candidate arrangements	AQA, OCR, Pearson and WJEC	Exam preparation
05/12/2025	Deadline for ordering non-interactive electronic (PDF) question papers	OCR	Access arrangements
SPRING TERM 2025/26			
05/01/2026	Date of first VTQ examination	AQA, OCR, Pearson and WJEC	Exam time
05/01/2026	First date for submitting special consideration requests to awarding bodies	AQA, OCR, Pearson and WJEC	Exam time
22/01/2026	Date of last VTQ examination	AQA, OCR, Pearson and WJEC	Exam time
29/01/2026	Deadline for submitting special consideration requests to awarding bodies	AQA, OCR, Pearson and WJEC	Exam time
25/02/2026	Restricted release of results to centres	AQA	Results & certification
26/02/2026	Release of results to candidates	AQA	Results & certification
04/03/2026	Restricted release of results to centres	WJEC	Results & certification
05/03/2026	Release of results to candidates	WJEC	Results & certification
11/03/2026	Release of Cambridge Technicals results	OCR	Results & certification
18/03/2026	Restricted release of Cambridge Advanced Nationals results, Cambridge Nationals results and Pearson BTEC results to centres	OCR and Pearson	Results & certification
19/03/2026	Release of Cambridge Advanced Nationals results, Cambridge Nationals results and Pearson BTEC results to candidates	OCR and Pearson	Results & certification
SUMMER TERM 2025/26			
31/05/2026	Date by which certificates will arrive in centres	AQA, OCR, Pearson and WJEC	Results & certification

Notes:

1. Centres should consult awarding body administration documents, as it may be possible to submit applications for special consideration prior to 5 January 2026.

2. The deadline for Access to Scripts, clerical checks, reviews of marking, reviews of moderation or other results enquiries (e.g. Missing and Incomplete Results) will be five weeks after the awarding body's publication of results.

Appendix A – List of awarding body qualifications covered by this document, January 2026 series

AQA	OCR	Pearson	WJEC
Applied General qualifications Certificate in Applied Business Extended Certificate in Applied Business Certificate in Applied Science Extended Certificate in Applied Science	**Cambridge Advanced Nationals** Applied Science Computing Engineering Health and Social Care Human Biology IT Data Analytics **Cambridge Nationals** Child Development Creative Media Engineering Design Engineering Manufacture Engineering Programmable Systems Enterprise and Marketing Health and Social Care IT Sport Science Sport Studies **Enrichment Qualification** Level 3 Certificate in Sustainability **Level 2 Cambridge Technicals** Business Administration Digital Media Engineering Health & Social Care IT Sport and Physical Activity **Level 3 Cambridge Technicals** Applied Science Business Digital Media Engineering Health & Social Care IT Performing Arts Sport and Physical Activity	**BTEC Nationals** Agriculture/Countryside Management/Horticulture/ Forestry and Arboriculture Animal Management Applied Human Biology Applied Law Applied Psychology Applied Science Applied Science/Forensic and Criminal Investigation Art and Design Business/Enterprise and Entrepreneurship Computing Construction and the Built Environment CPLD Creative Digital Media Production Engineering Equine Management Forensic and Criminal Investigation Health and Social Care IT Marketing Music Performance Music Technology Performing Arts Sport Sport and Exercise Science Travel and Tourism Uniformed Protective Services **BTEC Tech Awards (2022)** Animal Care Child Development Construction and the Built Environment Digital Information Technology Enterprise Health and Social Care Sport Travel and Tourism **BTEC Firsts** Animal Care Business Construction and the Built Environment CPLD Creative Digital Media Production Engineering Health and Social Care Hospitality Music Public Services Travel and Tourism	**Level 2 / Level 3** WJEC Level 2 Health and Social Care: Principles and Contexts (Wales only) WJEC Level 3 Children's Care, Play, Learning and Development: Practice and Theory (Wales only) WJEC Level 3 Diploma in Health and Social Care: Principles and Contexts (Wales only) **Level 1/2** WJEC Level 1/2 Vocational Award in Construction and the Built Environment (Technical Award) WJEC Level 1/2 Vocational Award in Engineering (Technical Award) WJEC Level 1/2 Vocational Award in Health and Social Care (Technical Award) WJEC Level 1/2 Vocational Award in Hospitality and Catering (Technical Award) WJEC Level 1/2 Vocational Award in ICT (Technical Award) WJEC Level 1/2 Vocational Award in Performing Arts (Technical Award) WJEC Level 1/2 Vocational Award in Sport and Coaching Principles (Technical Award) **Level 1** WJEC Level 1 Certificate in Latin Language WJEC Level 1 Certificate in Latin Language and Roman Civilisation