



Headteacher: Mr J Grant

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Dear Parent/Carer

You will be aware that most year 12 students are currently undertaking 3 A level courses, with some doing an additional AS level that will be externally assessed this summer. Under the previous structure all students studying 2 year A levels were externally assessed twice (once at the end of year 12 and final exams at the end of year 13), as the AS exam constituted half of their eventual final grade. Now that the AS course is a standalone qualification, students studying 2 year A levels will be internally assessed at the end of year 12 through progression exams that will take place for one week from July 2nd.

If students gain an overall ungraded mark on their papers, they will be asked to sit these again before the summer. If there is no improvement on the second sitting, the department will recommend that they cannot progress on to the second year of the course. If the student gains an E grade, it will be left to the discretion of the subject teachers/department involved as to whether they are happy for the student to go forward in to year 13 with that subject. This is in line with the previous arrangement, when students were externally assessed in their A/S qualification as a mid-way point of the overall qualification.

A further development that we need to inform you of is that the government will no longer fund students repeating a subject for a second year. Therefore, if a student does not pass a specific subject at the end of year 12 or 13, they will not be able to repeat it the following year (as a year 13 or year 14 student). They can opt for a different subject but it has been made clear to us that we will no longer be able to claim funding for students repeating a subject.

If you have any questions about any of the above, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Yours sincerely

Adrian de Souza
Deputy Headteacher

Dale Whitehead
Head of Sixth Form

Helen Valentine
Deputy Head of Sixth Form

