

CONDITIONS OF CONTINUATION ON SIXTH FORM COURSES

- 1. The general and subject specific entrance criteria have been set on the basis that, in the absence of unusual circumstances, students who meet them should be able to obtain at least a grade D in any A Level or a pass in each Applied General (Vocational) course. However, to do so students need to work hard in all academic tasks, attend as required and engage with feedback.
- 2. No student has a right to continue in any subject, including progressing from Year 12 to 13. The school has the right to remove a student from studying a course, either for academic reasons or for behaviour, including failure to produce work at the level they are capable of and unjustified poor attendance. Reviews of performance and behaviour will take place following October assessments, Mid-Year/Mock exams and UCAS exams, but may occur at any time and lead to removal from and A Level or Applied General subject.

Removal for poor academic performance

3. Save in exceptional circumstances, the school will view poor performance as making it not in a student's interests to continue if assessed work is not consistent with obtaining an E grade/Pass or above. An exception is likely to be made where, despite such generally poor performance, a student demonstrates continued potential for meeting the minimum expectation by obtaining a D grade in either the mid-year assessment/mock exams or the UCAS exams.

Removal from a subject for poor behaviour

4. A student may be removed from a subject at any time for persistent and unjustified failure to produce work at the level they are capable of, including failure to attend school as required. This will be treated as a disciplinary matter and a full range of sanctions may be applied. Any student at risk of such removal will be warned in writing and given at least four weeks to demonstrate why they should be allowed to continue. Special steps may be implemented to support the student in demonstrating this, as outlined at 8 below. A student may be removed from a subject where their behaviour in that subject harms or risks harming the education or welfare of other students. Again, this will be treated as a disciplinary matter and a full range of sanctions may be applied.

Continuation with other subjects when required to drop one or more.

- 5. A student removed from studying a subject for academic reasons under 3 above, may be allowed to continue with only two A Levels/Applied Generals but only if they can demonstrate either:
- (i) that the obtaining of those two A Levels/Applied Generals will allow entry to an academic or training programme or employment which would otherwise not be open to them, **and** that their performance in those two subjects is not more than one grade lower than that required to enter that programme or employment;

or

(ii) that the study of those A Levels/Applied Generals would benefit work in a field of employment which they intend to enter **and** in which they can demonstrate an interest **and** which they are likely to be qualified for on leaving school.

Where a student is allowed to continue with only two A Levels/Applied Generals the school may require that the student undertakes a supplementary qualification such as the Extended Project Qualification.

- 6. A student removed from studying a subject for behavioural reasons under 4 above may be prevented from continuing with only two A Levels/Applied General. Where they are permitted, this will only be if they meet the criteria at 5 above and whilst their behaviour for learning remains at a high standard. Where students are removed from all or all but one of their courses, they are likely to have met the threshold for exclusion and will be asked to leave.
- 7. A student who is prevented from continuing in all but one A Level or Applied General for whatever reason will not be permitted to continue with that subject unless exceptional circumstances apply. Accordingly, their A Level/Applied General study at the school would end at that point and an alternative programme of study may be undertaken

School action to address poor performance/ behaviour

8. Where at any time the school considers performance or behaviour to call into question the suitability of the student to continue on the course it may implement special steps to address this in the hope of establishing a pattern of performance and/or behaviour which should lead to the student passing the course in question. Where behaviour is concerned, the sanctions under the school's behaviour policy also apply. Poor performance triggering such action will normally comprise a half term or more during which assessed work is not consistent with obtaining an E grade/Pass. These steps may include (but are not limited to):

- (i) requiring a student who is taking more than two courses to take no more than two
- (ii) requiring that a student forgo any period of work experience, in favour of attendance and study at school
- (iii) requiring that a student stays on school site during school hours, completes work in the Library during study periods/after school and completes a weekly Supervised Study Report
- (iv) requiring that a student participates in a specified programme of study over holiday periods, including the summer holiday
- (v) requiring that a student sits additional assessments.