



Beaumont School

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Dear Parents/Carers

Re: Year 12 Threshold Exams information

As we have now issued Year 12 Threshold Exam timetables, we are writing to highlight the importance of these exams which have replaced AS exams as the portal into Year 13 (follow the link <https://beaumontschool.com/yr12-13-progression/> for Sixth Form Progression Criteria).

For the vast majority of students, the greater relevance will relate to the second purpose of the Year 12 exams which is the determination of UCAS potential grades for those students planning to apply to university next academic year.

Our UCAS grade policy whilst now removing discretion from staff in setting these grades is structured to take a positive view of final student outcome following the Year 12 exam results. It takes the subject grades obtained and gives them an overall two grade uplift*. For example subject grades of BBB will lead to UCAS grades of AAB (where BTEC Business and ICT are taken we will use the same philosophy, allowing for the different grading system).

*(*movement from an A grade to an A* is based on a more detailed consideration due to the way A* grades are awarded by exam boards)*

Because of the importance of these exams, we have scheduled them to start after Summer Half-Term to allow final preparation and full exam board sanctioned access arrangements will be in place as appropriate. Teaching staff will prepare their classes for these exams and scripts will be internally moderated within departments.

Threshold Exams and the UCAS grade policy were first introduced for last year's Year 12 students. We were delighted that the results were at or above expectations for the large majority of students, both individually and in aggregate. This was because students were well prepared and therefore well equipped to produce at their potential. University offers have been strong and again up to expectation. We also believe that students who were well prepared at the end of last year are much more likely to have success with the newly structured A levels which are now fully in place.

We hope all this guidance helps similar outcomes occur this year in the summer and going forward into Year 13. All of the information above has already been referenced via assemblies and tutorial time as well as at parents' evenings, but we believe it is valuable to bring this all together in one source.

Mr M Atkinson and Mr P de Kort
Headteacher Head of Sixth Form



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