



## EXAMINATION EARLY ENTRY POLICY

**Presented to  
Curriculum and Standards Committee  
20 February 2018**

Date approved <sup>1</sup> :	20 February 2018
Date reviewed <sup>2</sup> :	12 November 2013 (approved) Students and Safeguarding
Date of next review <sup>3</sup> :	Spring 2021

<sup>1</sup> This is the date the policy was approved by the meeting

<sup>2</sup> This is the date the policy was reviewed prior to its approval above

<sup>3</sup> This is the date as set by the policy review clause or the date approved plus two years

## 1.0 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

1.1 The College is committed to ensuring the highest possible achievement for all students.

1.2 Students in Years 10 and 11 are considered for GCSE early entry in their subjects. Early entry enables students to develop their examination skills and are discussed with students and parents/carers prior to entry.

## 2.0 THE PROCESS

2.1 The College uses early entry examination results to determine a strategy going forward so that students ensure their maximum potential.

2.2 Once the early entry examination is taken, students continue with their studies in the subject. When results are received the College carries out a full analysis of each individual student to assess the following:

- If the student has achieved a Grade 3 or below, they will continue to study the course and will re-take the examination at the next available opportunity.
- If the grade awarded is lower than the target grade, eg the student achieves a Grade 5, however, it is felt there is a potential for higher grade to be the final outcome, the student will continue to study the course and will re-take the examination at the next available opportunity.
- If the student has achieved their target grade but the College feels that a higher grade is achievable, they will continue to study the course and will re-take the examination at the next available opportunity.

2.3 It is recognised that students need to use what they have learned from early entry examinations to ensure even higher achievement at the end of the GCSE course. Staff will constantly analyse performance in these examinations and use it to alter teaching and ensure that students continue to develop towards reaching their potential.

2.4 Ofsted have produced extensive guidance on the use of early entry in schools and have made it absolutely clear that it should not be used to limit progress:

*“some schools with high levels of early entry do achieve good levels of success in terms of attainment and value-added. This is because they take a carefully considered approach and then use the early examination results to plan how best to raise students’ grades in subsequent entries.”*

2.5 The College explains clearly to students that when they sit examinations in the Summer, they are not ‘re-sitting’, they are taking examinations at the correct time. Early entry results will help to ensure that students fulfil their potential by the end of the course.

2.6 Final decisions regarding early entry for examinations will be taken by the Head of College. Decisions are made taking into account the professional judgement of staff and the availability of resources.

2.7 When the College has made the decision for early entry examinations, the fees are paid by the College.

3.0 **REVIEW**

3.1 The Governing Body (or responsible committee) will review this policy in line with the procedure for policy review.

3.2 Date for Review

If no other reason for review (see policy review procedure) this policy will be reviewed in Spring 2021.