



Thursday 15th April 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

As you are aware, the disruption to qualification courses and the cancellation of public examinations this Summer, means that all Examination Boards have put in place alternative procedures for awarding GCSE and Level 2 grades.

Examination Boards have instructed schools to submit Centre Determined Grades that best reflect the standard students are working at in their qualification courses. To help you understand the alternative awarding procedures for this year, I have attached a Question and Answer table on page 2 of this letter. Our school Centre Determined Grades Policies will also be available on our website, at the following link, from Friday 23rd April: <https://www.breda.academy/our-school/policies/>

Student evidence is key to the awarding of the Centre Determined Grades and I have been extremely impressed by the positive attitude displayed by our Year 12 students since their return to school on Monday 22nd March. Our Year 12 students have been working hard in preparing for and completing assessment tasks which will provide evidence for their Centre Determined Grades and I would encourage all students to continue working in this mature and focused manner.

Examination Boards have set deadlines for the Centre Determined Grades to be sent to them. To meet these deadlines, Year 12 qualification courses will end in May as is the normal practice every year. This will allow all student evidence to be collated, moderated and verified for internal and external quality assurance procedures as directed by the Department of Education. For this reason, the last day of timetabled lessons and school for Year 12 students will be **Friday 7th May 2021.**

The Application process to join our Sixth Form in September 2021 is now open and application forms should be submitted to Mrs Glover by **Friday 23rd April.**

I very much look forward to celebrating the success of our Year 12 students on Results Day, **Thursday 12th August** when they collect results for their GCSE and Level 2 course qualifications.

Yours sincerely

Mr P Perry - Acting Principal



YEAR 12 SUMMER EXAMS 2021 Q & A

<p>Will I receive GCSE and Level 2 results this August?</p>	<p>Yes, Year 12 Results Day takes place this Summer on Thursday 12th August 2021. The school will be open on that day from <u>9.30am to 11.30am</u> to allow students to collect results from the Assembly Hall. If you are unable to collect your results, they will be posted to your home address.</p>
<p>How will Exam Boards (e.g. CCEA, Pearson, OCN) be able to award GCSE/Level 2 results?</p>	<p>Year 12 students were due to sit the majority of their GCSE examinations in May/June this year. These were cancelled and Exam Boards have put in place new procedures for the awarding of results and have asked each school in the UK to submit Centre Determined Grades.</p>
<p>What is a Centre Determined Grade?</p>	<p>The school will submit Centre Determined Grades to Exam Boards. Subject teachers will use student evidence to allocate these Centre Determined Grades to students. Centre Determined Grades will be based on the evidenced standard at which each student is performing in each qualification course- their demonstrated knowledge, understanding and skills in the content they have covered.</p>
<p>Can I ask for my Centre Determined Grades now?</p>	<p>Students are currently working on producing evidence for these grades, e.g. April/May assessments. When teachers decide on the grades, they will be sent to Exam Boards first before being awarded to students in August. Guidance from the Education Minister is very clear in stating that final Centre Determined Grades must <u>not</u> be shared with students or their families by the school until Thursday 12th August.</p>
<p>Are the results I receive this August official GCSE/Level 2 results?</p>	<p>The GCSE/Level 2 results you receive on Results Day this August will be awarded by Exam Boards and are official GCSE/Level 2 results.</p>
<p>What are my options for September 2020?</p>	<p>Year 12 marks the end of formal schooling in Northern Ireland. There are several post-16 options open to Year 12 students:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Sixth Form at Breda Academy b) Sixth Form at another school c) Post-16 College (e.g. Belfast Met, People 1st, apprenticeship programme) d) Employment <p>Year 12 students have received Careers advice this year and should continue to research all suitable options.</p> <p>There is no option available to repeat Year 12 at Breda Academy.</p>
<p>What is the entry criteria for Sixth Form at Breda Academy?</p>	<p>Sixth Form admissions will take place on Results Day in the Assembly Hall. The criteria for Sixth Form entry at Breda Academy is: 5 A* - C GCSE (or Level 2 equivalent) grades and a grade C in GCSE English Language</p>