Letter No: 178/2023

20th April 2023

Dear Parents and Students,

Year 12 Threshold Exams June 2023

As we start the Summer term, we are writing to explain our policy and procedures concerning external exams and Threshold Exams for Year 12. Both sets of exams will act as the entry check for students to progress with their A-level or BTEC courses in Year 13. The information below has been set by all schools in the BSV Trust and approved by the Headteachers. Criteria and policies are the same at all three schools.

1. External Exams

There are a few external exams taking place in May and June for subjects such as AS Further Maths, Mathematical Studies and BTEC / CTEC Applied units. The results will be issued on the usual A-level results day (17th August 2023). For each external exam, students will be permitted to take the morning off school for study leave before an afternoon exam, and the afternoon off school (session 5) before a morning exam the following day. Study leave is not permitted for any retakes of exams.

2. Threshold Exams

For all other courses, there will be an internal Threshold Exam in the period 12th – 23rd June 2023. All students will have study leave between these dates, but some lessons will continue in non-examined subjects.

3. Exams for consorting subjects

In all cases, students who consort to another school for a subject will take their exam at the school which teaches them that subject unless otherwise advised.

The information on the reverse of this letter explains the progression criteria into Year 13 courses. It is also worth noting that the results achieved by students in the BTEC exams and the Threshold Exams will form the basis of our UCAS predicted grades in September, although they are not the sole evidence used to formulate these grades. Full guidance on predicted grades will be issued in September of Year 13.

I hope that this information is clear for both students and parents/carers. Please do contact us if you have any queries.

Yours sincerely,

Kate Mouncey
Director of Sixth Form

Katie Clifford
Performance Director Year 12

BSV EDUCATION TRUST
SIXTH FORM PROGRESSION CRITERIA

1. Students will be eligible to continue on their specific courses in Year 13 if they have achieved **overall 'Pass' grades (E or better in the case of A Levels) in at least three subjects**[1] **in Threshold Exams and in external modules (for vocational subjects)**.

2. In the event of failure to pass in one or more subjects, a discussion will take place with the Head of Sixth Form and Performance Director about how to support the student in deciding upon the best course of action going forward.

3. Where a student has not obtained three pass grades or better, they will be offered alternative available courses, provided that they meet the subject-specific entry criteria for those alternative courses[2]**.** Alternatively, they will be offered the opportunity to re-start Year 12 with different subject choices.

4. Additional advice and guidance will be offered to support students to reach decisions about the best course of action for them, in order to resolve any issues created by the Year 12 Threshold Exam outcomes.

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[1] *Financial Studies and Mathematical Studies (Core Maths) are one year courses and, as such, do not count towards the three-pass minimum.*

[2] *This may be achieved by adding new, academically appropriate, qualifications (provided at their home school) which, when added to subjects passed at the end of Year 12, generate sufficient total "guided learning hours" to maintain funding as a full-time student. If no level 3 courses are available (i.e. a student doesn't qualify for them), then we may offer level 2 courses, from the Key Stage 4 curriculum, to allow students to make up their "guided learning hours"*