



BEAL SIXTHFORM
BUILDING A BETTER SCHOOL FOR THE FUTURE

YEAR 12 - AS Exams

TUESDAY 20TH NOVEMBER 2018

Update on Year 12 Exams

- No AS Level Exams in May/June 2019
- Internal “Progression Exams” instead
- “Progression Exams” are important to determine which subject you drop in May 2019; which university course you can apply for in September 2019 and they will influence the predicted grade you are given by your subject teachers



University Selection Criteria

- Universities have to decide who they will make offers to in a very competitive market
- How will they choose?
- Your GCSE grades
- Your a Level predicted grades provided by subject teachers
- Your personal statement
- Your reference written by your subject teachers and your form teachers



Apprenticeships & Work

- They also have to select from competitive fields
- How will they choose?
- Your GCSE grades
- Your a Level predicted grades provided by subject teachers
- Your personal statement, or CV
- Your reference written by your subject teachers and your form teachers – we supply the same reference to all outside bodies who request a reference



Why am I still doing 4 subjects in Year 12?

- It is a very competitive market out there and many Year 12 students in the country are doing 4 subjects in Year 12
- If everyone did 3 subjects, we would have to add things like General Studies, Extended Project, Core Maths or Critical Thinking to your timetable – to make you a full-time student. You would NOT get 9 extra free periods!
- Many students at Beal change their minds about what they want to do at Uni from Year 12 to Year 13 and they end up dropping an A Level they intended to keep!



How will universities know you did 4 subjects in Year 12?

They will see this in:

- Your Personal Statement if you choose to include it
- Your reference that we write about you



Example Reference

- Introduction
- Beal High School has a truly comprehensive sixth form where students are required to study four A Levels or BTEC equivalents chosen from a wide range of courses. The school has made the decision to enter all students for AS exams in all subjects, regardless of the current curriculum developments.
- X is an outstanding student, as exemplified by the fact that they came tenth in a huge and talented cohort of two-hundred and forty students at GCSE, gaining eleven A's and A*'s in the process. At AS level, as well as having outstanding attendance, he was awarded 3 A's and came sixth in the year.



Subject Paragraphs

- In Economics, x has demonstrated, throughout the year, an excellent grasp of the subject, with his particular strength being an excellent understanding of the current wider world of economics. He then brings this further learning into the academic environment with thoughtful and considered ideas, which are just as evident in his written and spoken contributions. This hunger for knowledge was rewarded with equally strong marks in paper 1 and 2.



Subject Paragraphs

- X, in his studies of geography, has demonstrated himself to be a mature and intelligent student. He has shown an excellent grasp of key geographical concepts and can intelligently discuss and formulate his own ideas. His essays are thoughtful and perceptive, and his wider reading and independent study have resulted in written responses that are informed and coherently structured. X is a truly outstanding member of the course who is exceptionally organised and always prepared for lessons. He already possesses most of the skills a successful student needs to study at a higher level and his teachers would certainly recommend him unreservedly for any related course of study at university.



Subject Paragraphs

- X's teachers of mathematics note that he is an exemplary student with extraordinary talent. He has demonstrated his command over the subject throughout the year by achieving above 90% in almost every assessment and came “nth” in the whole cohort in his final AS Maths exam. He picks up new and complex mathematical concepts readily and confidently shares his thoughts in a class discussion with clear explanation. He also has strong algebraic and analytical skills which underpin many of the more advanced techniques that he has yet to meet.



Subject Paragraphs

- An incredibly hard-working student of history, X will always complete the work in class to the highest standard and is also very studious with his work at home, whether this is with mock exam questions or just revision. X has, throughout the year, shown his keen and obvious passion for history, and a real ability to work well independently. He has also really developed his analytical skills meaning that he is able to effectively analyse and reach justified conclusions about how accurate sources and their interpretations are. He is able to synthesise information and explain effectively why major historical events happen.



Strong End

- Beyond academia, X is a keen cricketer who has won the Jack Petchey Award for Woodford Wells Cricket Club and enjoys playing football.
- A dedicated and interesting student, we at Beal High school would, without reservation, recommend X for further study at a top level institution.



All 4 subjects are included...

- Therefore, the universities see that you studied 4 subjects in Year 12
- This sets you apart from the students of the same ability in other schools who only did 3
- This gives you a better chance in applications
- References make positive and not negative statements
- References will reflect your whole year's work and not just exam performance in the summer

