

S33 Early Examination Entry Policy

Approved by Governors Access Committee
Approved by Full Governing Body
Next Review:
Responsible:

May 2017
June 2017
June 2019
Vice Principal:
Achievements & Standards

INTRODUCTION

This policy has been written in the light of publications questioning the use of early entry (*Mathematics: Made to Measure*, DfE, 2012; *Early entry to GCSE examinations*, Ofsted, 2011) and outlines The Bushey Academy's policy on early examination entry.

Following the introduction of new, more rigorous GCSEs; students will no longer be entered early for these exams. The two year, linear format will mean that it will no longer be possible to maximize a student's outcomes where early entry takes place.; Similarly, the structure of the new style A level exams will require students to complete the two year course.

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

Studies have indicated that candidates, nationally, were being entered for exams before they were ready. Many of these were 'banking' a C grade; where their performance at Key Stage 2 would suggest that if they had continued to study the subject and taken the GCSE at the end of Year 11, they could have achieved a top grade.

Clearly, there are occasionally exceptional circumstances and any final decisions regarding early entry will be taken by the Principal. A decision will be taken on each student's individual circumstances, taking into account the professional judgement of staff and the availability of resources.