

## Re-Sit Policy for Applied Qualifications (BTEC/OCR)

At St Brendan's Sixth Form College, we are committed to supporting all students in achieving their full potential in applied qualifications such as BTECs and OCRs. This policy outlines the procedure for students who need to resit exams, either due to not achieving a passing grade or to improve their overall grade.

### Context

Applied Qualifications, and the associated exams, can take place throughout the study programme and, commonly, some are sat in the January and/or May of year 12 alongside the January of Year 13. This is to enable students to accumulate points towards their qualifications as they progress through the course as well as ensuring, unlike A-Levels where there are one set of terminal exams at the end of two years, that should they need to achieve a higher grade, they have opportunity to do so.

Students will be provided with a copy of this policy when being informed of their exam timetables.

### What happens if a student is awarded a U or Near Pass in these Unit Exams?

Students who fail or achieve a near pass in their unit exam are considered at risk of failing the course (as they are if they do not pass, or higher, their first submissions of coursework). Immediate support will be offered to improve their chances of passing. There will be an opportunity built into the programme for the student to resit their exam with exception of when exams are sat in the summer series of the final year. The conditions for requesting a resit and payment of this are laid out below:

- *Resit Conditions (Extenuating Circumstances):*  
If there are documented extenuating circumstances that affected a student's performance, the college will consider funding the resit. This is contingent upon the student demonstrating engagement with the resit preparation process.
- The student may be entered for a re-sit without initial charge on the proviso that:
  - They attend any support sessions scheduled.
  - They have attendance above 90% in the subject concerned following the result to demonstrate commitment to learning.
- If, following the College having agreed to pay for the resit, the student fails to meet the above – they will be advised of the intention to withdraw their exam entry (within the exam fee refund period).
  - If they wish to still sit the exam - they will be required to pay for the exam entry themselves and may be at risk of being removed from the course if they refuse to do so and this leads to them not completing the course.
  - Students must be aware that, in many instances, this decision will also lead to them withdrawing from College as they will not have a full programme of study\*
- If the college does not offer the additional support sessions or learning is disrupted, the college may take the decision to waive this but only in those circumstances.

## Exam Policy Appendices

### Applied Courses Exam Resits policy

- *Resit Conditions (No Extenuating Circumstances)*: In cases where there are no extenuating circumstances, such as when there is documented poor commitment to learning, without any documented and valid reasons, the student will be required to pay for the exam resit (as they would an A-Level exam).
  - Failure to do so will be considered as a decision by the student to not complete their studies and to withdraw from the course.
    - Students must be aware that, in many instances, this decision will also lead to them withdrawing from college as they will not have a full programme of study\*

*\* each student / exam is reviewed on a case by case basis by a minimum of 2 members of the College Leadership Team to establish the decisions that have to be made regarding whether a student can stay at College or not. All decisions are made in line with ESFA and awarding body rules / requirements.*

What happens if a student achieves a grade (e.g. a Pass) in a Unit exam but wishes to/needs to resit to improve this grade so to improve their overall outcomes in the course?

#### Encouraging Achievement of Higher Grades

Until 2023-24, students who have wanted to re-sit to achieve a higher grade (having already passed) have had to pay for a resit themselves. We have reviewed this policy as, for us at the College, it feels counterintuitive to not go for a higher grade if we can possibly support a young person to do so. Therefore, as of 2024-25 we are introducing the following measure:

For students in Year 13 who have the potential to achieve a higher overall grade through a resit, the college will reward their hard work and efforts by paying for the resit exam entry. The following conditions must be met:

- **The teachers of the course identify that the higher overall outcome is possible** (and realistic\*) and that the resitting of an exam is the only possible route to achieve this IE it cannot be achieved by up-and-coming coursework/future exams alone.
  - *\*The student must be within a number of UMS/Unit points (usually no more than three) of the next achievable grade and has evidenced, by way of coursework and other exams (mocks, unit tests, other unit exams etc), that they can achieve a higher grade.*
- **The student attendance must be at or above 90%\*\***
  - *\*\*Student attendance will be considered in line with any additional factors that may impact upon a student attending College. In the event a student has experienced significant issues with attendance BUT they are demonstrating they can achieve higher and are now able to engage with attending we will consider them for resit.*
- **The teachers must confirm that the student's commitment to learning has been in keeping with College expectations** and that
- **The student must agree to engage with any and all additional support and preparation for the resit.** Depending on the course/unit demands and timing this could include:
  - Attending year 12 lessons to revisit content
  - Attended Subject Grade Boost/Revision sessions
  - Submitting any additional work requested for marking/feedback/evidence of practice and preparation
- **The student must attend the resit exam.**

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The student will be required to pay for the re-sit in advance. The College will reimburse the cost of this resit upon successful completion of the above.

#### Engagement and Preparation

Engagement in resit preparation is a crucial component of the support process. This includes attending revision sessions, participating in mock exams, and completing additional assignments as required by their tutors. This is why the policy requires students to pay initially and the College will reimburse, we want to ensure you meet the expectations before committing public funds to this opportunity.

#### Consequences of Non-Engagement

Students who fail to engage with the resit preparation process will not receive a refund for the resit entry.