

Dear Parent/Carer,

We are writing to inform you of an important change to the qualifications being studied by our year 11 pupils. After analysing the End of Year 10 Exams data in detail, it is clear that the **students in the Business Studies and PE option groups** will struggle to gain good GCSE results in these subjects. This could ultimately impact on their ability to access the best provision post Year 11. After carefully reviewing the qualifications available for these two subjects, we have decided to move to the Level 2 V Cert, called Level 2 Business and Enterprise and Level 2 Health and Fitness.

The move to the Level 2 V Cert qualifications offers the following benefits:

- Level 2 V Cert grades are equivalent to the GCSE grades:
  - Distinction \* = A\*
  - Distinction = A
  - Merit = B
  - Pass = C
- Students are more likely to achieve highly on this qualification, with a high proportion achieving a Distinction \*.
- There are two opportunities to sit the external examination component with the first of these in October and second in March. This will reduce the number of exams students will take in the already crowded summer term.
- The rest of the course is assessed internally through a portfolio of evidence, built and improved upon throughout the year.
- The content of these qualifications closely matches the current courses so student learning will be unaffected.

The V Cert qualification in Health and Fitness also provides those pupils studying Core PE to achieve an additional qualification and boost their chances of securing a place at a Sixth Form or College. We have re-assigned time in the core PE lessons for students to study for this qualification.

This change has been very carefully thought about by the team here at Compass. Ultimately it will lead to better outcomes for our students so that they access the best provision post Year 11. Students can then go on to confidently reach the destinations to which they aspire.

If you would like to discuss this change or ask any questions, please contact the school to arrange a suitable time for either a phone conversation or meeting.

Yours sincerely,

Miss V Cockram  
Director of Standards