



Bungay High School...

# Requests to Drop Subjects Policy



[www.bungayhigh.co.uk](http://www.bungayhigh.co.uk)

## Opportunity and Excellence for All





# Requests to Drop Subjects Policy

The outcome of discussions is as follows:

## 1. The basic answer to all requests is 'No'.

Rather than drop a subject, the student needs to be seeking advice re:

- a) study habits,
- b) work organisation/part-time jobs/pattern of weekends etc.
- c) the advantages of, for example, the Homework Club and catch-up opportunities(e.g. Technology) on Tuesday and/or Wednesday evenings.

## 2. It should be made clear to parents that:

- all subjects are important;
- the government has placed a duty on us to provide a full and relevant curriculum;
- examination entry, therefore, is a professional choice we have to make based on the above and our duty is to act in the best interests of the student;
- all examination grades are important, all grades are worth having;
- experience and research have shown that dropping subjects does not help – in fact, rather the reverse. Very few students are able to make valuable use of their additional time;
- hence, where the Faculty wishes a student to be entered in the student's interest, the student is expected to work;
- at the moment, most students at 16+ remain in full time education or work with training. Entry to courses becomes ever more competitive and therefore having the best possible grades in the widest range of subjects is increasingly desirable. It is important that a student realizes that the comment on a national record of achievement that a subject has been dropped as the coursework was incomplete could cause embarrassment or difficulties at a job or college interview.

## 3. Disapplication:

- Exceptional conditions may apply with Special Educational Needs students or those with severe medical problems in which case the of advice Mrs Gillett/Mr Attenburrow needs to be sought, who will then consult with the Deputy Head.

## 4. Advice to staff is:

- Decline requests. Students should be given the clear message that it is not possible to drop subjects.
- If the parents wish and/or should it be appropriate, invite them in to discuss the situation with the student, Faculty and/or Year team. All issues should be discussed with the Deputy Head via your Head of Faculty.



Bungay High School...

## Requests to Drop Subjects Policy

- We cannot force a student to study. They must, however, continue with that subject and be the responsibility of the Faculty during the timetabled lesson.
- If a teacher has serious reservations about entering a student for educational or medical reasons, they should consult their Head of Faculty who will refer to the Learning Leader Year 11 and the Deputy Head. If the subject does not have a Head of Faculty, the member of staff should refer to their link Senior Leadership Team member.
- In many subjects, it is possible to enter a student for a Certificate of Achievement rather than GCSE. This should be discussed with the Deputy Head, Teaching and Learning.

March 2010