

3 June 2020

Dear Parents / Caregivers,

I hope you and your whānau are well.

We know some of our students - and their whānau - are concerned that their NCEA and/or UE results may be affected this year, because of the disruption caused by COVID-19.

To help address this and support students, NZQA are making the following changes to NCEA and University Entrance (UE) requirements **for 2020**:

- Students working towards an NCEA **can gain additional credits**, based on the number of credits they achieve during the 2020 school year. These additional credits will be known as Learning Recognition credits. For every 5 credits a student achieves towards their NCEA either through internal or external assessment, they are entitled to an additional 1 credit. Students at **NCEA Level 1** are eligible for up to a **maximum of 10 additional credits** while those at **Levels 2 and 3** are eligible for up to a **maximum of 8 additional credits**.
- Students will be **awarded a certificate endorsement if they achieve 46 credits at Merit or Excellence level**, rather than the usual 50. **Students achieving 12 credits at Merit or Excellence level in a course – rather than 14 – will be awarded a course endorsement.**
- Current **UE requirements** have been reduced from 14 to **12 credits in three UE-approved subjects**. Students still need to attain NCEA Level 3 and meet literacy and numeracy requirements to be awarded University Entrance.
- **External NCEA examinations and NZ Scholarship examinations** will now take place **from 16 November 2020 to 6 December 2020**. This will provide extra time for teaching, learning and assessment in Term 4.
- The submission date for subjects which require students to submit a portfolio (for example, Design and Visual Communications) has been extended to 12 November 2020, to give students more time to complete their portfolios.

These changes have been designed to encourage students to continue working towards their NCEA and to ensure that the NCEA attained by our school this year is just as valid as those earned in previous years.

Yours sincerely,



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**Carol Pottow MA, HDE**

**ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL BOTANY CAMPUS/PRINCIPAL'S NOMINEE**