



OUR REF : .....

TRN : 100259955100003

DATE: Friday, 1<sup>st</sup> September 2023

**To: Parents of Year Eleven Students –  
ADMISSION TO TWO YEAR A-LEVEL GCE PROGRAMME**

Dear Parents,

**Greetings from St. Mary's Catholic High School Dubai.** We invite you to read this circular very carefully as it has important information for parents regarding admission to the two year A-Level GCE Programme.

**We would like to point out very clearly, that admission to A-Level is not automatic and is a completely new process.**

**We would also like to bring to your attention that under the British system, a student completes high school with the completion of his/her O-Level. Hence the admission to A-Level is then a process of a 'NEW ADMISSION'.**

**YEAR 11 students cannot re-register for the next Academic year when this comes up for other year groups.**

The conditions for a student to be considered for a place in A-Levels are as follows.

- **SHOULD HAVE AN EXCELLENT BEHAVIOUR RECORD**
- **4 SUBJECTS TO BE OPTED FOR**
- **Admissions will be MERIT-BASED.**
- Hold a high grade **average** in all subjects ( Internal Exams ) in Year Eleven.

- Should have not had any serious or repeated disciplinary issues over Years Nine through Eleven.
- Should not have engaged in activities, in or out of school, which tarnish the reputation of the school.
- **Hold a minimum attendance record of 95%**
- **Be prepared for an entrance exam in the subject opted for that has not been taken at O-Level**

**Those students who take Arabic as a First language and Islamic Studies in A-Level will have to maintain a minimum aggregate attendance percentage of 95% for Arabic and / or Islamic Studies lessons, FAILING WHICH STUDENTS WILL NOT BE ISSUED A SCHOOL LEAVING CERTIFICATE/ATTESTED CERTIFICATES OR RECOMMENDATION LETTERS. Students who do not reflect this 95% aggregate attendance after the first month of enrollment might not be allowed to continue the A-Level programme.**

Please note that St. Mary's Catholic High School offers the GCE Advanced Levels Linear Programme which means that we DO NOT OFFER **AS LEVEL CERTIFICATION** at the end of Year 12. This is a standalone qualification and results are declared only at the end of Year 13.

The whole two year Programme has to be completed for any equivalency certification.

Please consider all the criteria above while planning ahead with the next phase in your child's educational journey. Parents should also be aware that even if all criteria are met, **competition for places remains very stiff as seats are limited** and therefore, **we strongly recommend that all parents should ensure that their children have a back-up plan. This would include applying to other institutions besides St. Mary's well in advance.**

Thank you for your kind co-operation.

Yours sincerely,



**Mr. Paul Asir Joseph**  
( Principal )

