

## **NCEA Information Evening – Questions and Answers**

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### **How many credits do you need to pass Level 1, Level 2 and Level 3?**

To gain a Level 1 qualification you need to achieve at least 80 credits, including 10 numeracy credits and 10 literacy credits.

To gain a Level 2 qualification you need to achieve 80 credits, 60 of those credits must be at Level 2 or higher – if you achieved Level 1, you may reuse 20 credits. This is done automatically.

To gain a Level 3 qualification you need to achieve 80 credits, 60 of those credits must be at Level 3 or higher – if you achieved Level 2, you may reuse 20 credits. This is done automatically.

### **What are the requirements for University Entrance?**

Students will be qualified for entrance to a university in New Zealand if they have obtained:

- NCEA Level 3
- Three subjects at Level 3, made up of 14 credits in each of three approved subjects
- Literacy – 10 credits at Level 2 or above, made up of 5 credits in reading and 5 credits in writing
- Numeracy – 10 credits at Level 1 or above

### **What are the requirements for endorsements?**

#### **Certificate endorsement**

For an NCEA certificate to be endorsed with Excellence a student must gain 50 credits at Excellence at the level of the certificate or above. Likewise, if a student gains 50 credits at Merit (or Merit and Excellence) at Level 1 their NCEA Level 1 certificate may be endorsed with Merit. Endorsement awards show on the Record of Achievement.

#### **Course endorsement**

Students will gain an endorsement for a course if, in a single school year, they achieve 14 or more credits at Merit or Excellence, with at least 3 of these credits from externally assessed standards and 3 credits from internally assessed standards. Note, this does not apply to Physical Education, Religious Studies and Level 3 Visual Arts.

### **What is Scholarship?**

Scholarship is a monetary award to recognise the most academic students. It does not attract credits nor contribute towards a qualification, but the fact that a student has gained a Scholarship appears on the Record of Achievement. The Scholarship examinations enable

students to be assessed against challenging standards, and are demanding for the most able students in each subject.

### **Is there consistency among schools when marking assessments?**

Yes, all schools participate in a moderation process. This involves sending assessed work to NZQA.

### **What is the difference between an internal assessment and an external assessment?**

External assessments are generally assessed under examination conditions at the end of the school year, the exception being portfolio subjects. External assessments are assessed by NZQA.

Internal assessments are conducted by the school during the academic year and are moderated by NZQA.

### **What if my son is sick on the day of an assessment?**

If an extension is required because of unexpected illness, a medical certificate must be supplied and the application should be made on the day the student returns to school. Failure to do so could result in a "Not Achieved" grade being awarded.

### **How do we login to the NZQA website and review our son's grades?**

If your son is in Year 12 or 13 then they will already have access to the NZQA website. If your son is in Year 11, they will be assigned their unique NSN number in May. This is the number NZQA will use for all correspondence and examinations. They can then use their NSN and their date of birth to login into the NZQA website and access their progress within the NCEA framework.

### **How can I found out when my son has assessment due?**

Due dates for internal assessments are recorded in your son's Schoolbox.