



Archbishop MacDonald Catholic High School

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November 30, 2020

Dear Archbishop MacDonald Parents & Guardians,

Please read the following Information regarding diploma examinations for the 2020-2021 school year:

- Diploma examinations for the remainder of the year are now optional. Students who do not participate in their diploma examination will automatically receive an exemption. There is no formal application process or paperwork required to qualify for an exemption.
- Students wishing to write an English or a Social diploma must participate in both parts of the examination (Part A and Part B).
- If a student elects to write a diploma examination, then their mark for that exam WILL be counted towards their final grade for the course, using the existing marks breakdown:
 - 70% school-awarded mark
 - 30% diploma examination mark**NOTE:** This is true whether the diploma mark is higher or lower than the school-awarded mark.
- Students will be asked to let their 30-level teacher(s) know if they plan to participate in their diploma examination(s) so that the school can adequately prepare for writing spaces and supervisors. However, students may opt out up until the last minute.
- Students may choose to write a diploma examination for one subject, but not for another.
- Students who DO wish to write a diploma examination should take extra care to be at school on time, and well-prepared, the day of the exam. Given the new rules, we will not be contacting late students or no-shows.
- Students are encouraged to write a diploma if any of the following applies:
 - The student wishes to improve their grade in the course, and the diploma is the only remaining assessment
 - The student has applied (or will be applying) to a post-secondary institution or faculty that requires diploma examinations be written (student services has information on some post-secondary institutions – please check their Google Classroom)

Sincerely,

Theresa Antonakis
Principal, Archbishop MacDonald

