



CRIMSON  
GLOBAL  
ACADEMY

CGA.SCHOOL

# THE *NEW* GLOBAL ONLINE HIGH SCHOOL

## CGA NEWSLETTER

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APRIL 2022

### CONTENT

Crimson Global Academy Rebrand

Executive Principal Update

Principal's Corner

Deputy Principal's Section

Technology Section

# The World is Changing, and so we have changed



**For the past 2 years, Crimson Global Academy has worked with almost 1000 students in 35 countries. We've also built an academic team consisting of the world's finest educators across 11 countries. We've been able to achieve this because of Crimson.**

The Crimson brand, the team, and our reputation for delivering student success have been huge assets as we embarked on the mission to build the school of the future. CGA would not be here today without the input of each of you, as well as the student outcomes we've worked hard to achieve over almost a decade in education.

To date, CGA has leveraged the Crimson brand, and benefited from the halo effect of our achievements. But as the saying goes - what got us here, won't get us there. As a school, we need to build our own identity that creates a platform for our community of CGA students, teachers, and families. It's important that CGA has its own unique identity, as we look to normalise online education - and compete with leading schools around the world. I'm excited to share the new CGA brand with you today.

## **THE VISION REMAINS THE SAME.**

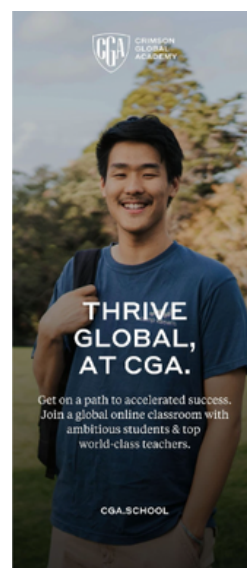
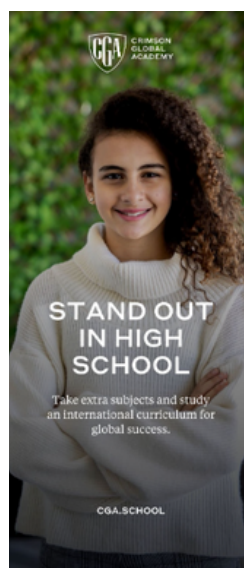
Our vision has always been to unlock high school students' potential and set them on an accelerated path toward global success. This remains unchanged. With a new look and feel we're taking a step forward in creating the world's largest premium school and building an education technology brand that will continue to challenge the status quo in education today, and tomorrow. The creative challenge was to develop a logo and identity that reflects academic tradition as well as ambitious innovation - sitting alongside iconic institutions like Stanford, Harvard and Oxford, as well as tech companies like Google, Meta, and Uber.



The creative challenge was to develop a logo and identity that reflects academic tradition as well as ambitious innovation - sitting alongside iconic institutions like Stanford, Harvard and Oxford, as well as tech companies like Google, Meta, and Uber. We've also created a way to stand out in the industry, through concentric lines that speak to time, progression, and a window of endless opportunities through CGA.



[Watch CGA's Rebrand video](#)



## AJ Tills

CHIEF MARKETING OFFICER

"We've designed a minimalistic logo, built off the shield motif and heroing 'CGA' - a term our students use to describe their educational accelerator. We'll continue to use the full name in many of our assets going forward though, with the ability to localise this across languages."



# Executive Principal Update



The exam season is upon us and with it comes stress, anxiety, burnout and the serious need to maintain a balanced approach to life. Of course, a little stress can be a good thing as it can be the motivational push that we need to get things done. And for some students, exams can be a breeze; revision is second nature to them and they could ace an exam with their eyes closed. But for others, sweaty palms and heart palpitations are just a part of the territory, and it seems that nothing is more impossible than sitting down and revising. And, with an increase of students seeking help for studies-related mental health issues, it's clear that students are under more pressure than ever before. Here are some handy tips that can dissipate stress and make sure you get through the stressful exam season.

## **1. REMEMBER TO BREATHE**

Setting aside a couple of minutes every day to practice mindfulness techniques, such as breathing exercises helps you to calm down your body's stress response and shift your attention back to the present moment.

In turn, this gives you time to rationally think through the anxieties you have, rid yourself of unhelpful thought patterns and enables you to deal with a large number of exams and begin more effective revision.

## **2. EAT, SLEEP AND EXERCISE WELL**

Pulling all-nighters, surviving on a poor diet, and getting minimal amounts of movement into your day can increase symptoms of anxiety. For your body's best performance, make sure you're getting 8/9 hours of sleep, enough slow-release carbs, less caffeine and more water, and at least half an hour of exercise per day. Even a short walk is worth it, as it is one of the quickest and most effective ways to de-stress. Fresh air will clear your head and perk you up.

## **3. SET REALISTIC GOALS**

Setting realistic goals, whether you have several weeks, days or hours before your exam, helps you to put everything into perspective. Acceptance of your situation and working within the realms of what you have maximises your productivity without the risk of burning yourself out



#### 4. DON'T GO IT ALONE, EVEN IN AN ONLINE SCHOOL!

Revising with peers is an effective study technique as it allows individuals to better absorb their own notes. Furthermore, the emotional benefits of social support tend to include a better sense of confidence and autonomy. Group study sessions with classmates can be a helpful and entertaining way of studying; however try not to compare other peoples'; revision to your own as listening to other people talk about what they've learnt can lower your confidence and may make you feel like you aren't progressing as well as them.

#### 5. PACE YOURSELF THROUGH PANIC

Panicking before, during or even after an exam is common among students. If you experience it at any point, take six deep breaths, hydrate yourself, and then go back to the problem at hand, being sure to break it down into several, manageable chunks. Remember that there is usually a rational solution to every problem, even if you can't see it at first glance.

#### 6. BELIEVE IN YOURSELF

When being constantly faced with new challenges, we often forget to look back at how far we have come and how much we have already achieved. Given that you have prepared well, there should be no reason for you to worry. Therefore, when experiencing a negative thought, try to replace it with a positive one. For example, instead of thinking; If I don't get at least an 'A' I am a failure, think; Whatever I get, I will be proud of myself and value how much I have already. You can do this!

#### 7. IF YOU FEEL LIKE YOU ARE STRUGGLING, TALK TO SOMEONE

Asking for help is never shameful. In the most extreme cases, it can help save a life. When struggling, talk to friends, family, or your teachers about how you are feeling. Alternatively, don't be afraid to seek professional help and support.

#### 8. EXAM DAY

On exam day, stay away from people who may be feeling anxious or make unhelpful comments that increase your anxiety. When you first sit down to do your exam, take time to slow your breathing and relax. Read through the exam paper carefully. Underline key words and instructions to ensure you're answering what is being asked. Work out how long you have for each question or section and stick to it. If you have time at the end you can return to complete unfinished questions. Work on the questions that you find easiest first. Allow time before the end of the exam to re-read answers and make any necessary changes.

#### 9. AVOID THE EXAM "POST-MORTEM"

You don't need to know how other people fared in the exam. You've done your best, you can't go back and change your answers so the second you step out of the exam room, focus on your next exam.

**Best wishes from all the staff at CGA.**



**John Morris, ONZM**  
Executive Principal

# Principal's Corner

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**Mark Phillips**  
Principal, CGA

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## EXAMINATION SEASON

Many of our students have started their examinations this week and we wish them well after working hard during the previous academic year.

To support their learning and maximise their revision preparation during the intensive sprint to the end of the year, students are expected in class as usual apart from the time they need to attend their examinations.

When the Pearson Edexcel examinations are completed:

## FULL TIME CLASSES

A2 classes will finish.

AS classes will start preparation for the following academic year

IG classes will start preparing for the following academic year

## PART TIME CLASSES

A2 classes will finish

AS classes will start preparation for the following academic year

IG classes will finish





### ALTERNATIVE ARRANGEMENTS (CONTINGENCY ARRANGEMENTS) TO PEARSON EDEXCEL EXAMINATIONS

There are multiple challenges (pandemic restrictions or conflict) across the globe currently that have made running examinations in many countries or specific cities impossible.

We have been working with Pearson to get clarity around any possible contingency measures. These examinations have started and I want to thank the students and staff that have invested considerable time to make these run smoothly. This process is different to the Teacher Assessed Grades that were in place in 2021. These examinations will be sent to Pearson directly and will not be marked by our teaching staff.

### RE ENROLLMENT PROCESS

We held a successful information evening for parents last week to support the decision making surrounding subject choices. The recording is available for parents who missed the evening. Contact [mycga@cga.school](mailto:mycga@cga.school).

To support our decisions around classes that we will need to supply if the re enrolment forms could be returned as soon as possible that will enable us to make early staffing decisions.

### CANCELLED OR POSTPONED CLASSES

Occasionally we need to cancel or postpone classes. Obviously missing lessons is not ideal but at times this is unavoidable for a number of reasons. Usually these are a result of staff sickness, continuing professional development or professional obligations.

For part time lessons, where the quantity of work is significant and we have less teaching time to complete the course, staff will rearrange lessons to catch up the required work with the students directly.

Students will be informed via a Canvas announcement and via email.



**Mark Phillips**  
Principal, CGA





CRIMSON  
GLOBAL  
ACADEMY

# THE WORLD IS YOUR CLASSROOM

CGA is the premium global online high school,  
where students learn from leading international  
teachers, alongside ambitious classmates from  
all over the world.

# Deputy Principal's Section

A number of parents and students seem unclear of the dates of both the Pearson examinations or our own internal examinations.

Students are advised of the examination session dates by their teachers at the start of the year, and their Crimson Classroom homepage provides access to a year calendar showing all examination session dates.

2022 Intakes also have these calendars easily visible on their Canvas homepage.

These dates are also available on the Parent Portal of the school website. If necessary parents can ask their children to show them these calendars and parents are advised of examination session dates in newsletters. If students are in more than one intake they will need to check the calendars for each intake as they are different.

Please be aware of the significance of examinations and enter these dates into your calendars. A school based examination is a critical piece of school assessment.

An examination is not a class test. Examinations have higher stakes - if your child misses an examination they may no longer be eligible for a Report Grade, an Assessed Grade or a Predicted Grade. Examinations are generally longer than tests, always invigilated, always submitted after a set time, and must always be sat within a scheduled examination timetable.

Students who miss an examination are encouraged to sit a 'late examination' to gain valuable experience and assess their learning. It is possible the results will not be included in their school report as the report might have been written.

## UPCOMING IMPORTANT EVENTS

### AORAKI AUG. 2021-22:

May 2 (Monday): Term 4 starts

May - June: External A Level, then IG, **Pearson examinations**. For Pearson Examinations follow only the instructions of your local Examination Centre. Pre-IG, IG and AS classes continue. A2 classes are on Exam leave after their last Pearson examination.

June 18 - 23: Pre-IG classes sit their End of Year **CGA Examinations**.

Prize giving Sunday 3rd July 7pm NZT, 8am BST

### AORAKI FEB. 2022:

May 2. (Monday): Term 2 starts

May 26 - June 2: Internal **CGA Examination 2**

June 16: Mid Year Reports sent to Parents.

June 20-23: Parent Teacher Meetings

### AORAKI MAY 2022:

May 2: Term 1 starts

June 1 - 8: Internal **CGA Examination 1**

June 21: Progress Reports sent to Parents.

June 27-30: Parent Teacher Meetings

### GREENWICH SEP. 2021-22:

May - June: External A Level, then IG, **Pearson examinations**. For Pearson Examinations follow only the instructions of your local Examination Centre. Pre-IG, IG and AS classes continue. A2 classes are on Exam leave after their last Pearson examination.

June 18 - 23: Pre-IG classes sit their End of Year **CGA Examinations**.

Prize giving Sunday 3rd July 7pm NZT, 8am BST

### GREENWICH JAN. 2022:

May 20- 27: Internal **CGA Examination 2**

May 30 - June 3: 1 week Mid Term Break

June 15: Mid Year Reports sent to Parents.

June 20-23: Parent Teacher Meetings

### CGA EXAMINATION LEAVE POLICY

CGA believes students will get the best examination grade possible by attending classes with their teachers, who have considerable experience in providing activities and assessments aimed at helping students reach their potential in examinations.

### FOR INTERNAL / CGA EXAMINATIONS:

There is no Examination Leave.

All classes continue at normal times.

The only exception to this is for Exam 3 for the Full Time classes as they sit 2hr examinations not in their scheduled class times.

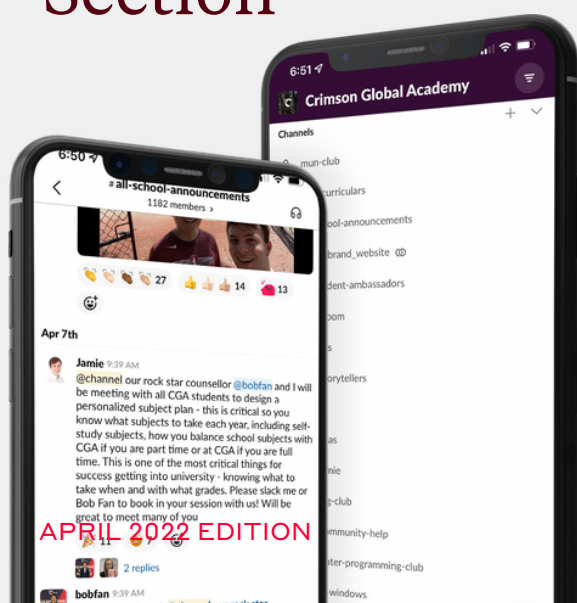
### FOR EXTERNAL PEARSON EXAMINATIONS:

There is no Examination Leave.

CGA students will attend classes, both during the weeks of the external examination session, while revising for external examinations, and after the external examinations have concluded. After students have sat their final examination for each subject they are expected to continue with classes. The only exception to this rule is that A2 classes do not need to attend that A2 class after their final external examination.



## Technology Section



Our product and technology team have been working on a number of new initiatives, the most impactful is the upcoming delivery of a parent portal. This will roll out in phases over the next 3-6 months. The goal of our parent portal is to provide information such as academic progress, upcoming work, students timetable, absence/leave requests, and contact information. Future functionality will include resources such as newsletters and club information. Release details will be communicated within the next few months.





# REIMAGINING LEARNING FOR THE FUTURE

## CRIMSON GLOBAL ACADEMY

An Independent School  
New Zealand Ministry of Education registered  
CEEB Code: 703001  
MoE School Number: 921

## CONTACT US

[admissions@cga.school](mailto:admissions@cga.school)  
[www.cga.school](http://www.cga.school)

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