

November 2020

Dear Parent and Carer

YEAR 10 PROGRESS REPORT: AUTUMN TERM

Please find enclosed your child's Autumn Progress Report. The purpose of the report is to inform you of the progress your child has been making towards the targets that have been set for them by their subject teachers. You will see on the report a target grade, a working at grade, a predicted grade and an effort grade for your child in each subject.

We encourage you to discuss this report with your child to help them prioritise the key areas for improvement. Please note that the **predicted grade** represents what teachers believe a student might achieve if they maintain their current levels of effort and progress until the end of the course. The **working at grade** is the level that the student is achieving and is based on their most recent assessments alongside an overview of the student's classwork and homework. The descriptors for the **effort** grades are listed overleaf. There is a whole school emphasis on the importance of effort and we will be recognising this through the year via our Rewards Programme.

Following the reforms all GCSE subjects are now graded using the 9 - 1 system, which has replaced the previous A* - G system. BTEC subjects are still graded using the 'Distinction*', 'Distinction', 'Merit', and 'Pass' grades. All students, at all levels, are always encouraged to better their targets wherever they can. Many schools nationally no longer use target grades and cite them as limiting aspiration. Our experience is that they can be motivational (if used carefully) and encourage students to aim high.

Can I take this opportunity to remind you of the following dates for Year 10:

Subject reports:	29 th January 2021
Parent's Evening (Format to be confirmed):	5 th May 2021
End of Year Exam Results & Full Tutor reports:	9 th July 2021

If you have any general concerns about this report or require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact your child's Tutor in the first instance.

Yours sincerely,



Peter Hudson
Vice Principal

Effort Grade Criteria

Grade 1	Outstanding commitment given to their learning. Always tries hard and perseveres when the challenge and work difficulty increases. Homework is always completed and goes well beyond the minimum that is expected. Shows a genuine interest in the subject and independently researches work and asks questions. Always well organised and prepared to learn.
Grade 2	Shows a good attitude to their learning. Homework is always completed and meets the standards expected for them. They are well organised and give high levels of effort to their learning and generally approach challenging tasks positively.
Grade 3	Their attitude to learning is inconsistent. They do not always give their best effort to learning tasks. Homework, whilst usually completed, is often not at the standard that would be expected for them or is often late. They are not always well organised.
Grade 4	Does not display a good attitude to their learning. Homework is rarely completed on time and is often not at the expected standard for them. Shows little interest in the subject and does not seek to learn independently or ask questions. Organisation is often poor.

GCSE Guidance – Numerical (new) grade system vs. letter (old) grade system

New grading structure	Current grading structure
9	
8	A*
7	A
6	B
⑤ STRONG PASS	
④ STANDARD PASS	C
3	D
2	E
1	F
	G
U	U

Notes:

- The old and new GCSE grading scales do not directly compare but there are three points where they align, as the diagram shows:
 - The bottom of grade 7 is aligned with the bottom of grade A (20% of students will achieve a 7 or higher nationally);
 - The bottom of grade 4 is aligned with the bottom of grade C; and
 - The bottom of grade 1 is aligned with the bottom of grade G
- A grade 9 is recognised as being more difficult to achieve than an A*. Only 2-4% of students will achieve a '9' in each subject.
- The Department for Education recognises grade 4 and above as a 'standard pass'; this is the minimum level that students need to reach in English and Maths, otherwise they will need to continue to study these subjects as part of their post-16 education. There is no re-take requirement for other subjects.
- As with current GCSEs, if a student doesn't do well enough to meet the minimum GCSE standard, they will be awarded a U.
- Students who are awarded a grade 1 or a U grade in English or Maths will complete a 'Step Up to English Maths' qualification.