

## **Changes To The Way We Assess Your Child**

You may be aware that there have been national changes to the way that students are assessed in school. This is explained below.

### **What has changed?**

GCSEs have changed and are no longer graded A\*-G. These grades have been replaced by the numbers 9-1. In Key Stage 3 (years 7-9) progress levels e.g 4a, 4b, 4c have also gone.

### **What assessment scheme will we be using across the academy?**

Students in KS3 and KS4 will now receive targets and marks on a scale from 9-1.

The only exception to this is for students who are currently in Year 11. Current Year 11 students will receive the old A\*-G grades for all subjects other than English and maths. For English and maths, they will also be graded on the new system of 9-1.

Students in Year 12 and 13 will see no change and will still be marked using A-level grades A\*-E.

### **What does 1-9 mean?**

You can gain a rough idea of what the new numbers mean in the conversion grid below

<b>New Number</b>	<b>Old Grade Equivalent</b>
9	A*
8	High A/ Low A*
7	A
6	B
5	Low B/ Upper C
4	Mid/ Low C
3	D
2	E/Upper F
1	Mid F/G

### **What will my child's target look like?**

The target that your child will be given will be the number (9-1) that they should be aiming for at the end of Year 11. We use KS2 SATs data to work this out. Because it is their year 11 target, the target will remain the same for every year that they study here from 7-11.

The target that they will be given will generally be one number higher than the minimum expected outcome, to encourage them to challenge themselves.

e.g Daniel's KS2 SATs results show us that he ought to be able to get a minimum of a 4 in year 11. His target will therefore be a 5 because we want him to aim higher than the minimum. Daniel's target will be 5 when he starts in year 7 and will remain 5 every year until he reaches the end of year 11.

### **How will I know if my child is making progress?**

We will use specific age related 9-1 criteria for marking within each year group. The criteria explains what a child needs to do at their age to be on track for his/her Year 11 target.

For a child to be making progress he/she must be achieving either their aspirational target number or one number below (minimum expected progress).

e.g

Daniel's aspirational target for the end of year 11 is a 5. He starts in year 7 and his target is therefore a 5. To be making progress, Daniel must get a minimum of a 4 on the year 7 marking criteria. Ideally he would be achieving his aspirational target of a 5 on the year 7 marking criteria.

Daniel completes year 7 and moves into year 8. His aspirational target remains a 5. To be making progress, Daniel must now get a minimum of a 4 on the year 8 marking criteria. Ideally he would be achieving his aspirational target of a 5 on the year 8 marking criteria.

We will use colours to help you know whether your child is making good progress:

<b>Purple</b>	Meeting or above aspirational target
<b>Green</b>	One level below aspirational target but making minimum expected progress
<b>Amber</b>	Just below expected progress (1 level below)
<b>Red</b>	Significantly below expected progress (2 or more levels below)

### **How can I find out what my child's targets are and how he/she is progressing towards this?**

You will be sent a report 3 times a year which will include this information. However, you can access this information more frequently in the following ways:

- Through the parent portal
- By asking your child
- By looking at the front of your child's work books
- By contacting your child's Head of Pastoral or advisor

**What if I have questions or want to know more?**

I hope that this document enables you to better understand the new assessment framework and that it will enable you to support your child in ensuring that they are on track to achieve their full potential.

If you have further questions or would like to know more, please contact the school.