



Dear Parent/Carer

This letter is to inform you of the flightpath system used to assess students in year 7 & 8.

Target Setting

As you may be aware, from September 2014, the Department for Education (DfE) removed the National Curriculum levels from all school assessments. They have therefore given schools the freedom to develop and create an individualised way of showing student progress. Below is the process we have used to generate target grades for students in years 7 & 8.

- Students in year 7 & 8 arrive with three SAT scores - English – Reading, English - GPVS (Grammar, Punctuation, Vocabulary & Spelling) & Maths.
- These scores are used to set targets for students in year 7 & 8.
For English, an average of the Reading & GPVS SAT scores are used to set target grades.
For Maths the maths SAT scores are used to set target grades.
For all other subjects, an average of all three SAT scores are used to set target grades.
- Targets are set to ensure that the year group achieve above the national average.

What is the main change?

- No more National Curriculum levels will be published for any subject. The school will assess students using Flightpaths

What is a Flightpath?

- Rather than reporting the new 9-1 GCSE grades, in years 7 & 8 students are given an expected flightpath. A flightpath is a range of knowledge, skills and understanding that a student needs to develop to be making expected progress. Flightpaths range from 1 to 5, with 5 being highest. A Flightpath 5 would therefore cover the most challenging range of knowledge skills and understanding for each subject.
- The flightpath is related to the 9-1 GCSE grades as shown below.

Flight Path	New 9-1 Grade
5	9
	8
	7
4	6
	5
3	4
	3
2	2
1	1

- Every student in year 7 and 8 will receive a target grade & related flightpath. Students will record these on stickers for each subject on their books and folders by October half term.
- Reports to students and parents will show the assessed flightpath. This shows what the student is achieving based on current assessments **and** the class teacher's professional judgement. The report indicates if a student is Above Target, On Target or Below Target for all subjects related to their expected flightpath.



How do I know if my child is progressing?

- School reports will indicate if your child is Above Target, On Target or Below Target for all subjects. This shows how well your child is progressing and provides vital information about subject success or possible subject underachievement.
- For year 8 students, in some cases the expected flightpath may have changed since last year. This is because the flightpaths are now based on the new aspirational target grades, rather than the minimum expected grades that were used last year.

Reports & Parents Evening

Below are the dates for this year's reports and parents evenings this year.

Year 7

Year 7 Report (Attitude to Learning grades only)	Tuesday 10 th October
Year 7 Pastoral Evening	Thursday 12 th October 4-7pm
Year 7 Autumn Report	Tuesday 5 th December
Year 7 Parents Evening	Thursday 7 th December 4-7pm
Year 7 Spring Report	Tuesday 13 th March
Year 7 Summer Report	Tuesday 12 th June
Year 7 Parents Evening	Thursday 14 th June 4-7pm

Year 8

Year 8 Autumn Report	Tuesday 12 th December
Year 8 Parents Evening	Thursday 14 th December 4-7pm
Year 8 Options Evening	Thursday 8 th February 6-8pm
Year 8 Spring Report	Tuesday 6 th March
Year 8 Parents Evening	Thursday 8 th March 4-7pm
Year 8 Summer Report	Tuesday 19 th June

Please use all of this information to further support your child. Should you have any immediate questions regarding this report please feel free to contact the relevant subject teacher or subject leader. Broader concerns should be addressed to your child's mentor or Head of Year.

Yours sincerely

Mr W Holland
Deputy Headteacher