

Questions from the Assessment and Reporting Evening – Tue 28 Nov 23

Below are the responses to questions posed by families at the Assessment and Reporting Evening that pertain to assessment and reporting.

- 1. If a pupil is assigned a prior attainment band 2b, is there scope for them to move up a band, so that predicted GCSE grades are an 8 or 9?**

There is no scope for pupils to change attainment band as the pupils' scaled score attained at the end of KS2 determine this. However, there is scope to increase a pupils' target grade. In the event that the school changes a pupils' target grade, we will use a collection of data and professional judgement to inform our decision. We will also inform the pupil and their parent/ carer of the decision.

- 2. If my child is in a particular attainment band, does this mean that the expectation is that they should only achieve the expected grades according to the school's flight path?**

No. The GCSE grades we expect pupils to achieve is our minimum expectation.

- 3. Do pupils know what percentage threshold they should meet to be considered 'On track' based on their prior attainment band?**

As part of our ongoing work with our pupils, we will be building in key opportunities for pupils to engage with their reports in a meaningful way. This includes pupils understanding the new reporting system at Key Stage 3, as well as information on attainment bands, target grades etc.

- 4. Do teachers know what percentage thresholds pupils should meet to be considered 'On track' based on a pupils' prior attainment band?**

Yes. CPD has been provided to staff regarding our new reporting system reporting including the pupils' starting point.

5. Will the new report provide more details or targets so parents/ carers know which aspects of their child's learning requires improvement?

No. At Parents' Evening, more details will be shared with pupils and families on how to support your child by their class teacher. However, here are some tangible examples of things you could do to support your child/ gain an insight into what your child is doing well and/ or needs to improve:

- *Ask your child about the verbal feedback provided by teachers in lessons on pieces of work/ tasks completed*
- *Look through their exercise books or assessment folders (if they have them as some departments use them) for written feedback*
- *Check the Cover to Cover learning tasks set as the teacher may set particular tasks to address common class misconceptions*

6. What are the assessment grade ranges of each band?

*The assessment threshold ranges for each band will vary between year groups. This is because each year group has a different amount of pupils that are assigned within each prior attainment band. Each department's range of test scores is segmented, similar to grade boundary thresholds, **to proportionally represent the number of pupils within each prior attainment band of the cohort.***

*In order for a pupil to **maintain expected progression or be considered 'On track'** on their flightpath, pupils' test scores must be within the range of scores allocated to their prior attainment band. This will also therefore vary from subject to subject.*

7. If we want predicted grades, can we ask for them? Some people will find them useful.

We have found from recent experiences predicted grades have not been useful. For pupils in Year 11 that will soon require predicted grades for college/ sixth form applications, teachers will provide their target grade.

8. How is this new report and assessment system going to affect the SEND cohort?

The new report and assessment system will not affect the SEND cohort. Pupils have the opportunity to achieve to the expected floor standard; 'On track' and achieve beyond where we would expect based on their Key Stage 2 scaled scores.

9. On the December report, will the progress indicator be determined by tests or teacher judgement?

The progress indicator will be determined by tests conducted throughout the autumn term, which will differ in number for each subject. For this reason, the average test score achieved within each subject's summative assessment will support in determining the progress indicator a pupil will be awarded.

10. How do you keep a child motivated if their results are below or significantly below expected?

Pastoral care is at the heart of what we do as a school. As such, we strongly believe that through the relationships fostered between teachers, form tutors, Heads of Year and pupils, along with robust pedagogical practice and our professional knowledge of what pupils need to do to improve; we will be able to provide the right pastoral care and academic support, thus increasing the chances of academic success in the future.

11. Children were assessed solely in maths, reading and writing at Key Stage (KS) 2. How do you ensure your expected outcomes for other subjects, (Science, Art, Music, History, etc) are ambitious? There is no prior attainment for these subjects.

There are a number of subjects that were not tested at KS2. However, our KS4 target for an individual pupil can be reviewed particularly in response to pupils that show an aptitude in one of the disciplines where we believe the pupil may benefit from their KS4 target being increased. Please be advised that this decision will be based on our professional judgement as well as pupil data available to the school over a sustained period.