



22<sup>nd</sup> February 2019

Dear Parents,

## What is in the report?

There are grades which show the engagement and behaviour your child is displaying in class.

The grades are: A Always good, B Usually good, C Some concerns, D Unacceptable

There is also a grade for homework, which tells you how well your child is doing in this aspect of their GCSE course. These grades are again A to D, A being up to date and of a very good standard to D being work missing and the work that has been submitted is of a poor quality.

The working at grade tells you the level your child is currently working at: GCSE grades are from 9-1 and Btec grades are Distinction, Merit, Pass, Level 1 and Fail.

Core PE, due to the fact that it is not examined, have only reported on effort and behaviour.

We have set a target for your child that we hope they will achieve in their GCSE examinations. This target is based on their prior achievement with an element of challenge added. We think your child should be capable of reaching it with effort and determination.

It should be noted that all targets are end of Key Stage targets, i.e. end of year 11.

We have tried to give you a better sense of how your child is progressing by using a traffic light system. It is very important that you understand the rationale behind the colours used.

A **green** colour says your child is likely to perform above their target by the end of the course.

A **yellow** colour says your child is likely to meet their target by the end of the course.

A **red** colour says your child is not progressing as expected and could underachieve.

Since the targets we have set are challenging for students a **yellow traffic light would suggest that they are doing well on their course**. This report should be mainly yellow as your son/ daughter's courses still have over a year to go to the examinations.

The information contained in your child's report will be used to form the basis of discussions between your child and their tutor regarding the level of progress being made. Parents are invited to contact their son/daughter's tutor if there are any issues they wish to be discussed.

## What should I do with the report?

If your child has any C or D grades for effort, behaviour or homework talk about the reasons behind this. Use the report to have a meaningful discussion about your son/ daughter's progress. If your child has a range of red colours, then you need to talk through the reasons why they are not progressing as well as they might. This is particularly important as this is the start of their courses.

### What about attendance?

The Department of Education have produced startling evidence about the impact of absence on grades. A percentage of below 93% attendance has been shown to lower the performance of students by 1 grade in all subjects. Take a look at your child's performance. If they have attended less than 93%, their attendance could be affecting their progress.

Yours faithfully,

*S R Watson*

Stephen Watson  
Senior Assistant Head (Student Progress)

