



## New Leventhorpe Levels

We are changing our internal system to assess, report, track and monitor student progress.

### **Why?**

- New GCSE's are being phased in from 2017. Grades 9-1 will replace A\*-G
- The National Curriculum levels used at Key Stage 3 have become outdated. We no longer have to report National Curriculum outcomes in Year 9, primary schools are moving away from using National Curriculum Levels, so the language of National Curriculum levels is becoming less relevant.
- National Curriculum levels were difficult to compare across subjects, in this respect it was hard for students, tutors and parents to know where students were doing relatively well, and where they were performing less well.
- A system that assesses using a number system 9-1 from Year 7 through to Year 11 would help track progress across all years up to GCSE.

### **What have we done?**

- The academic year 2015-16 was used to research assessment across a wide range of primary and secondary schools.
- The school set up a staff working party to develop principles and a model for assessment. Ideas were explored with senior staff from other Hertfordshire schools.
- The model was shared with Faculty Heads who have led development work on what and how to assess in their subject areas.
- Rollout of the new system is taking place in the academic year 2016-17.

### **Day to day Assessment**

Faculties will continue to assess and mark classwork and homework in accordance with our marking policy. The new levels will be used for reporting home by all subjects from October 2016. Some faculties have developed new assessment systems to use the new levels in day to marking, others are working towards this and using a conversion of established assessment systems as an interim measure.

Day to day marking and feedback remain the most frequent and informative methods used by staff to assess progress.

### **Interim and Summative Reports**

Grades given via Go4Schools will use the new system for targets and current working grades. In Years 10 and 11 we will continue to use the appropriate GCSE grades as the changes to new GCSE come in across different subjects.

### **What does the new system look like?**

- Number grades 9-1 will be split into three sub-grades, e.g. 3:1, 3:2, 3:3 etc.
- Students making good progress will improve by one whole number grade per year.

## Expected Progress Paths for Students

### Based on Key Stage 2 Tests

	<i>End of Year 7</i>	<i>End of Year 8</i>	<i>End of Year 9</i>	<i>End of Year 10</i>	<i>End of Year 11</i>
<b>Steve</b>	4:2	5:2	6:2	Grade 7	Grades 8 and 9
<b>Sarah</b>	3:2	4:2	5:2	Grades 5 and 6	Grades 6 and 7
<b>Doris</b>	2:2	3:2	4:2	Grades 4 and 5	Grades 5 and 6
<b>David</b>	1:3	2:3	3:2	Grades 3 and 4	Grade 4

Students will be set targets based on their performance in Key Stage 2 tests. These have been modelled to set realistic challenging targets for the end of Year 11 based on the performance of different types of student on entry to secondary school. The targets have then been worked backwards to Year 7 to show how we expect students to progress as they go through each year of secondary school.

In reality students change significantly during the five years of secondary school and we expect teachers to adapt initial targets to continue to provide stretch and challenge for students. This is particularly true in practical subjects like PE, Drama, Music, Art and Technology where teachers will set new targets based on assessments in the first half term of each year.

We know from experience and our belief in Growth Mind-set pedagogy that students can develop very quickly. Some of our David's will perform like Steve's by the end of Year 11. We have high aspirations for the achievement of all students.

The new grades should help students and parents identify where they are performing well and which subjects aren't going so well. The new system is being applied with a principle of consistency across subjects. We are working hard to ensure that a Year 7 3:1 is broadly equivalent across all subjects. In this way if a student gets 3:2 in two subjects, 2:2 in two others and 3:1 in everything else, then we are confident that this reflects their actual strengths and areas for development.

### **Go4Schools**

We use website called Go4Schools to track and monitor key assessments. This website has parental access for interim and summative reports.

Parents will see latest assessments and targets for the end of the year. It is important to remember that progress towards an end of year target needs to consider the timing of the report. A student in term one is likely to be a whole grade or perhaps two sub-levels off target. For example in October a student with a target of 3:2 for the end of the year might be on 2:2, or 2:3. This would be typical given we expect one whole grade improvement over the year. By March if they were on 3:1, this would show they are on track to meet their target. In the final report of the year in June if they achieved 3:2 this would be good progress over the year. We hope that students will achieve or exceed their targets, we should celebrate performance in excess of the end year target as it shows excellent progress.

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