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2nd November 2016

Year 11 Progress Report 2016

Dear Parent

I am pleased to share with you your son/daughters first progress report of the new academic year.

The report is based around the progress that your son/daughter is making in each subject by comparing them to students nationally with similar starting points.

On the reverse side of this letter you will find key terminology to help you understand the Progress Report. There has been a slight tweak with the language used especially in the attitudes to learning section so please read the supporting documentation carefully in order to fully understand the report.

Can I please ask that you take the time and read through the Progress Report with your child and discuss any concerning issues.

After every Progress Report is published, your child will be expected to declare actions that s/he will take to further improve their progress in the coming weeks. Tutors oversee this work and students record their actions in the Planner.

We are very keen for parents to support their child in this process of reflecting on evidence given in the Progress Report and agreeing actions for the coming weeks. To help parents in having this progress discussion, we have included a selection of possible actions that may be useful to your child as s/he considers areas where performance could be further strengthened.

If you have any initial questions or concerns can I ask that, in the first instance, you contact the Achievement Director in charge of their house and they will gather any relevant information and respond to you.

Mr S Sagar: Lacerta & Delphinus
Mr A Smithson: Aquila & Corvus
Mr S Clarke: Tucana & Pavo

Can I take this opportunity to remind you about the following key dates:

- School closes on Wednesday 16th November 2016 at 12:30pm.
- Year 11 Parent Consultation Evening on Thursday 17th November 2016.
- School INSET day (No students in school) on Tuesday 22nd November 2016.
- Sixth Form Open Evening is on Thursday 23rd November 2016
- Mock Exams beginning on Thursday 5th December 2016.

Thank you in advance for your support.

Yours sincerely

M Harwood

Mr M Harwood
Assistant Principal for Curriculum & Progress

Key Terminology

Starting points

A student's starting point in all subjects other than English and Maths is the average of the levels achieved in English and Maths. So a student who has achieved a 4A in English and a 5B in Maths will have a starting point of 5C.

Below Expected Progress

This year 'below expected progress' will equate to 3 levels of progress between the end of Key Stage 2 and the end of Key Stage 4. For the new progress measures across the country and to ensure that students are pushed to achieve better than students nationally we have raised the bar and are encouraging students to aim high to achieve 4 levels of progress.

Expected Progress

This year 'expected progress' will equate to 4 levels of progress between the end of Key Stage 2 and the end of Key Stage 4. This is different from last year where expected progress was 3 levels of progress. For example, a student with a starting point of 4B would be expected to progress to reach at least a grade B at GCSE. *See below for progress matrix*

Better Than Expected Progress

This year 'better than expected progress' will equate to 5 levels of progress between the end of Key Stage 2 and the end of Key Stage 4. This is different from last year where expected progress was 4 levels of progress. For example, a student with a starting point of 5B would be expected to progress to reach at least a grade A* at GCSE. *See below for progress matrix*

Corridor of Achievement

The area between Expected Progress and Better Than Expected Progress. As student progress is not linear the expectation is that, at each progress tracking point (PTP), students will be registering levels/grades within the corridor of achievement.

Progress Matrix for KS4

		GCSE grade									
		no KS4 result	U	G	F	E	D	C	B	A	A*
KS2 test level	No prior available	Expected progress not made	Expected progress not made	Not included	Not included	Not included	Not included	Not included	Expected progress not made	Expected Progress made	Better Than Exp prog made
	W	Expected progress not made	Expected progress not made	Expected progress not made	Expected Progress made	Better Than Exp prog made	Better Than Exp prog made	Better Than Exp prog made	Better Than Exp prog made	Better Than Exp prog made	Better Than Exp prog made
	1	Expected progress not made	Expected progress not made	Expected progress not made	Expected progress not made	Expected Progress made	Better Than Exp prog made	Better Than Exp prog made	Better Than Exp prog made	Better Than Exp prog made	Better Than Exp prog made
	2	Expected progress not made	Expected progress not made	Expected progress not made	Expected progress not made	Expected progress not made	Expected Progress made	Better Than Exp prog made	Better Than Exp prog made	Better Than Exp prog made	Better Than Exp prog made
	3	Expected progress not made	Expected progress not made	Expected progress not made	Expected progress not made	Expected Progress not made	Expected progress not made	Expected Progress made	Better Than Exp prog made	Better Than Exp prog made	Better Than Exp prog made
	4	Expected progress not made	Expected progress not made	Expected progress not made	Expected progress not made	Expected Progress not made	Expected progress not made	Expected progress not made	Expected Progress made	Better Than Exp prog made	Better Than Exp prog made
	5	Expected progress not made	Expected progress not made	Expected progress not made	Expected progress not made	Expected Progress not made	Expected progress not made	Expected progress not made	Expected progress not made	Expected Progress made	Better Than Exp prog made
	6	Expected progress not made	Expected progress not made	Expected progress not made	Expected progress not made	Expected Progress not made	Expected progress not made	Expected progress not made	Expected progress not made	Expected Progress made	Better Than Exp prog made

Maths and English New Grading System

In the summer 2017 when your child picks up his/her examination results, the Maths and English certificates will contain the new number grading system (9-1). All other subjects will be awarded in the old style (A* - G)

The table below shows you roughly how the old system converts to the new.

Old Grading System	Description	New Grading System
A*+	Secure A* (Top end)	9
A*	Grade A*	8
A	Grade A	7
B/B+	Mid to Strong Grade B	6
C+/B-	Strong C to Weak B	5
C-/C	Weak to Mid C	4
D	Grade D	3
E	Grade E	2
F/G	Grade F or G	1
U	Unclassified	U

On the progress report for Maths and English both the old and the new grading system is given to give you a sense of how well your son/daughter is doing. For example Maths (C and 5) would indicate that s/he was a secure grade C.

Making effective use of your child's Progress Report

These prompts are also available to our website.

Progress in English and Maths

- Discussion around your child's current progress: is s/he currently on track to make expected or better than expected progress ... or is s/he falling short? Why is that?
- What is going well and what requires improvement in this core subject?
- What practical and specific actions can be taken to improve progress in this core subject?

Progress in other subjects

- Discussion as above

Punctuality

- I will get to school by 8.30 am each day
- I will arrive promptly at each lesson so I am ready to start work
- I will get up at 7 am so I am not so rushed in getting to school

Attendance

- I will make every effort to attend school each day
- I am aiming for full attendance over the next month

Organisational skills – bringing what's needed to lessons

- I will check and pack my bag the night before school, so I know I have homework ready to hand in and books for the day
- I will buy new pens and pencils and keep a sensibly-stocked pencil case
- I will get all equipment and organiser out promptly at the start of each lesson
- Having completed a piece of homework in a subject, I will spend ten minutes checking it.

Catching up on missed work

- I will make a list of work I missed owing to my absence in
- I will find out which work I am still missing in
- I will borrow 's notes to help me get up-to-date in

Listening in class

- I will listen more closely to what is said in (subject)

- When the teacher is speaking I will be checking that I understand what is being said

Responding in class

- I will ask and/or answer in class at least three times a day
- In I will use questions to check my understanding
- I will speak in a 'loud and proud' voice in the classroom so that other students can learn from what I am asking or saying

Work partner in class

- I work well withand will talk to him/her about my work in
- I will avoid distracting other people from their work
- I will avoid sitting with or..... in class

Extending my academic skills

- I will extend my work in by thinking about
- An interesting part of my work in is..... I will now find out about the following
- An academic skill I will develop in the next few weeks is

Use of my Planner

- I will enter all set homework clearly into my organiser or ensure I have the MILK app on my phone, including hand-in date
- As I sit down to start homework I will check what is to be done that night and which section of longer assignments I need to work on.

Drafting/preparing work

- I will spend the first ten minutes of each day's homework checking what I have to do and setting a time allocation for each piece of work
- In I will spend ten minutes planning the shape of my answer before I start to write it up
- In I will plan paragraphs of content before I start to write it up
- I will brainstorm lists of ideas and then group them together before I start to write up work
- I will use spider diagrams or mind maps to link ideas together

Adding more detail to work

- In I will give an example to illustrate each major point I make
- In..... I will comment on why the example I have given is a useful one
- I will find one extra book or website to consult for my work in

Homework – time spent on

- I will spend hours on homework on four nights per week. I will also do..... hours homework at the weekend
- In I will spend an extra half hour on work every Wednesday
- For the next two weeks I will log the time spent on homework

Homework – organisational skills

- I will work in a place without distractions
- I will break longer assignments into four separate tasks and enter them in my Planner as such.
- For longer assignments in I will spend two sessions planning and two sessions writing up

Revision strategies

- I will revise for forty minutes, break for twenty minutes, then spend ten minutes testing myself on my learning
- I will record answers to past questions on to computer/phone, then check for gaps using my notes
- I will spend one session per week looking at exam terms such as "Explain" "Comment upon", "Factorise", "Evaluate"
- I will keep my revision interesting by making notes such as, "Ten key words from this topic are...." or "The six things I will remember about this topic forever are...."

Revision – organisational skills

- I will draw up a revision timetable six weeks before my exams, and show it to my Form Tutor
- I will have a copy of my revision timetable in my Organiser and one up at home.