

October 2018

Dear Parents/Guardians

Year 11 Term 1 Report

Please find enclosed a copy of your son/ daughter's report for Term 1. This report includes a target grade, current grade and progress towards target indicator for each subject. The following guide to the information contained on this report is aimed to help you to understand it better.

For your information, the mock examinations for Year 11 will be taking place after Christmas (9 to 23 January 2019). A full timetable will be sent out in due course.

Parents and students have started to ask us about the dates of the GCSEs examinations. The full exam period is Monday 13 May through to Wednesday 26 June. Wednesday 26 June has been designated as a contingency day, in order to provide a space for exams to be rescheduled in the unlikely event of a national incident preventing large numbers of students sitting them on the scheduled day. We have been advised that all students must be available to take examinations each day up to and including Wednesday 26 June - so please do not book any time away before Thursday 27 June. The examination schedule does indicate that all our students should, all being well, be finished before Friday 21 June and Prom has been scheduled for that day.

If you are still unsure what the reports tells you about your child's progress, please contact his/ her tutor.

Yours faithfully



Dr E J Newbold
Deputy Headteacher

GILLOTTS SCHOOL
GILLOTTS LANE
HENLEY ON THAMES
OXON
RG9 1PS

T 01491 574315
E office.4055@gillotts.oxon.sch.uk

GCSEs

Using the new 9-1 or U grading scale

It is important that you are aware that Year 11 are being taught new GCSE specifications in all subjects. These involve different subject content to the previous specifications and also a new grading scale. This is based on a numerical scale from 9-1 (9 is the highest grade possible). Students who do not achieve a '1' pass will be ungraded (U).

It is also important to note that the benchmark for a 'good pass' on this new scale will be a '5'. This is equivalent to a B/C grade on the old scale and so will be slightly more challenging to achieve than the previous benchmark of a 'C' grade. Students who achieve a grade '7' on the new scale will have achieved a grade which is equivalent to the current 'A' grade. The highest grades (8 & 9) are equivalent to an A*.

Target Grade

The table below shows the minimum target which your child should be aiming for (based on their average end of KS2 level in English and maths) on the new (9-1) grading scale. It shows an 'expected' target grade which they would need to achieve if they are to make the expected level of progress nationally and an 'aspirational' target which we believe that your child should really be aiming for, bearing in mind the success we have had as a school over the past few years.

This data is taken into account by your child's teachers when setting targets for each subject (which are shown on your child's report).

Average End of KS2 Level (English & maths)	Expected Target at GCSE	Aspirational Target at GCSE
6	9	9
5	7	8 or 9
4	5	6
3	3	5
2	2	3
Below L2	1	2

Current Grade

The current grade reflects the overall GCSE grade closest to your child's current work based on all available information, including formal assessments. Over the Key Stage, the current grade should move closer to the target grade.

By this time in Year 11 we would expect students to be within one grade of their target.

BTEC qualification**BTEC Child's Play**

Level	Grade	GCSE grade equivalent
2	D (Distinction)	7
2	M (Merit)	6
2	P (Pass)	5
1	LIP (Level 1 Pass)	3
Ungraded	U (Ungraded)	U

It should be noted that the BTEC grade is based on the units which students have completed up until this point of the course, including the external exam where it has been taken. It should be taken as an indication of the quality of work which they have produced rather than a final grade.

Progress Towards Target Indicator

The 'Progress Towards Target' (PTT) indicator is included to ensure that you are clear about whether your child is making progress in relation to his or her end of Year 11 target. The table below shows how the PTT indicator is defined:

PTT Indicator	Level of Progress	Definition
+	Making better than expected progress	The student is expected to exceed the current end of Year 11 target.
=	Making expected progress	The student is working towards meeting the current end of Year 11 target.
-	Making less than expected progress	The student is underachieving and will not meet the current end of Year 11 target.

The Progress Towards Target indicator is the measured on the same scale for all qualifications.