

Dear Parents/Carers

### Changes to Assessment Grades for years 7 and 8.

From September 2018 all students will be assessed using a numerical GCSE 1-9 grading system which will be used to track progress against GCSE outcomes. This system was used last summer by the examining boards to grade GCSE students in Maths and English and will be used this summer for almost all other GCSE subjects.

The new assessment grading system will divide each GCSE grade into 3 sub values as can be seen below.

### GCSE Grades 1 to 9

| New 1-9 GCSE              |            |             |             |             |    |   |    |    |   |    |    |   |    |    |   |    |    |   |    |    |   |    |    |   |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|---------------------------|------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|----|---|----|----|---|----|----|---|----|----|---|----|----|---|----|----|---|----|----|---|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| P1                        | P2         | P3          | P4          | P5          | 1- | 1 | 1+ | 2- | 2 | 2+ | 3- | 3 | 3+ | 4- | 4 | 4+ | 5- | 5 | 5+ | 6- | 6 | 6+ | 7- | 7 | 7+ | 8- | 8  | 8+ | 9- | 9  | 9+ |
| NC Level N                | NC Level 2 | NC Level 3c | NC Level 3b | NC Level 3a | G  | F | F  | E  | E | E  | D  | D | D  | C  | C | C  | C  | B | B  | B  | B | B  | A  | A | A  | A  | A* | A* | A* | A* | A* |
| Old GCSE Grade Equivalent |            |             |             |             |    |   |    |    |   |    |    |   |    |    |   |    |    |   |    |    |   |    |    |   |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |

In the context of a child working at a GCSE grade 5:

- 5- (emerging) where the student is achieving this grade but not securely
- 5 (secure) where the student is comfortably achieving this grade
- 5 + (excelling) where the student is at the top of the grade and is close to achieving the grade above

Those students who are not yet working at a GCSE grade 1 will be awarded grades P1-5 in this grading system.

The changes in the curriculum across years 7-9 now lead to what is essentially a 5 year GCSE course for students and we feel that this change will enable both students and parents/carers to track progress as they move through their secondary school years to the important conclusion at the end of year 11.

Please do contact me if you have any queries or concerns regarding this change to assessment grading.

Your sincerely

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