

Assessment at GCSE

The new GCSE grading

From 2017 new GCSE grades have been introduced. In Summer 2017 the new grading system was only implemented for English Language, Literature and Maths. From Summer 2018 further subjects will be reported using the new numerical system. By Summer of 2019 (when your child takes GCSEs), all subjects will be using the numerical grades.

New grading structure	Current grading structure
9	
8	A*
7	A
6	B
5 STRONG PASS	
4 STANDARD PASS	C
3	D
2	E
1	F
	G
U	U

The new GCSE grading system ranges from Grade 1 to Grade 9 with 9 being the highest grade which is above the previous A* grade. This highest grade is for “exceptional performance” and is equivalent to current good A level standard.

Currently sixth form colleges are considering a Grade 4 to be the equivalent to a standard C grade. However some sixth form colleges are expecting students to gain Grade 5 (a strong pass) in order to satisfy the A level entry requirements.

The assessments in the new GCSE courses are mainly by exams at the end of Year 11 and the content is considered to be more demanding.

Our New Grading System

On entry to the school we look at the scaled scores which each child achieves at the end of Year 6. This enables us to create personalised targets each child on entry and right through to GCSE.

In Years 10 & 11 students are also regularly assessed and progress towards targets is tracked by subject teachers. Parents receive a Grade Card/Report each term which will identify the grade that your child is expected to achieve at the end of Year 11. This will be based upon their current attitude and progress within the subject. Further to this students in Year 10 and 11 will have formal examinations in all subjects to prepare them for the final GCSE examinations.