

KS3/4 Years 7 – 11 Progress Check – Explanatory Notes

What targets does the school set?

Because we have high expectations of our staff and pupils at St Paul's, we think it is important to set aspirational but achievable targets for GCSE. In this progress check your child has been set a GCSE target grade that shows what we expect they are able to achieve at GCSE at the end of Year 11.

This target is based on Key Stage Two data and reflects the changes in the GCSE system and the Government's increased expectations of progress.

What are the Key Stages?

- Key Stage Three covers Years 7, 8 and 9 or ages 11 – 14
- Key Stage Four covers years 10 and 11 or ages 14 – 16
- Key Stage Five covers Years 12 and 13 or ages 16 -18

How does the School monitor progress/grades?

To monitor progress over the course of the 5-year curriculum from Year 7-11, pupils are graded using the GCSE grading scale. Pupils are regularly assessed in class and receive feedback on how they are doing and how they can improve. You will be able to see this in their exercise books.

The national average attainment for a pupil at the end of Year 9 is in the range of E/D or 2/3.

The average progress nationally for pupils in a year is 0.7 of a grade.

What are the old and new GCSE grades?

GCSE Grade	Equivalent OLD GCSE Grade
9	A*
8	
7	A
6	B
5	
4	C
3	D
2	E
1	F
	G
U	U

W (Working Towards) may be used to indicate where a student is working towards, but has not yet met, the minimum gradable standard.

BTEC Course	
Vocational Level 1 Grades	Vocational Level 2 Grades/OCR National
Working towards pass	
Pass	Pass
Merit	Merit
Distinction	Distinction
Distinction *	Distinction*

How will I know that my child is making the right progress?

For Years 7 and 8, your child will be given a judgement about whether they are meeting their academic potential. The judgements subject teachers will make will be whether the child is:

	Working Towards (meeting their academic potential)
	Secure (in meeting their academic potential)
	Exceeding (expectations of meeting their academic potential)

This judgement is made relative to the child's end of year and end of course targets, and the typical progress trajectories within a subject curriculum.

For Years 9 and 10, you will be able to compare the best estimate of their current attainment with the end of year target range. This enables you to judge whether the current progress being made by your child is appropriate.

How is classroom effort assessed?

Classroom Effort (CE) is measured on a scale of 1 – 4:	
4	The pupil always works beyond the expectations of St. Paul's.
3	The pupil always meets the expectations of St. Paul's and sometimes works beyond this.
2	The pupil occasionally fails to meet the expectations of St. Paul's.
1	The pupil consistently fails to meet the expectations of St. Paul's and is content with doing the minimum required

How is homework reported?

Homework is measured on a scale of 1 – 4:	
4	Each piece of homework set during the assessment period has been completed to an exceptional standard.
3	Each piece of homework set during the assessment period has been completed to the required standard.
2	One or Two pieces of homework set during the assessment period do not meet the required standard.
1	More than two pieces of homework set during the assessment period do not meet the required standard.

Please note that if a pupil is absent from school on the day that a piece of homework is set, then it is his/her responsibility to ensure that work is collected from the teacher or from the online calendar and a new deadline negotiated if required.

The Assessment Periods are:

Beginning of the Academic Year to PC1
PC1 to PC2
PC2 to PC3