



**Rossett School**

Success for everyone

November 2016

Dear Parents/Carers

### **Year 7 – Life After Levels – An Explanation of the Key Stage 3 Assessment Policy**

In response to a statement from the Secretary of State in May 2013 concerning national curriculum reforms and the removal of 'levels' used to report students' attainment and progress, the school has designed a new assessment system for our Key Stage 3 students.

#### **Target Grades**

- Students will be given a new GCSE style target band (9-8, 7-6, 5-4 or 3-1) for each of their subjects. These targets have been generated using Key Stage 2 test results for writing based subjects (English, Maths, Science, History, Geography, RS, French, Spanish, ICT) and our own baseline assessments for more practical subjects (Music, PE, DT, Drama and Art).
- When your son/daughter starts their GCSEs in Year 9 their target will be narrowed to a single grade.
- A breakdown of how the new numbered GCSE style grades are converted from the traditional letter style grades can be found in the table overleaf.

#### **Reporting Progress**

On the termly reports your son/daughter's teachers will give an indication of the progress he/she is making against their target indicating whether he/she is:

- Making exceptional progress
- Making good progress
- Making expected progress
- Making less than expected progress
- Making insufficient progress

Under this new system the vast majority of students will be making 'expected progress' which means that they are doing well and are on track to meet their aspirational GCSE target grade.

#### **Every Day Assessment**

On a day to day basis students' knowledge and understanding will continue to be assessed in a variety of ways, the main purpose being to help the students learn and make progress. Where previously students have been given a national curriculum level, they will now receive feedback, on any assessed work, indicating the level of skill or content using the following:

- Excellence
- Secure
- Developing
- Foundation

You can find progress grids for each of the subjects on the Rossett website. These progress grids provide details of what is expected for students to achieve the different bands (Foundation, Developing, Secure and Excellence) at Year 7. <http://www.rossettschool.co.uk/students/life-after-levels-key-stage-3-assessment/>

If you have any questions please email Mr Sweetman, Director of Learning: Year 7  
msweetman@rossettschool.co.uk.

Yours sincerely

Mr C Stone

Deputy Headteacher: Curriculum

[www.rossettschool.co.uk](http://www.rossettschool.co.uk)

Rossett School, Green Lane, Harrogate HG2 9JP T: 01423 564444 F: 01423 502301 E: office@rossettschool.co.uk



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**Table converting the current style of letter GCSE Grade into the new number style**

| <b>Current Style GCSE Grade</b> | <b>Conversion to new GCSE style of numbered grade</b> |
|---------------------------------|---|
| A*                              | Half Grade 9, remainder Grade 8                       |
| A                               | Grade 7   |
| B                               | Grade 6   |
| C                               | Mostly Grade 4, some Grade 5                          |
| D                               | Grade 3   |
| E                               | Grade 2   |
| F                               | Grade 1   |
| G                               |   |
| U                               | Grade 0   |