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Dear Parent/Carer

To: Y12 parents/carers

As you may be aware, we will be publishing our first tracking point for all students on Friday 15 December. We have moved to reporting current attainment, in addition to indicating whether there are any causes for concern in terms of your child/ward's attitude to learning. This move to 'current attainment' may lead to some reporting that, initially, looks unusual or unexpected, so I thought it would be helpful for me to write to explain this to you.

You will note that students have been issued a 'target grade' for each subject. This is the lowest grade that they should be aiming to achieve in their final exams at the end of Year 13. This is **not** an indicator of their current attainment level. The current attainment grade indicates the grade that our assessments suggest that they would achieve if they were to sit their final exams now.

For some subjects, for example Maths where learning is very knowledge-based which increases over time, it is likely that the grades reported will be significantly lower than their target grade. This is not a concern. Over the next five terms you should see this steadily increasing towards their target grade.

For other more skills-based subjects, for example English Language and Philosophy and Ethics, it is possible that students may already be achieving their target grade; for these subjects you will look to see that they at least maintain this level of attainment over the next five terms.

Other subjects, such as Sciences, will have taught and assessed only a proportion of the syllabus. Although they might have achieved well on the associated assessment, because they have not covered the full course content it would be inaccurate to suggest they had reached their target grade. It is therefore normal for students to be achieving a grade E at this point. For an indication how they have achieved in the topics they have studied, please check their recent assessments. These include a current working grade only, which is based on the topics they have studied, not the whole examinable content.

For these reasons it is difficult to report on different subjects using a single reporting system, so I would urge caution when it comes to comparing attainment in different subjects. It would be unsurprising to see some variety in grades between subjects at this stage, but we would hope this variety will reduce over time. If there are concerns, you will be contacted by the class teacher or you will be able to see these in the 'attitude to learning' indicator. I would therefore encourage you to view these attainment grades as a 'starting point' from which to monitor progress over the next five terms.

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As ever, teachers will be able to give you a more detailed analysis of performance at parents' evening later in the academic year.

If you have specific concerns regarding progress in any subjects, please do not hesitate to contact the subject teacher for further information.

Yours faithfully

GX

Mr G Yassin Deputy Headteacher

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