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Headteacher Dr Roger Harris

To: Y10 parents/carers

9 December 2022

Dear Parent/Carer

Tracking Point 1

As you may be aware, the first tracking point for all students is due to be published shortly and will be available on [MCAS](#), the parent portal of our information system

We have moved to reporting current attainment in addition to indicating whether there are any causes for concern in terms of a student'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.

Firstly, 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 11. This is not an indicator of their current attainment level.

The 'current attainment grade' indicates the grade that our assessments suggest that the student would achieve if they were to sit their final exams now.

For some subjects, for example maths, where learning is very knowledge-based and increases over time, it is likely that the grades reported for students 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 a student may already be achieving their target grade and 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 science, will only have taught and assessed a proportion of the syllabus and although a student might have achieved well in 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 them to be achieving a grade 1 or 2 at this point. For an indication of how students have achieved in the topics they have studied, please check their recent assessments. These include a current working grade only, based solely 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.

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If there are concerns, you will be contacted by the subject teacher or you will be able to see these in the 'attitude to learning' indicator. Therefore, I would encourage you to view these attainment grades as a starting point from which to monitor progress over the next five terms.

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

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'GY' followed by a long horizontal flourish.

Mr G Yassin
Deputy Headteacher