

Headteacher: Mrs Claire Elliott, BA Hons PGCE

22<sup>nd</sup> September 2023

## Dear Parent/Carer

I am writing to inform you of some changes we are making to our assessment and data capture process for year 7, 8 and 9.

In each year of their learning journey at Old Buckenham High School, students will be set an aspirational 'Minimum Target Grade' that they need to aim to achieve by the end of the year. The target grade increases year on year and is based on their end of Key Stage 2 SATs score to give an indication of what the student could achieve in their GCSEs. For year 9 students, who did not sit their SATs, their minimum target is set according to the scores they received when they sat their CAT tests in year 7.

Students will be told their end of year minimum target grade in each assessed subject. Parents and students will also see the minimum target grade for each assessed subject when logging on to Go4Schools.

The minimum set target is not intended as a glass ceiling for students, and they are encouraged to achieve beyond their target at every stage of their learning journey, but it does signal how a student is performing in each subject and whether further support might be needed.

At Key Stage 3, you will receive information about your child's progress at three points throughout the year.

**Parents' evening** – this will give you an opportunity to discuss your child's progress with subject teachers.

**Data Capture 1 and 2** – you will be able to log on to Go4Schools to see the minimum target grade, your child's current working grade and an attitude to learning grade.

The dates for year 7 communication points are:

Year 7	
Date:	Type of report:
6 <sup>th</sup> October 2023	Data Capture 1 on Go4Schools
19 <sup>th</sup> January 2024	Data Capture 2 on Go4Schools
4 <sup>th</sup> June 2024	Parents' Evening

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The dates for year 8 communication points are:

Year 8		
Date:	Type of report:	
24 <sup>th</sup> November 2023	Data Capture 1 on Go4Schools	
16 <sup>th</sup> February 2024	Data Capture 2 on Go4Schools	
2 <sup>nd</sup> May 2024	Parents' Evening	

The dates for year 9 communication points are:

Year 9	
Date:	Type of report:
20 <sup>th</sup> October 2023	Data Capture 1 on Go4Schools
13 <sup>th</sup> March 2024	Parents' Evening
14 <sup>th</sup> June 2024	Data Capture 2 on Go4Schools

When students are assessed formally in each subject, they will be told what skills they have demonstrated to achieve a 'grade' for that piece of work. The grade is linked to a set of skills that are a reflection of the GCSE criteria.

The grade the students achieve in formal assessments and the grade subject teachers report to parents is **not** the grade we would expect a student to achieve in their GCSEs but shows us that the student is working towards achieving some of the skills they will need.

The current grade may fluctuate at each reporting point as it could be based on skills or topics that are being studied and may change to show that a student is stronger in a particular topic or skill, or it could be a result of the student's current work ethic.

Following the report, if you have any further queries with regards to the information you are provided, please do not hesitate to contact your child's teacher.

Yours faithfully

Claire Elliott Headteacher

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