



ST. MARY MAGDALENE

C OF E SCHOOL

SECONDARY PHASE

*Excellence through innovation,
founded in faith since 1840.*

FEDERATION EXECUTIVE CO-HEADTEACHERS

Mrs Claire Harrison and Mrs Victoria Wainwright

PRINCIPAL

Mr Razwan Hussain

Wednesday, 12 January 2022

Dear parent/carers,

I am sending this letter alongside your child's report for Autumn term in order to explain some of the key features of this report. More details about assessment at St Mary Magdalene can be found on the school website on the 'Policies' page.

Attainment grades

You will see that your child's current working grade ('Autumn attainment') has been awarded as a grade from 9 to 1. We use GCSE grades 9-1 for all students; therefore, if your child has a grade 3 on their report, their teacher has assessed that they are producing work at the standard of a GCSE grade 3. Some, and particularly the youngest students, will not yet be working at a GCSE grade standard. Students working below a grade 1 will be graded at:

- 1a (equivalent to working at a comfortable Year 6 expected level)
- 1b (equivalent to the threshold of the Year 6 expected level)
- 1c (below the Year 6 expected level)

Our status as an all through school means that our teachers are uniquely able to work with members of staff in the primary phase to accurately assess work not yet at a GCSE standard, and to provide students working at this level with appropriate feedback to ensure they progress.

You will also note that there may be a plus or minus sign next to your child's grades; this is because each grade is divided into three bands. This indicates how securely the student is working within this current grade. For example,

- 3+ indicates that the student is working at a high grade 3, and is close to getting a 4
- 3 indicates that the student is working at a secure grade 3
- 3- indicates that the student is just above the threshold of a Grade 3

Target grades

Students are given target grades for the end of the year in each subject; these are in students' books and shown on this report. By comparing this with their 'on entry' grades and current working grades, each student's progress can be measured. The target grade is created using several pieces of data, including Fischer Family Trust data (based primarily on Key Stage 2 scores for Year 9s and CAT4 tests for our current Year 8s) and regular assessments. The target grade is set at a level so that each student is expected to make at least as much progress as students in schools in the top 20th percentile for progress nationally.

In practice, this level of progress typically means we set students the target of making one whole grade of progress each year. However, every student is different and will make more or

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020 3873 5555



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less progress at different times during their academic journey at St Mary Magdalene. For the student, however, the use of a simple target grade provides an aspirational but realistic target to work towards and it allows you to monitor your child's progress over the course of each year.

Attitudinal grades

Students are given a grade 1-4 for effort, behaviour and homework. 1 is outstanding; 2 is expected; 3 is below expected; and 4 represents a cause for concern.

Attendance, achievements and behaviour

Attendance is recorded at the top of the page as a percentage, along with the total number of achievement points (e.g. R2s and R3s) and behaviour points (e.g. C2s and C3s) obtained over the academic year so far. We expect all students to have far more achievement points than behaviour points.

In a small number of cases, some grades are missing as a result of teacher absence.

If you have any questions or issues, in the first instance please make contact with your child's family group tutor or the most appropriate subject teacher. The easiest way to do this is by telephoning the school on the number below, or by emailing Ms O'mard (romard@koinoniafederation.com) to request that the teacher contacts you.

Yours sincerely,

Tom Greenwood
Vice Principal

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