



10th May 2024

Dear Parent/Carer,

Year 8 Tracking 3

You will shortly be receiving access to the tracking for Year 8 via the Arbor app. This will be found under the "Report Card" section under Student Profile. There are three separate reports available consisting of:

Yr 8 Summer Term (Summative/Flight Path)

Attendance

This is a percentage score based on the number of days a student has attended school. Please note that the school target for attendance is 96%. Attendance below 90% is classed as being persistently absent. School attendance is crucial for several reasons. Firstly, attending school ensures that students have access to essential knowledge and educational opportunities, equipping them with the skills and information needed to succeed in life. Regular attendance also fosters a sense of discipline and responsibility, teaching students the importance of punctuality and commitment. Moreover, school attendance promotes social interaction, allowing students to build friendships, develop communication skills, and engage in collaborative learning experiences that prepare them for future interactions in the workforce and society. Therefore, attendance should be above 96% wherever possible.

Merit points

This is the number of positive points students have accumulated so far this academic year. Points are awarded for courage, commitment, kindness, leadership etc.

Behaviour points

This is the number of negative points students have accumulated so far this academic year. Points are accumulated for reasons such as behaviour issues, not completing homework etc.

Mid Key Stage 3 exam results

Flight Path Target – this has been calculated using Fisher Family Trust (FFT) benchmarking based on SATs results from Year 6, or on CAT4 tests where this data is not available. FFT provides a final target grade that gives an indication of how a student might perform in their GCSE exams. An average of student target grades has been calculated and students have been allocated a flight path using the following scale:

Grade 3, 4

Grade 5, 6

Grade 7, 8, 9

Whilst it is not possible to say a student in Year 8 is working at a particular GCSE grade, teachers can evaluate whether a student's current performance is similar to other historical student performances who then go on to achieve a particular grade i.e. they are on a flight path to achieve a particular GCSE grade. It is then possible for teachers to assess whether a student is working **towards** a grade scale, **on** a grade scale, or **above** a grade scale.

For example, John Smith has a Flight Path of **Grade 5, 6**. John may have performed very well in Maths and has a current mark of **Above**. This would indicate that John may go on to achieve a grade 7 or higher in Maths GCSE if he continues to perform at an equivalent level through to Year 11. Likewise, John may not have performed well in Geography and therefore may have been awarded a current mark of **Towards**. This would indicate that John may achieve lower than a grade 5 if he continues to perform at an equivalent level through to Year 11. Where students have sat a Mid Key Stage 3 exam, a current mark has been awarded based on the allocated flight path.

Year 8 Summer Term (Curriculum)

Curriculum Statements – These outline what students have been learning this year. The current mark demonstrates how well the student has understood this area of the curriculum using the following key:

E - Emerging - students partially recall the knowledge required. It is not yet committed to long term memory.

D - Developing - students recall the required knowledge. This is not yet consistently committed to long term memory.

S - Secure - students recall the required knowledge, links to core concepts that further develop understanding are beginning to be explored.

M - Mastered - students automatically recall the required knowledge over time. They incorporate newly acquired knowledge into their schema - using core concepts to develop a depth of understanding.

Attitude to learning grades for classwork, behaviour and home learning will be graded as before with E – Excellent, G – Good, R – Requires improvement and U – Unacceptable.

Year 8 Summer Term (Form Tutor Comments)

This includes a personalised comment from the Form Tutor discussing attendance, punctuality, behaviour and progress in school.

How to analyse the reports

When reviewing the Summer Term (Curriculum) report, if a student has mostly E or G grades, this indicates that they are hardworking and are making strong efforts to ensure that they are making good progress. Where there is an R or U grade given, this suggests that a student is not working hard to ensure that they are making the progress they can achieve, and therefore further investigation is required. If there are many R or U grades given across a variety of subjects then it is important that parent/carers, the student, and the teachers work together to look at what support can be given to help the student get back on track.

The Attitude to Learning data should be considered alongside the Curriculum Statements. Where a student has received a Mastered or Secure grade, the student has shown a good understanding of the curriculum and is making good progress. Where a student has received Emerging or Developing grades, this will require further investigation to ascertain why the student has not fully grasped the delivered curriculum.

The Yr 8 Summer Term (Summative/Flight Path) provides an evaluation of the Mid Key Stage 3 exam results i.e. the outcome of a particular test.

The Attitude to Learning report, the Curriculum Statements, Mid Key Stage 3 exam results and data on attendance, behaviour points and merit points, all in combination, demonstrate a detailed view of the progress a student is currently making in school.

May I also take this opportunity to remind you that the Year 8 Parents Evening takes place on Thursday 16th May.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any queries regarding this tracking.

Kindest regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Mr Tucker', with a horizontal line underneath.

Mr Tucker
Assistant Headteacher