

ACHIEVEMENT BANDS



From September 2019 every student in year groups 7-11 will have an achievement band target and future progress will be reported in line with this.

The achievement bands will relate to expected GCSE grades and are assigned based on student performance at Key Stage 2. Students are typically given the same achievement band for all subjects, apart from a small number of exceptions (see below).

The move to achievement bands makes it a lot easier and more accurate for students to assess how they are performing across all subjects. Moreover, there have been concerns raised by parents about the pressure high targets place on students at what is already a difficult period of change due to GCSE reforms. Many students have found themselves in a position where they are working hard and performing well in examinations; yet still find themselves falling short of the minimum expected grade. GCSE targets should provide a level of challenge to all students; however, there is also a need for them to be realistically achievable.

The achievement bands provide all students with a spread of grades to aim for, with even the minimum allowing for reasonably good progress between Key Stage 2 and Key Stage 4. Moreover, they do not place a cap on what is realistically achievable and provide a level of aspiration free of the downsides.

The achievements bands are calculated by using Key Stage 2 prior attainment data and are as follows:

7 to 9
6 to 8
5 to 7
4 to 6
3 to 5
Foundation

OLD GCSE	CURRENT GCSE
A*	9
	8
A	7
B	6
	5
C	4
	3
D	3
E	2
F	1
G	

For Year 10 Mathematics and Separate/Trilogy Science, there will be personalised achievement bands for those students likely to be entered for the foundation tier where the maximum grade achievable is 5.

4 to 5
3 to 4

The SPRs issued throughout the year provide progress indicators and judgements will be based on a number of things, such as formal assessments, contributions in lessons, independent study and the quality of written work. The progress indicators will be used to record how students are progressing in relation to their achievement band.