

November 2019

Dear Parent/Carer

**Re: Year 9 Report**

This letter is to provide some accompanying information about the reports that you will receive throughout this year on Go4Schools.

**English Targets**

The English department currently assess year 9 work in line with the 9-1 grading system due to the work completed in year 9 being directly linked to the GCSE content. Therefore, the target you will see is your child's target for the end of year 11 in English.

**Age Related Expectations (A.R.E.s) - targets**

A.R.E.s continue to be used at Key Stage 3, for all subjects in Year 9. Accordingly, please find enclosed a new booklet, which sets out the A.R.E.s for all Year 9 subjects – please keep this booklet safe for the duration of the year. Note that these are different to those used in Years 7 and 8. There is more information on these A.R.E.s in the introduction to the booklet. Targets may be slightly different to last year and have been set dependent upon your child's KS2 results (or initial Year 7 assessments) and, in some cases, as a result of their assessments at the end of Year 8.

As some subjects will not have done assessments yet, 'current' grades are not displayed on this report. These will be communicated home at each tracking point later in the year.

**Attitude to Learning (A2L) scores**

A2L scores should be regarded as a key indicator of your child's attitude to school, work and likely future progress. These will usually be the first columns that we look at when mentoring pupils, before any reference is made to targets or current grades in due course.

The key to each area is shown at the foot of the report. Since we use a 4-point, rather than 5-point scale, quite simply a score of '1' or '2' is good and a '3' or '4' is not. A score of '2' should be the minimum aim for all pupils in all four areas in all subjects. '1' is exceptional. Any '3's indicate some concern and a '4' expresses significant concern.

Note that those pupils studying ASDAN may or may not have a Homework A2L score. In addition, due to the homework timetable rota, one or two other subjects may not have set homework as yet. These will appear as 'n/a'.

As Year 9 is an important year, with Option Choices later in the year and preparation work for G.C.S.E. courses already underway in some subjects, we felt that it was important to get an early report to you, so that you can

either praise your son/daughter for making a positive start to Year 9, or to identify any issues that need attention and take action to help with these.

In addition, as we have now moved into a period of new and more difficult G.C.S.E. (and also A-Level) exams, we do wish to encourage pupils to contribute to lessons as this will become more and more important as they progress through the school and need to demonstrate their understanding verbally. Hence, when pupils move into Year 9, we add a "Contribution" A2L score.

Please discuss this report with your child and please do not hesitate to contact Mrs Jennings (Head of Year 9): [rjj@thomasadams.net](mailto:rjj@thomasadams.net) with any general concerns, your child's subject teacher/s with any specific issues, or me ([rsw@thomasadams.net](mailto:rsw@thomasadams.net)) with any queries concerning understanding the report itself/target grades etc.

Over the course of this academic year, you will receive a total of 3 reports they will include the following:

**TP1** November - A2L Only

**TP2** January – A2Ls, Target and Current A.R.E grade.

**TP3** May – A2Ls, Target and Current A.R.E grade along with written reports (using the subject comment bank).

**Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> January – Year 9 Choices Evening, 7:15p.m.**

**Wednesday 5th February – Year 9 Consultation Evening, 4:30 – 7:30p.m.**

Yours faithfully,



Mrs R Wilkinson  
**Senior Teacher – Data and Assessment**