

September 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

We hope this letter finds you and your family safe and well.

We are writing to you today to provide an overview of the assessment arrangements for your child over the course of this academic year.

2021/22 Assessment & Reporting

Within the assessment system for 2021/22, your child will be formally assessed by teachers three times within the academic year, known as Assessment Points 1, 2 and 3. Initially, at Assessment Point 1, we will report on students' 'Attitude to Education'. This is designed to give you an insight into how your child has transitioned to secondary school. As the year progresses, however, we will build on this to the point where we report to you the four areas shown below:

- Attitude to Education Level (**ATEL**)
- Attitude to Education Focus (**ATEF**)
- Current working grade
- Minimum Expected Grade (**MEG**)

The **ATEL** will be awarded with a view to promoting students' attitudes towards their education, in order to ensure students see the importance of a positive and purposeful attitude as a key component in their current and future education, employment and training. The ATEL will be based on the four descriptors which are 'Outstanding Learner', 'Good Learner', 'Requiring Improvement Learner' and 'Unsatisfactory Learner'.

An **ATEF** will be identified by teachers, based on the educational needs of the student, with a view to providing students with a key focus for improvement before the next Assessment Point.

The **current grade** awarded at each Assessment Point, will be based on the demonstrated learning that has taken place up to the given Assessment Point. Current grades will be awarded from Year 7 Assessment Point 2 by teachers of English, mathematics and science and all subjects at Year 7 Assessment Point 3.

The above data (ATEL, ATEF, MEG and a current working grade) will be shared with parents and carers at each Assessment Point by letter. Additionally, students will record this information in the back of their Student Planner, alongside a self-reflection on how they could improve and further enhance their ATEL at future Assessment Points.

As a parent or carer, your role in supporting your child is incredibly important. To this end, we seek your support in analysing and discussing your child's Assessment Point Summary Report and planner pages at each Assessment Point, as well as supporting them by examining their weekly diary pages in the student planner for homework, rewards and sanctions.

Cognitive Abilities Tests (CAT4)

In order to provide us with valuable information to ensure that we can support your child with a personalised approach to learning wherever possible, our Year 7 cohort will be completing a series of three 45 minute online Cognitive Abilities Tests (CAT4). These tests are designed to assess verbal, non-verbal, quantitative and spatial reasoning. Information generated from these assessments will be submitted to Fischer Family Trust (FFT) so that appropriate target grades can be generated for your child.

Please be reassured that students do not need to complete any preparation for these assessments. We are asking, however, for students to bring a pair of headphones in to the academy for the CAT4 period; this will allow students to have the option to both read and listen to the questions which will ensure the student's reading ability does not influence the assessment. Due to the Covid-19 restrictions, the academy will not be able to provide headphones for students, however, if you do not have access to headphones and would like the academy to support your child with getting access to some, please contact your academy directly via phone or emailing the academy via the info account: enquiries@johnsmeatonacademy.org.uk

The Cognitive Abilities Tests will take place throughout the weeks commencing Monday 4 October 2021. If it is the case that students miss the tests as a result of absence or through self-isolation, then the tests will be sat upon their return to the academy week commencing Monday 18 October 2021.

Yours faithfully



Mrs L Griffiths
Principal



Miss L Smail
Assistant Principal