

October 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.

The assessment system across the 11-16 academies in The GORSE Academies Trust has, over the years, supported teachers in conducting reliable and robust assessments, which in turn, has enabled teachers to plan and implement a highly personalised, engaging and challenging curriculum to support our young people with securing the best possible outcomes.

At the heart of this assessment system is our drive to instil strong 'Attitudes to Education'. We expect all our learners to demonstrate a pleasing attitude to education, in readiness for the challenges and opportunities within further education, employment and training, and adult life.

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. Depending on the year group, at each Assessment Point, students will be awarded:

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

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 (with the exception of Year 7, Year 8 and 9 AP1), will be based on the demonstrated learning that has taken place up to the given Assessment Point.

MEGs will be identified by the academy for every student in each subject area. For Years 8-11, these target grades are generated by the Fisher Family Trust (FFT) using a wide range of information including the student's KS2 assessment results.

All 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.

Key Assessment Opportunities

Over the course of the academic year, Years 7 to 9 students will complete five key assessments. Two of these, called the Interim and Masters Assessments, are standardised across all the secondary academies within The GORSE Academies Trust.

Interim assessments will take place between November and February. The **Masters Assessments** will be scheduled to take place between April and June.

Year 10 will have three assessments, two Interim and one Masters Assessment. Year 11 students will complete mock examinations in November and in February. The knowledge and skills students should be covering prior to each of these assessments are shared on the academy website within the curriculum overview documents (see link to the curriculum webpage above).

As a parent or carer your role in supporting your child is incredibly important. To this end, we seek your continuing 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.

Yours faithfully



Mrs L Griffiths
Principal



Miss L Smail
Assistant Principal