

10<sup>th</sup> July 2015

Dear Parents and Carers Year 10

You will be aware that expectations of the new Key Stage 4 curriculum and GCSE attainment measures have significantly changed in the last academic year under the present government. All students who leave school from 2016 onwards will be judged on their success under the following changing GCSE measures as they progress on to 6<sup>th</sup> form education, college, apprenticeships or training:

- **Progress 8 - progress in their best 8 GCSEs (key measure, including 5 from English/Maths/Science/History/Geog or MFL)**
- Attainment 8 - best 8 GCSE grades
- English AND Maths GCSE pass grade at 'C' or above
- EBacc – 5 GCSE pass grades at 'C' or above (*English, Maths, Science, History or Geography and MFL*)

As details for the method of calculating the new progress 8 measure for individual students have now been published, it has become clear that under the government's higher expectations for all students, minimum targets for a number of students need to be raised.

As a result of these significant changes and the way students' performance is judged we have changed our minimum targets in line with the new and more rigorous educational expectations set for **all** students nationally. From 2016 an individual student's progress and attainment will be compared with that of all 16 year olds nationally, based on their Key Stage 2 prior attainment. Our students attaining the highest possible grades in 2016 and being able to access the broadest range of pathways and opportunities at the end of year 11 is as vital to us as ever. Our new minimum targets are in place to ensure all students have the best set of qualifications to access the highest level of post-16 education and training possible, in a competitive future economy.

We are responding to DFE guidance that it is essential for schools to strive for high standards, ensuring schools provide outstanding education for all pupils nationally. In addition, where previously government / DFE expectations and targets were based on separate outcomes for students in English and Maths at Key Stage 2, targets are now based on an 'Average Fine Level Score' across both subjects. It is from this score that an individual pupil's progress 8 score will be calculated.

Please find attached your child's final summer progress summary report with the new targets and up to date predictions for the end of year 11. I would ask all parents/carers to encourage students to strive for at least good progress in all subjects in readiness for their GCSE exams in 10 months' time. If there are any subjects in which your child is working below or at minimum target then please encourage them to discuss with their class teacher how to improve.

In the meantime, if you would like to discuss any aspect of the reporting system from September 2015, please ring me on the school number 342229 or email me on [info@kelvinhall.net](mailto:info@kelvinhall.net), with the title of the email marked '[Progress 8](#)'. In addition we have created a link to the newly published DFE March Progress 8 measure in 2016 and 2017 for all schools on our school website under Progress 8 measure.

Yours sincerely  
P.Cavanagh  
Deputy Headteacher



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