

Achievement guide for parents/carers

Y7-9

The way in which schools report on student achievement has changed. Schools no longer make judgments in terms of national curriculum levels.

At the end of Y7, Y8 and Y9 students will take an examination (in most subjects although in some subjects there will be an element of coursework and/or practical assessment). They will be given a percentage mark in this examination:

- sub 70% = a student has failed to meet the required standard
- 70-80% = a student has met the required standard
- 81%+ = a student has exceeded the required standard.

We define the required standard as that which means that students are on track to achieve a **good pass** in the relevant GCSE/other qualification, at the end of Y11. Where students are working at the required standard, and are thus on track to achieve a good pass, this is on the assumption that they work hard and attend school regularly.

Students at Ipswich Academy are assessed at the end of the year (in the summer), and on at least two further occasions earlier in the year (generally around the October half term and then again around the February half term). We report on students' performance in those interim assessments in terms of forecasts:

- **at** (the student is forecast to meet the end of year requirements)
- **below** (the student is forecast not to meet the requirements)
- **exceeding** (the pupil is forecast to exceed the requirements).

As students move through Y9 and into Y10/11, we increasingly focus on forecasts as to whether they are likely to achieve their minimum required grade (MRG). We calculate this MRG by looking at student achievement at the end of Y6 (primary school). We then look at students with similar starting points, nationally, to enable us to establish the grade that each student is

required to achieve by the end of Y11. Given that each student's MRG is set in terms of his/her performance at the end of primary school, this grade is unlikely to change as students move through the school.

The way that GCSE examinations are graded is changing, with letters being changed to numbers. Previously, a grade C has been widely regarded as a pass. Under the new system, a **good pass** is likely to be a grade of 5 or above.

We define the required standard for students in Y7-9 as that which means that they are on track to achieve a **good pass** (grade 5 or above) in the relevant GCSE/other qualification, at the end of Y11.

New GCSE Points	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Old GCSE Grades	G/F-	F/E	E+/D	C	C+/B-	B/B+	A	A+/A*	A*