

Year 8 Assessment & Reporting guide for Parents – September 2018

Students in Year 8 will receive 3 written reports each year as follows, the details of these grades are explained later in the document. Our written reports have been developed to give parents the opportunity to gain feedback on what the students need to do to improve. If the staff notice a specific concern about the standard of a student's work this would be identified on the report.

<p>Autumn Term</p>	<p>This report will contain</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the current Standard of Attainment using the school's KS3 grading system (see later). • information about focus in lessons, contribution in lessons and student homework. • a comment from the Form Tutor including comments relating to attendance & punctuality, homework deadlines, organisation, achievements and contributions to extracurricular activities.
<p>Spring Term</p>	<p>This is only a brief report containing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • an updated Standard of Attainment grade. <p>We would hope that students will be at a higher grade in the second term in at least some of their subjects, but as the nature of the assessments changes this is not necessarily the case.</p> <p>You will have the opportunity to discuss your child's progress at the Parents' Evening on 14th February 2019 from 4.15 – 7.15 pm. Where possible staff try to see all parents, but where more than one group is taught by a member of staff this does not always happen. Staff are asked to make appointments with parents where there is a concern, however if there is anything you wish to raise and you do not have a meeting please contact the school and ask for your message to be passed on to the relevant teacher.</p>
<p>Summer Term</p>	<p>This is the most detailed report of the year, containing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the current Standard of Attainment grade based on the school's KS3 grading system and is based on a wide range of data from throughout the year and not just the examination performance. • information about focus in lessons, contribution in lessons and student homework. • your child's end of year examination mark as a percentage. • the average end of year examination mark for the year group in each subject as a percentage. • a subject specific comment indicating what a student is doing well, what could be improved and some suggestions for improvement. <p>The purpose of sharing of the average subject mark with parents is to provide you with some information about the different marks being achieved in each subject at the end of the year. Students who are achieving above the average mark are making good progress and doing well, however it should be remembered that there will always be a number of students who will gain marks which are lower than the average mark; this in itself is not an issue. A parent should only be concerned if there is a marked difference between a student's mark and the average.</p>

In 2014 the National Curriculum levels were removed by the Department for Education (DfE) and not replaced with an alternative national system. Individual schools are able to make their own decisions as to how to mark work and report progress. From September 2018 we are introducing new numerical summaries for reporting to parents which are relatively simple to understand and should enable students to demonstrate progress over time.

As a school we have developed a system of Key Stage 3 assessment grades (see below) that use subject specific criteria to indicate the skills, knowledge and understanding that students need to demonstrate to achieve each grade. The subject specific criteria are available for you in the parents area of the school website.

CHG KS3 GRADES (1 - 6 + EP)

The KS3 assessment model highlights how students will be **working towards** learning skills and developing understanding in preparation for GCSE study. The **majority** of students will achieve end of year grades within the indicated range.

*(Please note: EP = Exceptional Performance, which is **likely** to be achieved in Year 9 only)*

KS3 1	KS3 2	KS3 3	KS3 4	KS3 5	KS3 6	KS3 EP
Year 7 students are <i>likely</i> to achieve between grades 1 & 4						
Year 8 students are <i>likely</i> to achieve between grades 2 & 5						

All subjects in Year 8 will use these Key Stage 3 Assessment grades to summarise overall student performance in each subject. In Year 9 students start to work towards their GCSE examinations in English, Maths and the three science subjects – these subjects are reported on using the GCSE grade scale.

Aspects of Learning

Students can improve by aiming to move to comments which are higher in each list.

Column	Descriptors
Focus in lessons	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A thirst for learning; focused, on task and resilient. • An engaged learner; focused and on task. • Sometimes needs reminding to focus and stay on task. • Frequently needs reminding to focus and stay on task.
Contribution in lessons	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regularly makes positive contributions to lessons. • Regularly makes contributions to lessons. • Sometimes makes positive contributions to lessons. • Needs to be more confident in articulating ideas in lessons. • Needs to develop the confidence to contribute in lessons.
Homework	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Always completed on time and to a high standard. • Usually completed on time and to a high standard. • Always completed on time, but quality could be improved. • Usually completed on time, but quality could be improved. • Frequently late, although completed to a high standard. • Frequently late and quality could be improved.