

A Level Assessment and Reporting.

At St Benedict's we are committed to ensuring that assessment is an essential part to students learning and to make sure that pupils know where they are on their learning journey. To report on progress in subjects in the sixth form the school uses the same types of grade that the students will receive at the end of their courses, namely A level grades (A*-E) for standard A level subjects and the Distinction, Merit, Pass system for vocational subjects.

Formal Assessment.

Students are assessed formally at least once a term and these grades are reported to parents. Some subjects may formally assess more than this e.g. every half termly. For most subjects this will be an in class test or series of tests. In practical subjects a project or series of projects may be used.

Students are only assessed on work that has been taught up to that point and never on material that has yet to be taught. Assessments may also cover work that has been taught in previous terms to reflect the demanding level of knowledge required at A level and Level 3 Applied Courses. Where a formal mock examination has been recently held then this will be one of the prime sources used to determine the assessment grade. Teachers will however also use other evidence of performance such as the standard of homework and other work produced in class. They will use these sources of evidence to produce a current attainment grade that best reflects the standard of work produced. For this reason, the grade reported is frequently referred to as the Current Working Grade of the pupil.

Each student will receive a report at the end of each term which will clearly state the grade that they are working at in each subject. In this way parents will know how their son or daughter is doing in each subject. In the spring and summer term, the report will also state the grades achieved in the previous term so that comparisons can be made with previous performances. However, it should be noted that the most recent grade will always be the best indicator of a student's performance.

A termly report will include the following information:

Subject Target Grade: This is the grade that the student should be aiming at for the end of the course. It is an aspirational grade based on prior achievement at GCSE. Please be clear that the subject target is **not** a forecast grade. Some pupils meet their targets, a few exceed them but some do not achieve their target grade.

Current Working Grade: The current working grade is the teacher's best estimate of the standard that is being achieved by the pupil.

Attitude to Learning Grade: A grade of 1 to 3 which indicates whether or not a pupil is meeting the expectations of students at St Benedict's. Grade 1 = Below Expectation, Grade 2 = Meeting Expectation and Grade 3 = Exceeding Expectation. Further detail is provided below.

The **Current Working Grade** should always be interpreted in relation to the **Subject Target Grade** which gives an indication of the grade at which a pupil should be aiming. Good progress is being made when a pupil is close to or on their target grade and excellent progress is made when a pupil exceeds the target grade. Where the **Current Working Grade** is two grades or more below the **Subject Target** there are possible causes for concern. The **Attitude to Learning Grade** will give further information on where these causes might be.

Teachers will make it clear to pupils when they have any formal in class assessments, most of which will take place during normal lessons. The end of year exam is however likely to take place in the more formal setting of a mock examination. Parents are asked to encourage students to revise for them so that they are gradually building up the knowledge needed to meet the demands of the A level courses.

John D'Mello

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Attitude to Learning grades

These are awarded on a 1 to 3 scale are based on our school values of Compassion, Wisdom and Resilience. The meaning of the Attitude to Learning Grades are as follows:

Grade	Definition
3	Always meets and often exceeds the expected Attitude to Learning at St Benedict's
2	Meets the expected Attitude to Learning at St Benedict's
1	Below the expected Attitude to Learning at St Benedict's

A grade of 2 means that a student is meeting our expectations here at St Benedict's so a good report will have grades that are 2 or above in all subjects. To achieve a grade 2 a pupil needs to do all of the following:

1. Meet the St Benedict's Classroom expectations of Compassion, Wisdom, and Resilience in most lessons—on display in all classrooms: - but for reference they are listed below:

Compassion:

- Be respectful of others' views and experiences.
- Do not disrupt others' learning.
- Be kind and safe in all your actions.

Wisdom

- Have your equipment ready for every lesson.
- Be ready to learn.
- Actively listen to others—do not talk or interrupt.

Resilience

- Be positive and don't quit.
- Seek help when you need it.

2. Complete the vast majority of homework set by the classroom teacher to the best of their ability.

3. Complete most classwork in lessons and maintain an ordered exercise book to the best of their ability.

4. Engage with the lesson and answer questions when asked by the teacher to the best of their ability.