

NRC/JAE

11 March 2022

Dear Parents/Carers

Year 8 Reports

I hope that this communication finds you all well. We would usually have been far more welcoming around inviting parents onto the site to meet the teachers. Sadly, due to COVID, we have been working within the parameters of risk assessments to keep everybody safe and limit potential outbreaks. On a positive note, we did have our Year 11 Parents' Evening this week in school and face-to-face. Our aim is for this to now follow through for all future events. Therefore, I am delighted to state that the Year 8 Parents' Evening on Wednesday 23 March will be in school. You will be able to book appointments from Wednesday 16 March. This Parents' Evening has added significance because it will help you in supporting your child with their option choices.

When I sent the previous report home in November, I expressed how pleased I was with the attitude and effort displayed by most of the cohort. As we are now more than halfway through the year, this remains the case. Recently, we have been able to commence year group assemblies together in the main hall and this has enabled Mr Barrett to celebrate success and speak to the students as a year group. I will also state that the attendance of this year group is above the current National figure. Thank you for your support in helping us maintain this.

I am pleased to include a copy of your child's achievement information. This should certainly provide helpful guidance when selecting option choices with your child.

The report provides you with information about both attainment and effort for each subject. The effort grade is the most important in Year 8 because, if students are putting in as much effort as possible, they will improve and make progress.

The attainment grade is based on 'Age Related Expectations' (AREs). Students will receive one of 3 grades; Higher (H), Expected (E) or Working Towards (WT). Each subject has a clear criteria that they apply to assess each student using all the evidence that we have available. This includes unit tests, book and classwork and their verbal answers in lessons. Please refer to the information included for further detail.

The effort grade has been completed by each teacher considering the 3 descriptors based around the school vision of being a **successful learner**, a **confident individual** and a **responsible citizen**. There is a criteria that links to learning and the effort that the student consistently demonstrates. This information regarding the criteria is on the actual report sheet. Each overall effort grade is out of 15.

15-13 Excellent/12-9 Good/8-3 Needs to improve.

12-9 is where we would expect most students to be achieving. If they are above good, they have been consistently doing more than is expected of them in most lessons. This should be considered when making option choices. If they are below the 9, they need to make an improvement and quickly.



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Successful Learners – Confident Individuals – Responsible Citizens





For more information on curriculum content, please refer to the school website.

If you would like further communication to discuss anything highlighted in the report, please contact the relevant class teacher by email or raise it at Parents' Evening. All teacher email addresses are on the school website.

This report has added significance as students start to consider which subjects they would like to select as part of the options process. The options process will begin next week with a recorded presentation uploaded onto the school website on Wednesday 16 March. I have also spoken to the year group about the options process. Each subject has made a short recording that you will be able to access, and it will provide information about the content of the course. The benefit to doing this is that it enables you to rewatch the recording and then watch the presentation regarding the subjects your child is interested in. I will send out more information early next week. You will then be provided with a month, until Easter, to make the choices.

Year 8 Parents' Evening – Wednesday 23 March 2022, 4.00 pm -7.00 pm.

Yours sincerely

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Mr N Cousins Deputy Headteacher



