

What will my child's feedback look like?

There are many different types of feedback that your child will be given to support progress. These are used in a variety of ways by teachers and can include day-to-day Assessment for Learning strategies, verbal feedback in class activities, use of exercise books, folders, homework tasks, in tests or exams. All feedback will be in the form of What Went Well (WWW) and What Next (WN). Any feedback will also reinforce literacy strategies and Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar (SPAG) feedback.

Teacher marking is one form of feedback that students will receive. Teachers are not expected to provide feedback on every learning activity that takes place, nor to provide written marking on every piece of work that your child does in class or at home. There will therefore not be teacher marking on every page of your child's exercise book or folder.

How can my child engage with her feedback?

Students can engage with feedback through Directed Improvement and Response Time (DIRT), self-assessment and peer assessment. Primarily DIRT time will allow students to address their WN. The primary way that teachers will know whether DIRT has been engaged with is how the student tackles consequent learning.

There are a number of strategies that students can use to ensure that they engage with feedback including:

- Knowing the learning objectives, assessment objectives and success criteria for the piece of work they are undertaking.
- Responding to the verbal and written feedback that is received
- Use Directed Improvement and Response Time (DIRT) effectively
- Correct their own SPAG
- Engage fully with self and peer assessment

How can I support my child with feedback?

You can support your child by focusing on engagement with feedback using the strategies above. The knowledge and understanding of how your child is assessed at KS3 will also aid you in having conversations about progress.

What are Assessment Points?

There will be two assessment points per year group.

Following each of these Assessment Points, students and parents will receive a report, indicating progress in each subject, plus information on attitudes to learning.

What are the Assessment Points based on?

Each Assessment Point will include some kind of assessed task, plus any other key pieces of work identified in the Curriculum Outlines (available on the school website.)

Assessment Points are not based on a single assessed piece of work. We want to ensure that reporting is representative of your child's progress overall, and to remove the pressure of high-stakes assessments throughout the year. This continues with the changes that were implemented in the last academic year.

There is one exception per year group:

- Year 10: The Summer report will be based on the end of year exams.
- Year 11: The Spring report will include a grade for the mock exams plus a Currently Working At (CWA) grade.

How are Assessment Points marked?

Students will be awarded a mark out of 20 for assessed tasks and for other work that feeds into the Assessment Point. Your child's teacher will communicate marks out of 20 in class.

For each Assessment Point, the full range of marks from 1 – 20 can be awarded. Some subject areas may use a percentage rather than a mark out of 20.

What progress data will be recorded on reports?

Students will be given a GCSE grade for each subject, using the new grading system, 9 – 1.

Reports will also include a further grade:

- **Target Minimum Grade (TMG):** This is the grade that your child is most likely to achieve in each subject. This is a realistic but aspirational target grade.

TMSs are established by an organisation called the Fischer Family Trust, which uses a range of detailed contextual information including KS2 data to estimate most likely grades for each student.

Report grades are Currently Working At (CWA) grades. We would not expect students to be achieving the grades that they will be aiming for by the end of the GCSE course throughout the two years of preparation for the GCSE exams. Students may perform at a very high level in individual units of work, but these would not reflect GCSE – level performance overall in any one subject. Please also bear in mind that progress is not always linear and your child's grade in a particular subject may not always increase from one Assessment Point to the next. Teaching staff will communicate with the student and parents should they have concerns about an individual student's progress. A CWA that is two or more grades below a student's TMG would indicate that further consolidation of the skills, knowledge and understanding required to continue to make progress in that subject area is needed.

What are the new GCSE grades?

The table below shows how the new GCSE grades relate to the old grades:

A / A*	7, 8, 9
B	6
C	5
D	4
E	3
F	2
G	1

What is the new Grade 9?

There is no equivalent under the old grading system for the new grade 9. Before the first cohort of students sat the new GCSEs in English and Maths in summer 2017, the government has said that about 20% of all grades nationally at 7 or above would be awarded a grade 9. This is called norm referencing, as opposed to the previous system under which a certain mark was identified as the grade boundary for an A* and any student who achieved above this boundary was awarded the top grade. Previously, teachers were able to identify particular skills, knowledge and understanding that candidates needed to demonstrate to achieve an A*. This is no longer the case, since grade 9 does not represent a particular set of skills, rather the level at which students are able to demonstrate them, and how this compares with the relative performance of other students who are sitting the same exam.

You will be aware that historically a very high percentage of our students achieved A* grades. In the first set of results for the new GCSEs in English and Maths, 3.5% of entries nationally were awarded a 9 in Maths, 2.2% in English Language and 3.2% in English Literature. Our students' results significantly outperformed these national figures, as they did in 2018 where the majority of subjects were reformed. However, staff will be cautious in awarding students a grade 9 at Assessment Points. Many of our students will have TMGs of grade 8/9. This means that they will have met their target grade in that subject area if they achieve a grade 8 or a grade 9.

How can I access my child's report?

Reports will be available on the WebPortal. A Parentmail will be sent home to advise you when they are available. Should you have any issues accessing the WebPortal, please contact the IT office: Helpdesk User

helpdesk@tiffingirls.org