



September 2021

Dear Parent/ Guardian

This year at Key Stage 3, we are changing how we report on a child's progress at each tracking or assessment event.

Your child will now be given a school target which will be a value between 9-1. Then based on your child's performance following assessment, each subject will provide you with a level for your child between 9 and 1. Although your child may be aware of a raw mark such as 71% in their assessment, this mark will be converted to the corresponding level which will allow you to compare your child's performance across all their subjects. Most importantly, it will allow you to accurately see if your child is in fact performing according to their naturally ability. Hence if your child has a target of a 6, you would expect to see your child attaining a 6 across the majority of their subjects.

Your child's school target level will be based on their attainment in the CAT standardised test they completed when they entered Year 8. Additionally for those students in Years 9 and 10, we will also take into account their attainment in core subjects in the previous year's summer assessments.

Children with the highest testing scores will perform at level 9, followed by level 8 and so on. However, what is key is that at each assessment, your child performs at or above the target level we set for them based on their CAT standardised test stanine or level.

Year 8 Parents will be provided with the following information for their child:

- CAT Standardised Age Score (an average score is 100)
- National CAT Stanine (this will range from 9-1 with 9 being highest)
- Progress in English (PIE) score (an average score is 100)
- Progress in English Stanine (this will range from 9-1 with 9 being highest)
- Progress in Maths (PIM) score (an average score is 100)
- Progress in Maths Stanine (this will range from 9-1 with 9 being highest)
- School Target Level (this will range from 9-1 with 9 being highest)

Year 9 and 10 Parents will be provided with the following information for their child:

- CAT Standardised Age Score (an average score is 100)
- National CAT Stanine (this will range from 9-1 with 9 being highest)
- School Target Stanine (this will range from 9-1 with 9 being highest). This target is based on your child's performance in the previous Summer's assessment in English, Mathematics and Science as well as their Year 8 CAT Level

Please note, CAT and corresponding School Target Levels are measures of your child's performance in verbal and quantitative tests, hence they may not be the best indicator of their ability in creative and expressive subjects as Art, Music and PE.

All Key Stage 3 students and their parents will be provided with assessment / tracking information at four points throughout the academic year.

A separate assessment calendar will be sent to parents to outline when assessment will happen as well as information regarding the material covered in each subject for each of their four assessments.

Thank you

Dr P Downing

Carrickfergus Academy