



Penryn
College

"Achieving through Challenge"

Changes to Assessment and Reports

The Department for Education have changed the way your child's progress through the National Curriculum is assessed. You will be familiar with National Curriculum Levels 1 – 8. These no longer exist. Schools are now required to use their own assessment structure. We want to make sure that you and your child know where they are succeeding and what they need to do to improve. We have spent a long time planning how to do this, including the language that we use to inform you about your child's progress. The new system is explained below. We need your feedback so that we can improve it still further.

Green, Red and Purple Marking

Teachers mark in green pen. They use WWW (What Went Well) and EBI (Even Better If) to indicate how well your child has understood what they have learnt. Students improve their work in red pen. They are given time to do this in Personal Study. This process is called DIT (Dedicated Improvement Time). Teaching Assistants use purple pen to indicate literacy errors. Please encourage your child to review their work and make it even better by following the teacher's EBI suggestions.

Target Grades

Every student has been given a target grade for every subject which indicates what they could achieve with hard work. As in previous years, teachers' judgement and students' Year 6 Key Stage 2 results have been used to create these.

Years 7, 8, 9 and 10 Assessments

You can find out exactly what each subject is teaching, when it is being taught, when it is assessed and how well your child has learnt their work by looking at the coloured sheets in your child's exercise books.

- A blue sheet at the front of your child's exercise books tells you what they are expected to learn in each subject by the end of the year.
- A green sheet details what students will know, understand and do in each Unit of work.
- A yellow sheet records each student's final assessment at the **end of a unit** and whether they are working towards, at or above expectation for their year group.

Grades

In most subjects, at the end of each Unit, students do a formal assessment or test. Their result is graded from 1 – 9 (9 being the highest grade). This copies the new Grading system for GCSE.

- Grades 1, 2 or 3 indicate work below expectation for their age.
- Grades 4 or 5 indicate work at the expected standard for their age.
- Grades 6, 7 or 8 indicate work above expectation for their age.
- Grade 9 indicates work well above expectation for their age.

"Live" Reports

On your child's Page on the Virtual School, under **Live Assessments Tab**, you can find the Grade your child received for that Unit of work. Each subject completes assessments at different times during the year so check regularly but don't forget to leave time for the teacher to mark the assessment too!

You will receive a paper Summary Report every half term. We plan, with your agreement, to phase these out gradually if the on line system gives you the information you require.

Year 11 Assessments

Teachers will assess students on 2nd December 2016 and 17th March 2017. English and Maths will use Grades 1 – 9 (Highest). All other subjects will use A* - C Grades. More information about the introduction of the new GCSEs is below.

Parents Evenings

This year, you have two opportunities to meet with teachers. The dates are as follows:

Years 8 and 9	9 th November 2016	Year 11	23 rd March 2017
Years 10 and 11	7 th December 2016	Year 9 and 10	20 th April 2017
Year 7	12 th January 2017	Year 7 and 8	24 th May 2017

This year, we will also be inviting parents and students who are not making the progress they should to meet us on **Friday 20th January 2017**. We will be sending requests to meet you in early January 2017, following the assessments in December 2016.

Introduction of New GCSEs

These GCSEs are more demanding and require higher levels of literacy and numeracy to access the top grades. Students are assessed using Grades 1 to 9 to identify levels of performance. Grade 9 is the highest grade and recognises the very highest quality of work. Students do not complete coursework and are assessed in a final examination at the end of the course. Practical grades will still exist in certain subjects such as PE and Dance. These new GCSE qualifications will start from the dates below:

June 2017	English and Maths.
June 2018	Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Combined Science, Geography, History, Food and Nutrition, Computer Science, PE, Music, Drama, Dance, Art and Modern Languages.
June 2019	Product Design, Resistant Materials, Textiles, Media and Business

Comparison between A*-C Old GCSE Grading System and 1-9 New GCSE Grading System

New grading structure	Current grading structure
9	A*
8	A*
7	A
6	B
5	B
4	C
3	D
2	E
1	F
U	G
	U

GOOD PASS (DFE)
5 and above = top of C and above

AWARDING
4 and above = bottom of C and above