

Dear Parents and Careers

Assessment and reporting to parents.

In line with national developments from September 2015 Kings Norton Girls School will be changing our KS3 assessment system. KS3 assessments will no longer be based on levels.

Parents will be given two progress reviews, issued in the Autumn and Spring Terms, and a detailed written report in the Summer Term. The progress review gives brief information on effort and the level of attainment that students are expected to achieve in each subject by the end of the year. The main report will be written in the Summer Term and will take into account progress throughout the year as well as end of year examinations.

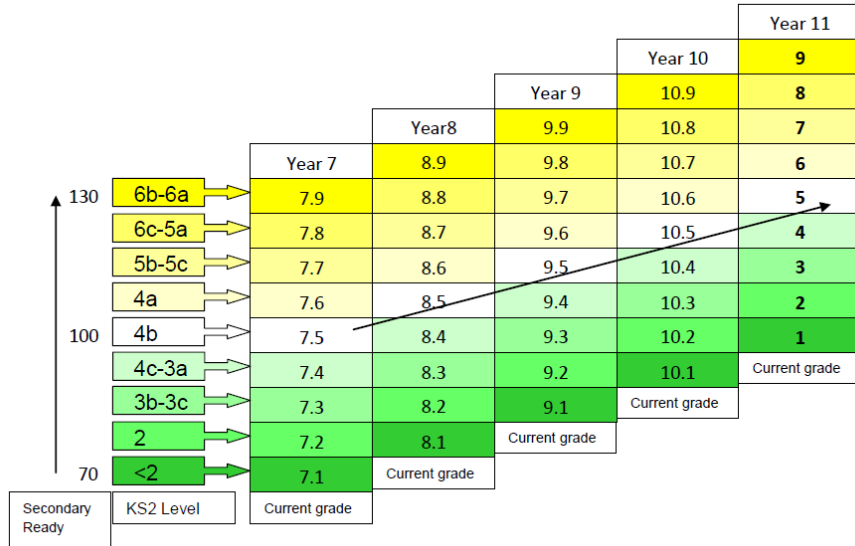
From September 2015 at KNGS our system of assessment will be based around the concept of a Progress Path. This is the path that a girl follows as she develops her knowledge, skills and understanding from year 7 to the point when she takes her GCSEs in Year 11. Girls join the school with a wide range of abilities and it is our expectation that they make good or outstanding progress from their starting point. Girls are set a Progress Path for all subjects based on their attainment from primary school.

COTTA Grade (Currently On Target To Achieve)

We will report your daughter's progress using COTTA grades. The COTTA grade states what your daughter is currently on track to achieve at the end of the year. For Year 7, 8 and 9 this grade expectation is based on the new numerical GCSE grades that will begin in 2015. Years 10 and 11 will continue to use the current letter based system, other than year 10 who will have numbers for English & Maths. A translation between the new and old GCSE grading system is given below.

New System	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	
Old System	A**	A*	A	B+	C+	C-	D	E	F	G

We have used the KS3 National Curriculum programmes of study and worked backwards from the GCSE grades to identify in each year and subject what knowledge, skills and understanding a girl would need to master in order to gain her expected GCSE score at the end of year 11. In each year she will need to master more knowledge, skills and understanding to be on track. So if she is expected to achieve a grade 5 at GCSE in year 11 she will need to be achieving a COTTA of 7.5 in Year 7 and follow the progression arrow through each year in order to be on track.



If the COTTA Grade matches the progress path appropriate for your daughter's prior attainment from primary school her progress will be considered good. Outstanding progress represents a grade or more above that expected. Many of our students achieve this and we encourage our girls to stretch and challenge themselves to get the best results of which they are capable.

Where girls are not on track to achieve their given grade they will be supported to close the gap.