

Monday 11th January 2016

Dear Parent/Carer,

From September 2016, Ricards Lodge High School will introduce a revised system of assessment for Years 7-9 students in all subjects. We will start this process as a trial with Year 9 students from January 2016 in English and Mathematics. This change is in response to the introduction of reformed GCSEs in English and Mathematics which award grades on a numerical scale of 1-9. It also reflects the Government's decision to abolish standardised levels at Key Stages 2 and 3.

Our new levels in English and Mathematics provide one continuous scale for mapping progress across Years 7-11. From September 2016 all other subjects in KS3 will have a similar continuous mapping process. However, this means that students may receive a new numerical level which appears to be lower than what they are used to under the old national curriculum levels.

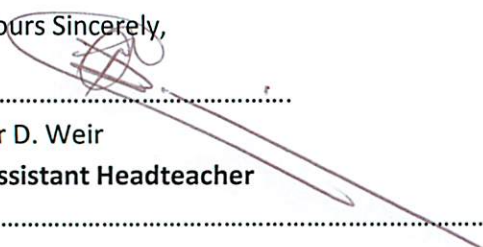
The new Key Stage 3 assessment levels for English and Mathematics are based on the skills that students need to develop in order to ensure that they are equipped to study the reformed GCSEs. The levels are mapped to the GCSE specifications.

The enclosed sheet gives guidance on how the revised system compares to the old (*legacy*) Key Stage 3 levels and how they compare to the old (*legacy*) A*-G grades at GCSE.

Students will still be graded using existing Key Stage 3 levels in all other subjects for the rest of this school year. The tracking sheets you receive during the year will have further guidance in order for you to be clear about your daughter's progress.

Should you have any questions please indicate below if you would like to attend a session at school on Tuesday 26th January 2016 at 6:30pm where I will go through the process.

Yours Sincerely,



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Dr D. Weir
Assistant Headteacher
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Reply Slip:

I would like to attend the KS3 1-9 Assessment session on Tuesday 26th January 2016 at 6:30pm.

Parent/Carer's name:

Student's name: Tutor Group: Learning Group:

Parent /Carer's Signature: Date:

Ricards Lodge High School

New Assessment Levels Proposal

Old GCSE Grades <i>(Best fit)</i>	New GCSE Number Grades	Explanation	KS3 Levels <i>(approximate)</i>
A*1	9U	These grades are above the old National Curriculum (NC) Levels.	KS4
A*1	9M		KS4
A*1	9L		KS4
A*2	8U		KS4
A*3	8M		KS4
A*3	8L		KS4
A1	7U		KS4
A2	7m		KS4
A3	7L		KS4
B1	6U	These grades cover a similar range of achievement to NC Levels 7-8. Grade 5 is going to be a key grade in the new GCSEs.	KS4
B2	6m		KS4
B2	6L		8a
B3	5U		8b
C1	5M		8c
C2	5L		7a
C3	4U		7b
C3	4M		7c
C3	4L		6a
D1	3U	These grades cover a similar range of achievement to NC Levels 5-6.	6b
D2	3M		6c
D3	3L		5a
E1	2U		5b
E3	2M		5c
F1	2L	These grades cover a similar range of achievement to NC Levels 3-4.	4a
F3	1U		4b
G1	1M		4c
G3	1L		3a
	FU		3b
	FM	Working towards level 1	3c
	FL		2a
	PU		2b
	PM		2c
	PL		1a
	W		

Key:

5U – Upper grade 5

5M – Middle grade 5

5L – Lower grade 5

F – Foundation

P – Pre Foundation

W – Working towards level 1