



Assessment at St Peter's School: A Quick Guide

There have been many changes in the way that students are assessed in schools. GCSEs are now graded 1–9 for most subjects and Primary schools now score Key Stage 2 assessments using standardised scores based around an average of 100.

As a result many schools are using different systems to judge the progress of their students.

A New Standard

Most of us have been aware that a 'C' grade at GCSE was the 'pass' mark. Many colleges, universities and employees have used this measure to judge success.

This is going to change. The new measures implemented by the Government now state that a **Grade 5 is the standard** to be achieved at this level.

The diagram (Figure 1) shows how this relates to 'old' GCSE and Key Stage 2 & 3 Levels. **A Grade 5 is a C+/B-** on the old GCSE scale.

We also know that the bottom of a Grade 1 will be aligned with a G grade and a Grade 7 with an A Grade.

Students will now be judged on their attainment across 8 subjects (called Attainment 8). An average is given, so an average of 5 would mean that the Government's acceptable standard has been met.

Students are also measured by the progress they make from their starting points at Key Stage 2.

What is the 'New' Standard?

Figure 1

Old GCSE Grade	New GCSE Grade
Entry Level	
F/G	1
E-	2
E	
E+	
D-	3
D	
D+	
C-	4
C-	
C+	5
B-	
B	6
B+	
A-	7
A	
A+	8
A*-	
A*	9
A*+	

This new measure is Progress 8. This measures how well students have progressed from Key Stage 2 to GCSE at Key Stage 4.

Students start at different points and have different expectations at Key Stage 4. The table below shows what these expectations are.

KS2 Level	Expected
1b	1/2
2c	2
2b	2
2a	2
3c	2/3
3b	3
3a	3/4
4c	4
4b	4/5
4a	5/6
5c	6
5b	7
5a	8

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How will we measure progress?

Throughout a student's career at St. Peter's School, we will assess how well they are doing using these 'new' measures.

To help simplify this, students will be given a Target Grade based on the Government's expectations.

As a rough guide a student beginning secondary school with a Level 4b or 100 (the new standardised score from 2016) will be set a target of a Grade 5 for GCSE.

To make sure it is clear how well a student is performing in Years 7 –11 we will use this grade to judge their success. A student who has a target of achieving a Grade 5 in Year 11, will have this as a target for every year of their education if they are 'working towards expectations' to attain this. If they attain a Grade 6 or higher for any given subject or assessment this is judged to be 'exceeding expectations' and indeed if they attain a Grade 4 or lower then this will be highlighted as being 'below expectations' to meet their targets.

What you will see on a report?

Every department will use GCSE grades to report on how well a student is achieving.

Each department has reviewed their assessments to align with new GCSEs. In doing so they have identified the skills, content and knowledge to be delivered to each Year group to ensure they meet the expected grades for students.

Therefore, students will be judged as to whether they are 'working towards' their 'Target' in each Year group.

Should you require further information, please do not hesitate to contact the School on 01480 459581.
