



20 October 2023

Dear Parents & Carers,

### **Year 12 Assessment & Reporting Academic Year 2023-2024**

The intention of this letter is to inform you about our strategy for the provision of assessment and reporting grades. Students in Key Stage 5 (Years 12 and 13) will be tracked according to A-Level letter grades. In order for students to visualise their progress over the two years, we assign each student a **'Flight Path Grade'** for each of their subjects. **The Flight Path Grade is the grade which, if a student makes their expected progress, they should at least achieve at A Level at the end of Year 13.**

Students have been sitting A-Level baseline tests (GL Assessment CAT4 tests) this term; these provide us with useful data at the start of their Sixth Form studies. GL Assessment collects A-Level results from students in all schools that subscribe to their service (including The King's (The Cathedral) School). They calculate the most common A-Level Grades for each CAT4 test score for each subject. In addition, we refer to national data that shows average progress students make from their GCSE exams to A-Levels. All of this data is used to help us determine Flight Path Grades for each of the students' subjects.

CAT4 also calculate the percentage of students who achieved each individual grade at A-Level in each subject for each possible average GCSE score and CABT score and publish these as 'chances graphs'. These will help students determine their own aspirational targets.

This information will be shared with the students individually during Learning for Life lessons over the next half term. The students will have an opportunity to discuss their initial post 18 aspirations during this one-to-one meeting. Please do discuss the Flight Path Grades with your son or daughter.

To illustrate this with an example, a Year 12 student who has been assessed as having good potential to achieve Grade B in a certain subject, would be assigned a Flight Path of a B. **If that student progressed at a rate that would be expected of most students at our school, they should follow that Flight Path through Year 12 and subsequently to A-Level at the end of Year 13.** Looking at the chances graphs, that student may see that although most students with the same scores as themselves achieved B grades, a small percentage also achieved A and A\* grades, so they may want to focus on these as aspirational targets.

We expect every student to make progress at their own individual rate, and we believe that there is no ceiling on each student's potential attainment; therefore, students' initial Flight Paths are certainly not fixed. We will also encourage all students to identify the requirements to move up to the higher Flight Path Grades, and aim to make the extra progress needed to do so.

At Assessment Points, parents and students will be informed about the Flight Path grade for each subject along with a **Predicted Grade**: this is the grade that a student is likely to achieve at the end of the Key Stage based on recent attainment. Predictions will be reported using **'fine grades'** as detailed below:

Symbol	Explanation	Example
<b>Developing = Minus [-]</b>	Used when a student is working towards meeting the descriptors for their Flight Path Grade in a subject	B-
<b>Competent = Whole grade</b>	Used when a student is meeting all the descriptors for their Flight Path Grade in a subject	B
<b>Confident = Plus [+]</b>	Used when a student is exceeding some of the descriptors for their Flight Path Grade in a subject	B+

To make these judgements, and to help guide students towards the skills that are required for the higher Flight Paths, students will be informed about the knowledge and skills that they need to develop to achieve these grades. This will be based on the A-Level specifications, and also take into account knowledge that can realistically be developed during the two-year programme. Teachers will be using rigorous assessments that will be matched to A-Level criteria to ensure the process is reliable.

To illustrate this with another example, in the Autumn Term a student on a Flight Path Grade B for a subject might be given a Prediction of B-. This means that the student is working towards meeting their assigned Flight Path Grade B at the end of Year 13. The student will need to develop in some areas to be competent in gaining Grade B overall at A-Level.

The Flight Paths that have been determined by each subject area for your son or daughter will be communicated in December.

If you have any further questions, please contact me on [rhodes.d@kings.peterborough.sch.uk](mailto:rhodes.d@kings.peterborough.sch.uk).

Yours faithfully,



Mr D Rhodes  
Deputy Headteacher (Academic)