



Milford Haven School
Ysgol Gyfun Aberdaugleddau



Headteacher / Prifathro: Ms C-A Morris

TOGETHER ASPIRE, TOGETHER ACHIEVE
Gyda'n gilydd, ymdrechwn... Gyda'n gilydd, cyflawnwn...

09.11.20

Dear Parent/Carer,

Together we have overcome some difficult times over the last few months and we wanted to take this opportunity to reassure you about the progress your son/daughter is making. During March 2020 you will have received an end of Year 8 report, which outlined the progress your son/daughter had made up until lockdown and would have helped you decide the best subjects for your son/daughter to study at Key Stage 4 (Years 9, 10 and 11).

We are confident they have settled into their new courses with your and our support but we understand that you may be anxious or concerned about your son/daughter and the progress they are making.

As they begin their GCSE/Vocational courses we will be issuing them a GCSE performance grade (PG) once they have completed their CAT4 test (Cognitive Ability Test). This test is normally completed at the end of year 8 however this was not possible this year due to COVID19. Therefore our year 9 pupils will be completing the test over the next half of the autumn term (subject to any changes which may be required due to covid updates)

The CAT 4 data generated will be put together with all the other information we have to produce **one** GCSE performance grade, ranging from A to G, for each pupil.

Having just one grade, known as the **performance grade**, will make it easier for your child and for you as parents/carers to be really clear as to the standard of work he/she should be aiming for. Also, the fact that your child will have one performance grade, rather than one for each different subject area.

The first formal year 9 pupil progress review takes place towards the end of November, alongside on-going feedback in lessons. This will include attitudes to learning, effort and involvement in lessons, completion of tasks and organisation but will not include a performance grade review for the above reasons.

During the school year pupils' progress will be reviewed at key times by all subject teachers they will reflect on the standard of work produced up to that point and the effort put in, both in class and at home. Your child's performance in each subject will then be measured against the performance grade and this progress subsequently reported clearly back to you three times as recorded in the parent/carer calendar.

Your child's performance grade, of which you will be informed is the standard he/she should be aiming for in all subjects. Teachers will be aware of their performance grade and will be encouraging and supporting your child to achieve this grade.

On a final note, it is important to emphasise that the performance grade is about pupils as individuals. It is about ensuring that each individual pupil is challenged and supported to fulfil his/her own potential. It is not about comparing one pupil with another; there are no grades that are 'better' or 'worse' – we simply want to support all pupils and to monitor the progress they are making. At the heart of this whole programme are the best interests of each and every pupil in this school.

Please do not hesitate to contact Mrs Griffiths (Strategic Leader for KS4/5) if you have any queries over the academic progress your son or daughter is making. You can message us via the school app, telephone us on 01646 690021 or email admin@milfordhavenschool.co.uk and mark your email FAO Mrs Griffiths.

Yours faithfully

Mr J Letten
Assistant headteacher

Mrs M Griffiths
Strategic Leader for KS4/5