

1<sup>st</sup> December 2021

## KS3 Parent Reports – **STUDENT NAME**

Dear **PARENT NAME**,

I'm writing about some coming changes as to how we will report assessment results in Key Stage 3 to parents. We hope our new system will be more **"parent-friendly"** and provide better **context** about your child's progress.

As before, we will continue to report the percentage your child receives in their end of term assessments, and you will receive this information three times a year. However, we will also report how this percentage relates to their **Target Band** and **Current Band**.

The introduction of bands helps in two ways:

- 1) It will allow you to see how your child is performing relative to their other subjects
- 2) It will give you a rough indication of how their results in Key Stage 3 could project forward to GCSE

There are five attainment bands in each subject, and they link approximately to GCSE grades as follows:

KS3 Academic Bands	Band 4			Band 3		Band 2		Band 1		Band E
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8		
Projected GCSE Results	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	

- *Band E (exceptional performance): This band indicates that a student is working in the top 5% of the cohort in this subject. No student will have a target of Band E, but they can achieve it in a given test.*
- *Band 1: Students with current assessment results in Band 1 are on track to achieve between a grade 7 and 9 at GCSE in this subject.*
- *Band 2: Students with current assessment results in Band 2 are on track to achieve somewhere between a grade 5 and 7 at GCSE in this subject.*
- *Band 3: Students with current assessment results in Band 3 are on track to achieve somewhere between a grade 3 and 5 at GCSE in this subject.*
- *Band 4: Students with current assessment results in Band 4 are on track to achieve somewhere between a grade 1 and 3 at GCSE in this subject.*

**Please note that the bands are just estimates, and the further you are away from GCSEs, the harder it is to predict results.** It doesn't follow that, for example, a student in scoring in Band 1 in Y7 will definitely receive at grade 7-9 in Y11. Also, just because a student has a high target or current band in one subject, it doesn't mean they will be in the same band for others.

Based on your child's prior attainment, we have calculated a minimum target band in each subject and listed these below. These are minimum expectations and students should aim to exceed them. Target bands can change year to year, based on students' performance in their end of year exams.

### Key Stage 3 “Target Bands” for **STUDENT NAME**

Subject	Target Band
English	X
Mathematics	X
Science	X
Art	X
Computer Science	X
Dance	X
Drama	X
Design & Technology	X
Geography	X
German	X
History	X
Music	X
Physical Education	X

We will be able to report on your child’s “**Current Band**” after each assessment point in the year.

### Frequently Asked Questions

- 1) Why does my child have different target bands in different subjects?  
*Assessment works differently in different subjects, and students’ aptitude and achievement varies. It’s possible, for example, to be a talented musician with a target of Band 1, but a less able sportsman/woman with a target of Band 3. Targets are always ambitious in terms of what that student can achieve, but that doesn’t mean they are uniform.*
- 2) How have you calculated these targets?  
*We have looked at your child’s prior attainment – for example, the results they received in the Cognitive Ability and Reading tests they took when they joined KAA. We have then compared how students with similar results have gone on to perform at GCSE in previous years.*
- 3) I think my child should be targeted to be in a higher band, what can I do?  
*If your child’s assessment results at the end of the autumn, spring, and summer term indicate that they are performing above their target band then this will be changed for the next academic year.*
- 4) Is any of this an exact science?  
*The honest answer is no. Once your child gets to Year 10 and starts their GCSE courses, we will be in a much better position to give accurate targets and predictions for their likely eventual grades.*

I’ll close by reminding parents that the Autumn Term Assessment Week for students in Years 7, 8 and 9 is Monday 6<sup>th</sup> December to Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> December. Students will be told their results in the final week of term and we will email all parents a full breakdown of the results in early January in your child’s autumn term report. If anyone has any questions before then please don’t hesitate to email me at [n.edwards@kaa.org.uk](mailto:n.edwards@kaa.org.uk).

Yours sincerely,



**Nick Edwards**  
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