



# St Mary's Catholic School

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*where everyone can succeed*



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12<sup>th</sup> July 2021

Dear Parent or Carer,

**Re: Progress Reports**

I hope that this letter finds you and your family well.

As you are aware, keeping parents regularly updated on their child's progress is very important to us. I am writing to inform you that your child's report for the summer term is now ready. Due to current circumstances, we are sending all reports to student email accounts, with an accompanying letter to parents via text. You will be able to read your child's report in their school email account. If you would like us to send you the report to your private email account, you should contact your child's Head of Year, Mr Donnelly, and we will arrange for that to happen.

In the box below, there is a brief explanation of the information shown on the report:

**Current Achievement**

This is your child's current achievement at the end of the summer term. This is a holistic grade using the 9-1 scale for GCSE courses, and Pass, Merit or Distinction for vocational courses. Each grade is based on your child's overall achievement in classwork, homework and assessments over the course of the summer term. If the current grade is not what you expected, this is not necessarily a cause for concern. It is important to bear in mind that students are only at the midway point in two-year GCSE and vocational courses. With excellent effort, attitude and engagement, students will continue to make progress in all their courses in preparation for final exams in the summer of 2022.

**Effort and Attitude**

This takes into account areas that are critical for future success, including organisation, behaviour, quality of homework and classwork, workrate and preparation for assessments. To arrive at an overall judgement, staff have used a simple numbering system of 1 to 4:

1. The student is making excellent progress and is well-motivated. They complete the vast majority of class work and homework to the best of their ability and to a high standard. They have a positive approach, are well-focused and participate fully in lessons.
2. The student is making very good progress, but they need to give a little more effort at times. Most class work and homework is completed to a good standard, but with a little more focus or participation in lessons, this student could do better.
3. There are some concerns with the progress of this student. Not enough effort is being put into classwork or homework and an improved attitude is required. Overall, greater application and effort is needed, otherwise this student will underachieve.
4. There are serious concerns with the progress of this student. There needs to be a significant improvement in attitude and effort towards work and homework, as well as an improvement in behaviour during lessons. This student is often unfocused and may disrupt learning. Poor attitude and effort means that there is significant underachievement at present.

At present, Year 10 students are sitting class-based assessments in most of their subjects. Before the end of term, students will be receiving high-quality feedback from their subject teachers, providing them with a clear idea about which areas of knowledge and understanding are secure, as well as those areas of learning that may be less secure and require revisiting. This detailed advice and guidance from teachers will give students the opportunity to continue making excellent progress


going into the final year of GCSE and vocational courses. You will also be able to discuss the information contained in this report with your child's form tutor on Progress Day, **Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> July**.

We are all looking forward to the end of an eventful school year during which there has been significant disruption to school life, with students experiencing periods of school closure, self-isolation and remote learning. We have been immensely proud of the way our students have conducted themselves, especially their ability to adapt quickly to the changing circumstances throughout the year. They have been a credit to themselves and their families. We all hope that the start of the next academic year will signal the return to some kind of normality in school. Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to wish you and your family a pleasant break over the summer.

If you have any queries at all, please do not hesitate to contact Mr Donnelly in the first instance.

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours faithfully,



Dr I Stanton  
Assistant Headteacher