

Date

Name

Address

Dear (Name of Parent/Carer)

Student name: (Student name)

Re: Key Stage 3 Target Setting 2017/18

Over the last two years there have been significant changes to the educational landscape. GCSEs and A levels were reformed and there has been significant changes to the assessment framework. As a school, we have responded to these changes by remodelling the school curriculum and developing a new assessment framework, using the new 9-1 numerical grading flight paths from Key Stage 2 to 4.

During the summer term all parents/carers received a copy of the school's assessment framework (Assessment without Levels booklet). All staff have received training and work will continue throughout the year to develop the assessment programme. The assessment framework will also be explained to all students during assemblies and via curriculum areas during the autumn term.

To support the rigour of the new assessment framework, students will be set aspirational targets. Since September 2016 we have used ALPS (Advanced Level Performance System), to set targets against a national data set (from the DfE), based on KS2 point scores and subject by subject value added measures. We have used ALPs at Key Stage 5 for many years, which has transformed the outcomes for students, ensuring students are successfully challenged in order to enable them to make better than expected progress. The minimum expected grades are set at the 75th percentile, based on the full national dataset from the DfE.

**Minimum expected target grades
GCSE –ALPs National Minimum Expected Grades**

KS2 Fine Grade	KS2 Band	GCSE Minimum Expected Grade by the end of Year 11	GCSE Aspirational Grade by the end of Year 11
5.67+	6/5a	8	8/9
5.33 – 5.66	5b	7	8
5.00 – 5.32	5c	6	7
4.67 – 4.99	4a	6/5	6
4.33 – 4.66	4b	5	5/6
4.00 – 4.32	4c	4	4/5
3.67 – 3.99	3a	3	4
3.33 – 3.66	3b	3	3 / 4
3.00 – 3.32	3c	2	3
2.00 – 2.99	2	2	2/3
0.00 – 1.99	N	2	2/3

The table shows each KS2 band along with the minimum expected grade and aspirational target grade. At KS2 decimalised fine grade KS2 scores are used and pupils are banded using the sub-levels. Once national KS2 data is available for current Y6 pupils ALPs will issue a briefing paper showing equivalencies.

The 9-1 flight path replaces the old A*-G GCSE grades. A grade 4 is similar to an old grade C. A grade 9 will account for the top 3% nationally of highest performers.

To ensure the highest standards are maintained, your daughter will be set aspirational targets for the year ahead. Targets are set from the progress your daughter will make at the end of Key Stage 2 through to the end of Key Stage 4. Teaching staff will continue to review targets, set throughout the year, in order to support your daughter achieving her aspirational targets.

Starting point from Key Stage 2

Subject	KS2 score
English	
Mathematics	

(Insert student's name) aspirational targets (minimum expected) for the academic year 2017/18 are:

Numerical target grade (9-1) Minimum Expected (75 th percentile)	Numerical target grade (9-1) Aspirational (90 th percentile)

We recommend a minimum of six hours per week of homework and independent study. Support, intervention and mentoring will be provided throughout the year, in order to support and challenge your daughter.

Please do not hesitate to contact school if you require any further information or clarification about the new assessment framework and/or target setting procedures. Information will also be published on the school website www.stjulies.org.uk (Assessment section). Please also feel free to review the ALPs website www.alps-va.co.uk.

May I take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support of your daughter's education at St Julie's Catholic High School.

Yours sincerely

Mrs K McCourt
Deputy Headteacher KS4/KS5

Copy to:

Mrs K Rooney
Head of Lower School