

Date

Name

Address

Dear (Name of Parent/Carer)

Student name: (Student name)

Re: Year 8 Target Setting 2019-20

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

During the summer term all parents/carers received an electronic copy of the school's assessment framework (Assessment without Levels booklet) via the school e-bulletin or website. During the autumn term we will explain the assessment framework to all students during assemblies and via curriculum areas.

To support the rigour of the assessment framework, students are set aspirational targets. Since September 2016 we have used ALPS (Advanced Level Performance System), to set targets against a national data set from the Department for Education (DfE), based on Key Stage 2 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, by ensuring that they are successfully challenged in order to enable them to make better than expected progress. Aspirational grades are set at the 90th percentile, based on the 2019 national dataset from the DfE.

Minimum expected target grades	
GCSE –ALPs National Minimum Expected Grades	
KS2 standardised score	GCSE Aspirational Grade by the end of Year 11
120	8/9
115-119	8
111-114	7
107-110	6
104-106	5
100-103	5/4
96-99	4
89-95	3
<89	3

The table above 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.

The 9-1 flight path replaces the old A*-G GCSE grades. Grade 4 is similar to an old grade C and a grade 9 will account for the top 6% 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	(insert KS2 scaled score)
Mathematics	(insert KS2 scaled score)

(Insert student's name) aspirational targets are:

Numerical target grade for the end of Year 8	Numerical target grade for the end of Year 11
(insert grade)	(insert grade)

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 KS3/KS4