



19 January 2026

Dear Parent/Carer

As referenced in communication shared by Mrs Hulland on Friday, I wanted to provide you with further details regarding target grades and our reporting cycles in advance of your child's next formal assessment week in a fortnight's time.

Year 7 Consolidation Fortnight and Assessment Week

As you will be aware, the Year 7 consolidation fortnight begins today, running for two weeks. During this time, students will be set additional consolidation and revision tasks in all subjects, designed to support them in preparation for their assessment week during the week commencing **2 February 2026**. During this assessment week your child will complete in-class assessments in most subjects, usually spanning the duration of a single lesson. Your child will be informed of precisely which lessons these will take place in by their subject teacher over the coming week.

Target Grades and our KS3 Reporting Cycle

Following the conclusion of the Year 7 assessment week and staff marking of these assessments, a report will be generated. This will for the first time include your child's **target grade** and an indication from their subject teacher(s) of their performance in relation to these targets. This will be in addition to feedback on your child's **effort, independence, resilience**, and **consolidation**, which you have seen previously.

All student target grades at HGSA are generated using an independent system called FFT Aspire, establishing an end of year 11 grade for students based on their KS2 prior attainment and our school context. All target grades are designed to give an indication of expected academic performance at the end of year 11, but are by no means a ceiling on achievements. It is always possible for target grades to be surpassed, so all students can work towards achieving the top grade in all subjects.

During KS3, your child will receive a **target grade banding** which will apply to all of their subjects. This morning your child was informed of their target grade banding, which they have on a coloured slip and can share with you this evening. Within your child's reports from this point forward you will be reminded of this target grade band and your child's subject teacher(s) will indicate **how on track** your child's current performance is. Similar to most primary school reporting structures, but now applied to multiple subjects, your child will be given one of the following categories to indicate their performance:

- **Exceeding**
- **Working at**
- **Working below**

For parents' who have other children at HGSA, you may have already noticed that this is different to previous academic years and it does represent a new initiative, designed to make our reporting cycle clearer during the first two years of study at HGSA. Upon commencement of year 9, your child will receive a subject specific singular target grade, alongside an end of year 11 predicted grade.

Whilst I hope that the above information is comprehensive, to further support your understanding of target grades and our KS3 reports, please take the time to view the following video - [Target Grades Y7 and KS3 Reporting-20260118_210751-Meeting Recordi...](#)

Should you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

Mr R Graham

Vice Principal