

27.11.2023

Dear Parent/Carer,

As we approach the midpoint of the academic year, I wanted to take the opportunity to provide some insight into our new grading system that we have implemented on Progress and how this impacts your young person.

At Alloa Academy, we believe in fostering a supportive and transparent learning environment where every young person has the opportunity to excel and reach their full potential. With this in mind, I would like to explain the concepts of target grades and working grades, which are integral to our assessment process.

Target Grades:

The target grade is an aspirational level of attainment that we believe each young person can achieve by the end of the academic year. These grades are determined through a careful assessment of a young person's abilities, taking into account their prior performance, individual circumstances, and our high expectations for their progress. It's important to note that target grades are not set in stone and can be reviewed in consultation with the young people and their subject teachers. As a result of this ongoing review process, target grades may fluctuate throughout the year to ensure they remain challenging yet attainable.

Working Grades:

Working grades, on the other hand, reflect the level at which the young person is currently performing in their studies. These grades provide a real-time indication of your young person's progress and are based on their performance in class, assessments, and other relevant indicators. Working grades are essential in helping us understand where each young person is on their learning journey, identify areas for improvement, and provide targeted support as needed. The RAG (Red Amber Green) system is as follows; Green - pupil is on track and meeting their potential, Amber - pupil is at risk of not meeting their potential, Red - pupil is not on track and is not meeting their potential

Our approach to target and working grades is designed to support and motivate young people by setting high expectations while also recognising their current efforts and achievements. By understanding these two types of grades, we aim to provide a clear roadmap for your young person's academic growth and foster a sense of ownership and responsibility for their learning journey.

As we move forward in the academic year, we encourage you to engage in conversations with your young person about their target and working grades, and to reach out to their subject Faculty Head or Year Head if you have any questions or concerns. We believe that open communication between parents, young people, and teachers is vital in supporting each young person's success.

Thank you for your ongoing support and partnership. We look forward to continuing to work together to help each young person at Alloa Academy thrive academically and personally.

Iaian Kirkpatrick
DHT and S3 Year Head

