03 September 2020

Dear Parent/Guardian

**S4-S6: Reporting on and supporting progress in National Qualifications**

The first report for your son/daughter’s progress is enclosed. It contains the following for each course they are undertaking:

* a **Target Grade**,
* a **Working Grade**,
* Information about their **effort, behaviour, and homework**
* Comments about their **progress and advice on next steps**

The **target grade** is aspirational. It is agreed upon through dialogue between the class teacher and the young person and represents the grade that the member of staff feels that the young person could achieve if they work to the very best of their potential.

The Target Grade is **not** an estimate grade or a predicted grade.

The **working grade** is a judgement based on the level and quality of work produced by the young person at this point in the course. This judgement may be influenced by effort and behaviour and standard of homework if they are not as they should be.

**Background**

Young people are successful learners when they are well supported and challenged to do their best, particularly when they are undertaking formal assessments. It is also well documented that when young people think that no-one is noticing their progress that they can “coast” and do just enough to get by. We want to ensure that all young people in the senior school feel that their efforts are being noticed and we want to challenge them to do their absolute best. Of course, we also recognise that young people need support.

This session the reporting schedule will be impacted by the special circumstances under which we are working because of COVID-19. Normally we would issue an interim report without comments in October and hold a parent’s evening in November. However, because we cannot hold parents’ evenings now – and probably for some time to come - we have decided to amalgamate these two events into one report. This report as Mrs McWilliam indicated in her HT Update of 7 September 2020, will be based on evidence teachers have gathered of your child’s progress to date. It will be influenced by effort behaviour and homework and so information is provided on these elements too.

**How will I get my child’s report?**

All reports will be posted home in the last week of term before the October holidays.

**What support in school is available in school?**

The Head of House will still be your main point of contact should you have any queries about your child’s progress. Heads of House provide ongoing support for all young people and more targeted support for those who need it.

The Heads of House are as follows:

Mrs J Napier Crathes House

Miss V Howard Drum House

Mrs L Marshall Fyvie House

**How else can I support my child’s learning?**

We have a booklet which gives you lots of information about how you can engage with and support your child’s learning in and out of school. This is available on the school website. [www.bridgeofdon.aberdeen.sch.uk](http://www.bridgeofdon.aberdeen.sch.uk)

Yours sincerely

J Cruickshank

Mrs J Cruickshank

Depute Head Teacher