Parent/Carer Guide to KS3 Assessment and Reporting - July 2025

At Ilkley Grammar School we continue to teach the subject content required for study at Key Stage 3. An overview of the content of the school's curriculum for each year group and subject can be found on the school website. This should be referred to following each tracking window in order that students connect the information in their reports and their assessment and feedback to their progress within the curriculum.

Purpose of KS3 assessment:

- To monitor and measure how a student is mastering the intended curriculum
- To inform any interventions/responses aimed at addressing knowledge insecurity or 'gaps'
- To assess the quality of education across classes and curriculum areas
- To support the transferring of subject knowledge and common teaching approaches across departments
- To inform and support decisions around curriculum adaptations and option choices

Key Principles:

- An assessment structure that takes into account student and teacher workload
- An assessment policy that links directly to the intended curriculum and assesses the development of knowledge and skills over time
- A reporting system that is both attainment and progress based

Key Assessment/Reporting Principles:

- Well-designed assessments that feed into each tracking point and follow the 'Common Assessment Principles'
- A system that uses KS2 data and current assessment data to identify and flag changes in student performance (**PROGRESS**)
- A system that uses assessment intelligence to indicate how well a student is working within the curriculum (**ATTAINMENT**)

Reporting:

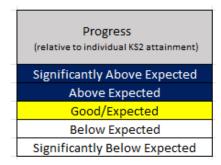- The following information will be reported at the Tracking points for KS3:

Tracking 1	Tracking 2
CtL	CtL
Progress	Progress
Curriculum Attainment Level	Curriculum Attainment Level
	Tutor Reports

Target Setting:

There will be no arbitrary targets given to students in KS3. When students enter Year 9, they will be assigned end of KS4 targets that are generated from their KS2 scores.

Progress:

- Students KS2 maths and English scores will be uploaded onto our data systems upon entry into Year 7
- Department areas will carry out common assessments that test key knowledge and skills. Scores from these assessments will be recorded on 'Subject Assessment Trackers' created by the Data Team
- Aggregated assessment scores will be collected in each subject, for the whole subject cohort.
- Assessment scores will be compared to individual KS2 scores, and this will inform a Progress Judgement for each student, at each tracking point.

Progress (relative to individual KS2 attainment)
Significantly Above Expected
Above Expected
Good/Expected
Below Expected
Significantly Below Expected

- For students who remain in the top 20% consistently, there is an additional automatic descriptor of 'Continued Excellent Progress'

Curriculum Attainment Level:

- Heads of Department are required to set raw mark thresholds for each assessment recorded on the assessment trackers.
- The raw mark thresholds have been set with consideration of their curriculum design, the key knowledge and skills tested and their knowledge of prior performance in their subject area.
- These thresholds will then automatically generate a Curriculum Attainment Level from one of the 4 categories below:

Very secure	Concepts taught as per the curriculum intent have been well understood and recall of facts / application is fluent
Secure	Most concepts taught as per the curriculum intent have been well understood and recall of facts / application is good, with some further work required
Developing	Some concepts taught as per the curriculum intent have been understood and recall of facts / application is reasonable, although further work is required
Emerging	Few concepts taught as per the curriculum intent have been understood and recall of facts / application is limited, with further work essential

KS3 Reports:

These will be sent home at the 2 tracking points in the year, and the second report will also include Tutor Comments.

The following information will be included on each report:

- KS2 attainment information
- Attendance information
- Edulink behaviour information
- An average 'Commitment to Learning' grade to enable an overview across the different subject areas
- Subject specific 'Commitment to Learning' grades
- Progress and Attainment information for each subject