



St Robert of Newminster Catholic School and Sixth Form College

Biddick Lane, Washington, Tyne & Wear, NE38 8AF

Tel: (0191) 716 1700

Email: school@str.bwcet.com



Head Teacher: Mr D Juric
Chair of Governors: Miss A Nichols

19th December 2023

Dear Parent/Carer

Report Card Information

Thank you for your patience whilst we have navigated our new management information system (Arbor) and other unforeseen difficulties, in order to produce report cards. I realise how frustrating this has been for you and appreciate your ongoing commitment to working with school to best support your child(ren).

Our report cards will give you, and students, an indication of current progress, based on current in class, and out of class work completion. They also summarise how well students have engaged with their learning and homework. There is a guidance sheet with the report to explain the detail within.

As this year group was impacted by Covid during Year 6 of their primary school, students could not complete the typical SAT's papers which would ordinarily generate an end of Key Stage 4 target for our use in secondary school. To assist us to overcome this difficulty, students sat a CAT4 assessment in Year 7. This assessed their verbal ability and reading comprehension, data interpretation and logical reasoning, and quantitative ability. By providing us with an equivalent indication of a student's academic ability, we are able to see the potential GCSE outcomes for students with similar prior ability when compared with national data.

At St Robert's, we pride ourselves on promoting our school values, one of which is aspiration. As such, we set targets for students which are aspirational in nature and within the top 25% of outcomes for students with a similar prior ability, nationally. As a result, 75% of students may not achieve the same outcome with the same prior ability, but it is our intention that our students may aspire to achieve this potential. Many of our students do go on to achieve within the top 25%, 20% and even 10% of students, nationally. Our targets, therefore, are not a finite target, and many students do achieve higher than these aspirational targets.

We aim to share end of Key Stage 4 targets with you once we have factored in the student's first two assessment outcomes in Year 10, alongside their CAT4 data. This will enable us to contextualise targets to ensure they are suitably aspirational. It is hoped that the target grades will provide an indication of your child's potential, with which, you can review progress in the context of their current working grade. Please do keep in mind, that a student in the Autumn term or Spring Term of Year 10 is unlikely to achieve their target grade as this is an aspirational indication for their end of Year 11 outcome potential. Also, your child's progress is based on the current work they are learning, and therefore it is not totally holistic in nature.

I hope that, with your support, we can continue to work in partnership to help your child(ren) to 'let their light shine' both academically, and personally.

Should you wish to discuss the content of this email for any further clarification, or your child's report card, please do contact the school's main reception on 0191 716 1700 for the attention of your child's Head of House, in the first instance.

Yours sincerely

Mrs M Salmon, Senior Assistant Head Teacher

