



PARK HALL
ACADEMY

Park Hall Academy



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11 September 2017

Dear Parent(s)/Carer(s),

Park Hall has adapted our assessment systems to ensure our students are prepared for the examinations that await them at the end of KS4. It is essential you are aware of the changes to examinations and how we, and you, can support your child's progress outside of school.

What has changed?

- Students are now awarded grades 1-9

Over the last few years there has been a number of wide ranging reforms to assessment and qualifications in England. At KS4, GCSEs will no longer be graded from A* - G. This has been replaced by a number system of Grades '9 to 1'. 9 is the highest grade that can be awarded, Ofqual report that only 5% of the population will receive this prestigious grade. A 'good' pass is a grade 5, and most colleges and post-16 education schemes will be expecting this grade in order to be eligible for many courses. Students who haven't reached the criteria for 1 will be placed on a foundation level (f)s

How is my child's target determined?

- Using baseline data from English and Maths assessments during year 6

Your child will have two end of year targets each year, an expected target level and an aspirational target level. The expected target level is determined by looking at what your child comes into school on and what they should achieve if they meet the nationally expected rates of progress. The aspirational one is a higher target, something we believe your child is capable of if they work hard and listen to the support and guidance given.

How do you measure my child's progress

- Using levels 1-9 and sub-levels within them (1-, 1, 1+)

In order to carefully track your child's progress, we give them a grade each assessment period (see below). This will range from a 1e to a 9. To closely track the progression we give each whole grade three sub-levels. A3 means they are attaining at a level 3 in that subject, a 3- means they are just on a level 3, and 3+ means they are a strong level 3 approaching level 4. We expect students to progress at least 2 sub-levels per academic year.

How will I know how my child is progressing?

We will report home four times a year showing you your child's current progress, target grade and attitude to learning. Please use our parent/carer progress pages in the student planner in order to carefully track their progress.

Flight Path

Below is our flightpath, demonstrating our expectations of students' progress from when they enter Park Hall, to when they leave. Students can track their own progress expectations using this flight path. For instance, we would expect a child coming in with a KS2 score of 100 to achieve at least a level 5 in their GCSEs in year 11. In order to do this they would need to make two sub-levels of progress a year. Making a whole level of progress will enable them to make good progress, achieving even higher grades in year 11.

KS2 Sub Level	KS2 Score	Year 7			Year 8			Year 9			Year 10			Year 11			Equiv old Grade
		Au	Sp	Su	Au	Sp	Su	Au	Sp	Su	Au	Sp	Su	Au	Sp	Su	
		9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	A*	
		9-	9-	9-	9-	9-	9-	9-	9-	9-	9-	9-	9-	9-	9-	A*	
		8+	8+	8+	8+	8+	8+	8+	8+	8+	8+	8+	8+	8+	8+	A*	
		8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	A*	
		8-	8-	8-	8-	8-	8-	8-	8-	8-	8-	8-	8-	8-	8-	A*	
		7+	7+	7+	7+	7+	7+	7+	7+	7+	7+	7+	7+	7+	7+	A	
		7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	A	
		7-	7-	7-	7-	7-	7-	7-	7-	7-	7-	7-	7-	7-	7-	A	
		6+	6+	6+	6+	6+	6+	6+	6+	6+	6+	6+	6+	6+	6+	B	
		6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	B	
		6-	6-	6-	6-	6-	6-	6-	6-	6-	6-	6-	6-	6-	6-	B	
		5+	5+	5+	5+	5+	5+	5+	5+	5+	5+	5+	5+	5+	5+	B	
		5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	B/C	
		5-	5-	5-	5-	5-	5-	5-	5-	5-	5-	5-	5-	5-	5-	C	
		4+	4+	4+	4+	4+	4+	4+	4+	4+	4+	4+	4+	4+	4+	C	
		4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	C	
		4-	4-	4-	4-	4-	4-	4-	4-	4-	4-	4-	4-	4-	4-	C	
6+	120	3+	3+	3+	3+	3+	3+	3+	3+	3+	3+	3+	3+	3+	3+	D	
5a	115-119	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	D	
5b	111-114	3-	3-	3-	3-	3-	3-	3-	3-	3-	3-	3-	3-	3-	3-	D	
5c	107-110	2+	2+	2+	2+	2+	2+	2+	2+	2+	2+	2+	2+	2+	2+	E	
4a	103-106	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	E	
4b	99-102	2-	2-	2-	2-	2-	2-	2-	2-	2-	2-	2-	2-	2-	2-	E	
4c	95-98	1+	1+	1+	1+	1+	1+	1+	1+	1+	1+	1+	1+	1+	1+	F	
3a	91-94	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	F	
3b	87-90	1-	1-	1-	1-	1-	1-	1-	1-	1-	1-	1-	1-	1-	1-	F	
3c	83-86	f+	f+	f+	f+	f+	f+	f+	f+	f+	f+	f+	f+	f+	f+	G	
2a	81-82	f	f	f	f	f	f	f	f	f	f	f	f	f	f	G	
<2a	80	f-	f-	f-	f-	f-	f-	f-	f-	f-	f-	f-	f-	f-	f-	G	

Minimum Expected – 2 steps a year

Good Progress – 3 steps a year

Excellent progress – 4 steps a year

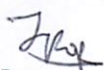
Our Assessment Cycle

Week	Main Activity	Key Points
1-6	Teaching of Content	Teachers will teach content and skills required for the assessment
7	Revision Week	All books go home in order for students to revise. Please fill in parent/carer stickers and discuss your child's work with them.
8	Assessment Week	Assessments completed in lessons.
10	DIRT Week and progress check goes home.	Directed improvement and reflection time. Students reflect upon and improve their assessments based on teacher feedback. You can also expect a progress check at the end of this week

We believe this assessment system will ensure your child is ready for their final exams in Year 11. Please support your child's progress by completing the progress check page in the planner and checking their books during revision week.

If you have any questions please fill out the return slip and we'll get a progress leader arrange a meeting or follow up phone call.

Yours faithfully


Mr J Roper

Director of Progress & Assessment

Reply Slip – Please return Mr J Roper

I would like a follow up conversation in school/over the phone please.

Name of child: _____ Signed: _____

Please Print name: _____ Date: _____