The Ripley Academy
and Sixth Form
We are Ambitious ▪ We are Committed ▪ We are Proud

Executive Headteacher
Mrs H Frost-Briggs
Head of School
Mr J de Rijk

Dear Parents and Carers,

New Key Stage 3 Assessment

As we begin the new academic year, we would like to share an important change to the way we will assess and report grades for students in Year 7, 8 and 9.

Our aim is to ensure that the information we share with you is meaningful and helps students to understand their own progress. Moving to the new system will provide a clear and consistent measure of attainment, give students a better understanding of what their current performance means, and help us to identify where students may need additional support or challenge. It will also help students take greater ownership of their progress and provide parents and carers with clearer information about how their child is progressing towards their future qualifications.

Students will continue to have a target grade for each subject; these are based on the GCSE 1-9 grading system. Our new reports will clearly use target grades as a benchmark for student progress, using the descriptors below:

Working above Target – The student is working at least one grade above target

Working at Target – The student is working at their target

Working towards Target – The student is one grade below their target

Below Target – The student is working two or more grades below their target

We will continue to report on attitude to learning, behaviour and homework.

A short, detailed video explanation of all the changes we are implementing can be found here KS3 Assessment. Alternatively, you can use the QR code at the bottom of this letter to access the link.

We hope that this new approach will provide a clearer picture of each student's progress and help us to work together to support them throughout KS3 and beyond.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support.

Yours sincerely

Mrs J Thawley
Deputy Headteacher

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