

Assessment at Frederick Bremer School

What Progress Do We Expect At Frederick Bremer?

Frederick Bremer aims 'high' to ensure that all our pupils make outstanding progress and understand what they need to do to *be the best that they can be*.

At Frederick Bremer School we strive for every pupil to achieve outstanding progress and expect each child's progress to be rapid and sustained. Through our high aspirations we can help improve the life chances of our pupils. By securing the best possible outcomes, our pupils can continue into higher education, training or employment. It is vital that we do not underestimate what our pupils can achieve and that their ability is not static. The quality of teaching and learning is first and foremost the key to success, backed up by effort, quality of work and independent learning.

During your child's time at Frederick Bremer (Years 7 to 11), our ambition is that the vast majority of pupils achieve the equivalent of 4 GCSE grades of progress in their learning; we call this 'Challenge' progress. We continually check the amount of progress that they are making through each year against our 'flight path' and use this to challenge them to reach outstanding outcomes.

We use the GCSE grading system to assess all pupils throughout the school to ensure your child's attainment and progress are clear and easy for everyone to understand – The GCSE grading uses numbers 9-1 (9 being the highest grade). Please also note that in a few subjects at year 10 and 11 we will measure your child's attainment in relation to the BTEC grading system if this is the qualification they are completing.

Primary schools have recently changed their assessment at the end of Year 6 and the attainment of pupils at the end of key stage 2 is now measured in relation to a scaled score from 80-120 points (120 points being the highest possible score). This means that we use two slightly different 'flight paths' to track each pupil's academic progress as they move through the school, both of which provide an equal level of challenge for your child.

Assessment of your child's progress is continuous and reported to you four times each year through our academic reports, each of which contains details of your child's current attainment and their next 'challenge target' to refer to.



“Flight Paths”

Our ‘flight paths’ provide an estimate of the grade that pupils are expected to achieve at the end of each year if they are on track to achieve our challenge progress during their time at the school. To take account of different starting points each pupil will be assigned an initial flight path based on their prior attainment (KS2 level or scaled score) enabling us to estimate their ‘challenge grade’ at the end of each year.

We understand that children often progress at different rates at different times and that not all learning can be measured in relation to GCSE grades. We understand, therefore, that pupils may not always constantly achieve their challenge grade but it is important that, over time, the underlying trend is that their attainment moves ever closer to these points. It is vital that we encourage pupils to be as resilient as possible and praise the efforts that they make in trying to achieve their ambition and celebrate the progress they have made.

Flight Path (KS2 National Curriculum Levels) – Year 9 – 11

| KS2 NC level | Equivalent GCSE Grade | Year 7 Target | Year 8 Target | Year 9 Target | Year 10 Target | Year 11 Target |
|--------------|-----------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|----------------|----------------|
| 6a | 5- | 5+ | 6 | 7 | 8- | 9 |
| 6b | 4+ | 5 | 6- | 7- | 7+ | 8+ |
| 6c | 4 | 5- | 5+ | 6+ | 7 | 8 |
| 5a | 4- | 4+ | 5 | 6 | 7- | 8- |
| 5b | 3+ | 4 | 5- | 6- | 6+ | 7+ |
| 5c | 3 | 4- | 4+ | 5+ | 6 | 7 |
| 4a | 3- | 3+ | 4 | 5 | 6- | 7- |
| 4b | 2+ | 3 | 4- | 5- | 5+ | 6+ |
| 4c | 2 | 3- | 3+ | 4+ | 5 | 6 |
| 3a | 2- | 2 | 3- | 3+ | 4 | 5- |
| 3b | 1+ | 2- | 2+ | 3 | 4- | 4+ |
| 3c | 1 | 1+ | 2 | 3- | 3+ | 4 |
| 2a | 1- | 1 | 2- | 2+ | 3 | 4- |
| 2b | GR+ | 1- | 1+ | 2 | 3- | 3+ |
| 2c | GR | GR+ | 1 | 2- | 2+ | 3 |
| B/N | GR- | GR | 1- | 1+ | 2 | 3- |

Flight Path (KS2 Scaled Score) – Year 7 & 8

| KS2 Scaled Score | Equivalent GCSE Grade | Year 7 Target | Year 8 Target | Year 9 Target | Year 10 Target | Year 11 Target |
|------------------|-----------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|----------------|----------------|
| 120 | 5- | 5+ | 6 | 7 | 8- | 9 |
| 118 | 4+ | 5 | 6- | 7- | 7+ | 8+ |
| 115 | 4 | 5- | 5+ | 6+ | 7 | 8 |
| 113 | 4- | 4+ | 5 | 6 | 7- | 8- |
| 110 | 3+ | 4 | 5- | 6- | 6+ | 7+ |
| 108 | 3 | 4- | 4+ | 5+ | 6 | 7 |
| 105 | 3- | 3+ | 4 | 5 | 6- | 7- |
| 103 | 2+ | 3 | 4- | 5- | 5+ | 6+ |
| 100 | 2 | 3- | 3+ | 4+ | 5 | 6 |
| 98 | 2- | 2+ | 3 | 4 | 5- | 6- |
| 95 | 1+ | 2 | 3- | 4- | 4+ | 5+ |
| 93 | 1 | 1+ | 2 | 3- | 3+ | 4 |
| 90 | 1- | 1 | 2- | 2+ | 3 | 4- |
| 88 | GR+ | 1- | 1+ | 2 | 3- | 3+ |
| 85 | GR | GR+ | 1 | 2- | 2+ | 3 |
| Below 85 | GR- | GR | 1- | 1+ | 2 | 3- |

We appreciate that some pupils may feel that meeting their challenge grade is very difficult, this is especially so for pupils with lower prior attainment. To support pupils in developing their confidence and promote their achievement we therefore set the rate of challenge progress at an expected 3 grades for pupils that left primary school below a level 4/scaled score of 95.

Pupils should be able to describe their grade and have a clear idea of what they need to do in order to improve. They will be provided with opportunities to act upon the feedback and advice they receive as part of the assessment cycle and should feel confident in asking their teacher for additional support if needed.

Most Likely Grades

To help provide you with an estimate of where we anticipate your child will reach we publish their 'most likely grade' as part of their academic report. Most likely grade takes account of the current grade and factor in the anticipated progress for each individual child bearing in mind the learning that is being observed. In Year 7, 8 & 9 each pupil's most likely grade is provided in reference to their estimated attainment at the end of the relevant year. In Year 10 & 11, the most likely grade is provided in reference to the pupil's estimated attainment in their GCSE examinations at the end of Year 11.

Pupil Progress Explained

Q: Can challenge grades ever be higher than 4 grades of progress?

A- Yes. If your child has made better than expected progress we would raise their challenge grade to reflect this achievement. Subject teachers may also use their discretion to raise your child's 'Challenge' grade where appropriate.

Q - How do we measure pupil's baseline or starting points?

A - We primarily use the KS2 attainment (KS Level / KS Scaled score) provided by each pupil's primary school to set their baseline grade—This is calculated on the average of the KS2 English and Mathematics levels/scores . This baseline is used to identify the starting point for each pupil and provide their initial challenge grade. If a pupil did not complete a KS2 assessment then we will match them to pupils that have similar factors (e.g. current grades, gender, month of birth etc.) and use this to provide an initial baseline estimate and establish an initial challenge grade— These estimates can be adjusted upwards after each reporting cycle if this is appropriate.

Q - How Do Pupils Know What Grade They Are Working At?

A- In lessons pupils are regularly told the grade at which they are currently working at and each time their academic report is published they will receive a 'grade sticker' from each subject teacher which should be attached to their exercise book/folder. Grade descriptors are available for each subject and are used by staff to help pupils understand why they have achieved their current grade and, also, what they need to become confident in order to ensure they can achieve the next grade. The grade descriptors for each subject are also available to download from the school's website for reference outside of the classroom.

Q - How do I know what grade my child is working at?

A - Your child's academic attainment is reported to you on four occasions throughout the year through their school reports. Your child's reports are published through School Gateway in **November, January, April and July**. We also hold a Parent's Evening for each year group which provides you with the opportunity to discuss your child's strengths and areas for development directly with their individual subject teachers. We also invite you to contact your child's individual subject teachers or Head of Year if you would like to discuss your child's progress in more detail.

