

Monitoring your child's progress

On entry to the school all students will be set a GCSE target grade in all subjects. These target grades are generated based on your child's performance in their KS2 examinations and are only forward estimates of how your child may perform in their future GCSE examinations. We also set a challenge target grade and we encourage all students to strive to reach these goals. Some students do not have KS2 results (for example those students from overseas or those who attended an independent school) and where this is the case we use baseline assessments as part of this process.

Progress is a journey and all children develop at different rates and at different times. In subjects which are new to the students such as languages progress may be slower in the first year with accelerated progress in later years. In subjects such as English or mathematics we would expect progress to be more linear. For each GCSE target grade individual subjects will have different end of year expectations based on the expected progress pathways to support steady and secure progress which recognizes the importance of the development of knowledge and skills.



Progress is measured as less than expected progress (L), expected progress (E), good progress (G) or outstanding progress (O).

We define outstanding progress if your child is on track to achieve at least one full GCSE grade above their target grade. If your child's progress is reported as less than expected then this may prompt a discussion with the Progress Leader in the first instance as they would be achieving below the age related expectation in a particular subject given their target grade. If the report indicates cause for concern then this is where serious progress issues have been detected and will automatically prompt a meeting with the Progress Leader which you will be expected to attend along with your child. It is important that you regularly monitor your child's home learning and classwork in order to support their educational development.

Reports

You will receive 3 progress reports for your child during an academic year. These will report on the progress that your child is making in each subject.

Less than expected progress	Expected progress	Good progress	Outstanding progress
-----------------------------	-------------------	---------------	----------------------

Subject	Current Progress Indicator	GCSE Target grade	Effort score
Mathematics	Expected progress	6+	1
English	Good progress	7-	1
Science	Expected progress	6=	2
French	Less than expected progress	5=	3
History	Expected progress	6+	1
Geography	Good progress	7-	1
D&T	Less than expected progress	5-	4
Art	Good progress	7+	1
PE	Good progress	7=	2
Drama	Outstanding progress	8-	1

The current progress indicator allows you to see if your child is performing at, above or below expected progress on the LEGO scale. The GCSE target grade is the estimated target grade based on the students KS2 scores. The +, =, and - provide an indication of the security of the grade with a '+' being secure and with a possibility of securing the next grade up, an '=' being a secure grade and a '-' having the possibility of slipping to the grade below.

Effort is scored on a 1 to 4 scale with 1 being outstanding effort, 2 good effort, 3 requires improvement and 4 unsatisfactory. We expect all students to aim for an effort of good or better.

We place greater emphasis on the final grade and this will be reported in the Summer Term report where you will be provided with an indication of the grade your child is currently on track for, as evidenced by assessment results and milestone pieces over the course of the year. The report will also indicate whether this is below, on or above expected progress on the LEGO scale. The Autumn and Spring reports will only refer to the current progress indicator on the LEGO scale, allowing us to ensure students are on track throughout the year working towards this final report.

Attendance plays a key role in progress and it is evidenced that those students with above 95% attendance achieve the best in their examinations. We expect 100% attendance and ask you to ensure that your child is always punctual for school. Attendance in school is monitored on a weekly basis using the attendance diamond and where attendance is flagged as a concern you will be asked to meet with the student support team.

Your commitment

The new assessment system will challenge and encourage all students to achieve their potential. We believe it will also provide you with a very clear indication of your child's progress at key points during the academic year. We actively encourage you to participate in your child's education and ask that you check homework as it is completed and monitor classwork.

If you have any questions then please do not hesitate to contact us direct.

You are able to contact your child's Progress Leader using the contact details below.

Contact Us

Head of Darwin School: Mrs K Twigg

k.twigg@greatbarr.bham.sch.uk

Head of Johnson School: Mrs C Hill

c.hill@greatbarr.bham.sch.uk

Head of Brunel School: Mrs J Garvey

J.garvey@greatbarr.bham.sch.uk

Head of Frankiln School: Miss E Painter

e.painter@greatbarr.bham.sch.uk

All other contact details can be found on the school website www.greatbarracademy.org.uk