



Dear parents and carers of KS3 pupils,

Your child's Autumn Term data report will be ready to be accessed later today via the MyChildAtSchool app. I am writing to remind you of the way in which we assess students at KS3 in order to help you make best use of the reports.

### **Assessment at Key Stage 3 – Bramcote Assessment Steps**

Our assessment model is based on a 'flight path' approach whereby students are given a baseline assessment in each subject in the first term of Year 7 which we use as a starting point to track their progress against. Termly reports will allow parents to see not just the current grade, but previous grades achieved so that you can see the progress being made, and quickly identify any subjects where your son/daughter seems to be struggling. You will also be able to see if your child is working towards, at or above, the level expected for their age group.

#### **This model allows us to:**

- Track more closely student attainment and progress in each subject
- Identify more easily those in need of additional academic support, or greater academic 'stretch and challenge' in lessons
- Give more detailed feedback to students about how to improve their work
- Give parents and carers a clearer understanding of students' progress at Key Stage 3.

The Bramcote Steps have been designed to track student progress across Year 7 to 9. Grade descriptors for each step are provided for each subject in student-friendly language so that students know what they have achieved and how to move to the next step. Use of the steps allows teachers to identify pupils who are working below the expected level for their age, or not making sufficient progress and offer additional support or adapted teaching. The steps are designed to give a holistic picture of student achievement – teachers may allocate marks or percentages for quizzes or tests and use this as a guide to the step a student is working at. We would expect that students move at least one step forward each academic year in each subject – so a student who was assessed to be working at 'Develop' in Year 7 should reach 'Advance' by Year 9, for example. Students who are making more than expected progress may move more quickly than this. The diagram on the next page illustrates how this works.

If you have any questions about how we assess student progress, please do not hesitate to contact me at school.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Jenny Read

Deputy Headteacher – Quality of Education

