

# TARGET SETTING PRINCIPLES AT ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC SCHOOL

At St. Mary's we have the highest academic expectations of our students; we also recognise that each student's journey has its own unique starting point and therefore success for each student will look different.

In order for our students to have knowledge of their own academic journey, to be able to gauge their own academic progress and to be proud of the progress they have made, we set them individual targets.

Each target is an end-of-year target; reaching these milestones, landing on each stepping stone means they are making good progress throughout their St Mary's journey.

We make no apologies for setting **aspirational** targets, however, as our record shows, these targets are also **achievable** and enable students to recognise their own **individual successes**.

- Students in Years 7, 8 and 9 are set a target (from Grade 1 to 9), these are **End of Year Key Stage 3 Levels**. The primary data source for this target setting is the Key Stage 2 SATs results.
- Positive performance in years 7 – 9 means that students will be on track to meet or exceed their Key Stage 4 target. In Years 10 and 11, these are **End of Year Key Stage 4 Grades (GCSE Target Grades)**. While also graded 1 to 9, they are based on GCSE grades. Student's GCSE targets are calculated using the government KS2 – KS4 Transition Matrices; challenging students to make progress in line with the top 30% of students nationally.
- Progress towards each of these milestones (end of year targets) can be viewed live in [Go4Schools](#). This online program allows staff, students and parents to see an individual's progress towards their end of year goals and monitor marking of formative assessments.
- During Key Stage 4 (Year 10 and 11) there are three progress examination checkpoints (summative assessments); one in year 10 and two in year 11. These are summary assessments designed to check the understanding and application of all learned material to date; as students progress through Key Stage 4 these assessments become larger and begin to emulate the final GCSE examinations.
- The results of these assessments are also available in Go4Schools and are reported home. Students who are too far from target following these progress assessments should expect to receive additional academic support.

ASPIRATIONAL  
TARGETS SET

STUDENTS  
SUPPORTED TO  
MEET  
MILESTONES

STUDENTS READY  
TO MEET THEIR  
NEXT PHASE  
CHALLENGES