

# Key Stage 3

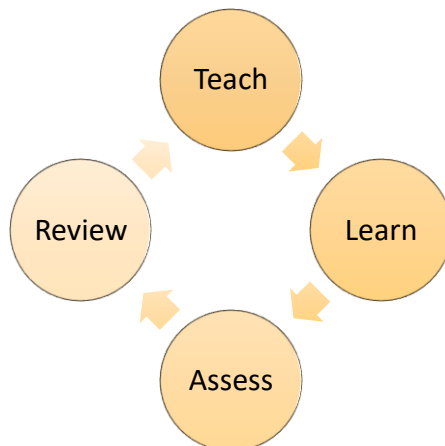
# Progress, Assessment & Attainment Guidance

2023/24



## What is our philosophy around reporting progress and attainment at KS3?

At Stowmarket High School, we believe that every child has the ability to reach expected progress and beyond. It is the 'beyond' that we focus on, ensuring all students have tools, skills and drive to fulfil their potential. At Stowmarket High School our teachers employ a cycle that is a constant process:



As skilled practitioners, our teachers, on a day-to-day basis, use this cycle to construct a range of activities including, live marking, low stakes testing, questioning and knowledge retrieval, such as our 'Do Now' tasks at the beginning of each lesson. Each step in the cycle is essential for the teacher to observe students' learning and review areas that need re-teaching to embed the knowledge at a deeper level.

Ultimately, we value every student as an individual, and as such, we want to ensure that each student's progress is measured against their own ability, not against the cohort they are in. We want to ensure each student feels we are valuing their progress as a sense of achievement in line with the potential that is within them.

To do this we employ a reporting and assessment cycle where students have formal assessments throughout the year, depending on the amount of time each subject is taught. The results of these assessments are reported home three times a year, with live monitoring of the assessment outcomes available on Go4Schools. The data used from the assessments is used to improve the learning in the classroom, to then motivate students on areas of learning that needs embedding and to identify areas of weakness that need further exploration.

## Attainment Statements: How well is my child performing?

When reviewing your child's attainment on Go4Schools, or via the report we send out three times a year, you will see an attainment statement for each subject. The attainment statements are as follows:

ATTAINMENT STATEMENTS	
1.	The assessments completed by the student are well above expected progress
2.	The assessments completed by the student are above expected progress
3.	The assessments completed by the student are at expected progress
4.	The assessments completed by the student are below expected progress
5.	The assessments completed by the student are well below expected progress

Please read pages 6 to 7 for more information on how your child's attainment statement is formulated. Additionally, if at any point you want to discuss your child's attainment and progress please do not hesitate to contact the relevant Year Leader or subject specific member of staff.

## Effort (Attitude to Learning): How well is my child performing?

Below are the descriptors that are currently in use. These descriptors are selected by the teacher, for each subject, when each assessment is completed. Please see the descriptors below:

EFFORT LEVEL	DESCRIPTOR
5	Excellent effort in every lesson. Strives to carry out tasks to the very best of their ability. Excellent behaviour. Highly motivated. Excellent attitude to learning.
4	Good effort, behaviour, motivation and attitude are shown in lessons.
3	Appropriate effort is being shown in lessons. Behaviour is positive and motivation and attitude to learning is at an acceptable level.
2	Some effort is shown in lessons, but this is inconsistent and there is behaviour that sometimes disrupts own or others learning. A better attitude to learning is required.
1	Very little effort shown in lessons. Regularly off-task. Behaviour may disrupt own and others learning. Shows very little motivation. Very poor attitude to learning

Please be aware, we are currently reforming our effort levels and moving to 'attitude to learning' levels. We will providing you with new descriptors and new guidance on how each descriptor is achieved. We will be looking to launch these new descriptors in September 2024.

## What do the attainment statements and effort (attitude to learning) levels look like on Go4Schools?

When navigating Go4Schools you will find a page that identifies your child's progress in each subject. For example, please see the screen shot of a progress page on Go4Schools:

*Progress (See blue box below)*

- Please click on this icon to access your child's attainment statements and effort (attitude to learning) levels.

*Grades (see red box below)*

- Each subject has a statement. The statement reflects your child's progress in that specific subject over the assessment points.
- Please read page 6, 'How is my child's attainment statement created?'
- Please be aware, should you want to know your child's starting point, relative to the explanation on pages 6 and 7, please do not hesitate to contact the relevant Year Leader or subject specific member of staff.

*Sheet Summary (See blue dotted box below)*

- Please see below and check the column entitled 'Sheet Summary'.
- Next to each attainment statement is a number; this number corresponds to effort (attitude to learning) level that your child has been given by that subject teacher.
- Please note, as the year progresses, this number will be the effort grades your child has been given in that subject following their last assessment.

Subject	Residual	Sheet summary	
Art <sup>1</sup> , Miss G Page	The assessments completed by the student are below expected progress	Attitude to Learning 2023-24	5
Combined Science <sup>1</sup> , Mrs C Mudhar, Mrs G Christie (+1)	The assessments completed by the student are at expected progress	Attitude to Learning 2023-24	4
Computing <sup>1</sup> , Mr A Wright	The assessments completed by the student are above expected progress	Attitude to Learning 2023-24	5
Drama <sup>1</sup> , Mrs R West	The assessments completed by the student are below expected progress	Attitude to Learning 2023-24	4
English <sup>1</sup> , Miss A Fitch	The assessments completed by the student are at expected progress	Attitude to Learning 2023-24	5
Food & Nutrition <sup>1</sup> , Ms V Romero	The assessments completed by the student are at expected progress	Attitude to Learning 2023-24	5
French <sup>1</sup> , Mrs C Whiting, Mrs G Cockman (+1)	The assessments completed by the student are above expected progress	Attitude to Learning 2023-24	4
Geography <sup>1</sup> , Mr J Thompson	The assessments completed by the student are well above expected progress	Attitude to Learning 2023-24	5
History <sup>1</sup> , Miss A Hewitt, Mr S Smith	The assessments completed by the student are well above expected progress	Attitude to Learning 2023-24	5
Inspirational Futures <sup>2</sup> , Mrs H Utteridge	-		
Maths <sup>1</sup> , Mr L Andrews, Mrs J Skoulding	The assessments completed by the student are at expected progress	Attitude to Learning 2023-24	4
Music <sup>1</sup> , Mr D Damigella	The assessments completed by the student are at expected progress	Attitude to Learning 2023-24	4
P S H E <sup>2</sup> , Ms C Ferguson	-	Attitude to Learning 2023-24	5
PE <sup>1</sup> , J Howland	The assessments completed by the student are below expected progress	Attitude to Learning 2023-24	5
Philosophy & Ethics <sup>2</sup> , Mrs C Whiting	-	Attitude to Learning 2023-24	4
Registration <sup>2</sup> , Mrs F Harvey, Mr K Rourke-Beasley	-		
Res. Mats. <sup>1</sup> , Mr J Hawkins	The assessments completed by the student are at expected progress	Attitude to Learning 2023-24	5

Please be aware, the information above is our live reporting process which is available via your app, or online login to Go4Schools. Additionally, we will also send you a reminder at every reporting point via your personal email address (see the red circle) to access the school report.

Please note, the following subjects do not have an attainment statement as they are not assessed for a final grade in year 11:

- PSHE

- Philosophy & Ethics
- Registration

Additionally, we are currently working on a grading scheme for PE. Finally, in Key Stage 3, our Design & Technology rotation includes Resistant Materials, Textiles, Food & Nutrition and Graphics – however, due to the nature of the rotation some subjects will not always appear on the live version of Go4Schools. If at any point you would like more information on this, please do not hesitate to contact the school

## How often do we report to parents/guardians?

We understand that families want to know how their children are doing, and as such, we want to report progress on a regular basis. We also understand, due to the nature of timetabling and some subjects having more teaching time than others, that some subjects will assess more often than others. Please see below the assessment calendar for 2023/24 for all subjects in KS3.

	Assessment 1	Assessment 2	Assessment 3	Assessment 4	Assessment 5	Assessment 6
English	16/10/2023	18/12/2023	12/02/2024	25/03/2024	20/05/2024	08/07/2024
Maths	06/10/2023	21/11/2023	22/01/2024 (Y9 by 10/01/2024)	25/03/2024	13/05/2024	01/07/2024 (08/07/20234for Y9)
Science	13/10/2023	16/12/2023		15/03/2024	24/05/2024	05/07/2024
Geography	16/12/2023			22/03/2024		08/07/2024
History		16/12/23		25/03/2024		05/07/2024
Computer Science		08/12/2023		22/03/2024		28/06/2024
Design		08/12/2023	02/02/2024			08/07/2024
MFL		20/10/2023		25/03/2024		08/07/2024
PE		15/12/2023		26/03/2024		08/07/2024
Art		15/12/2023		25/03/2024		08/07/2024
Music		15/12/2023		25/03/2024		08/07/2024
Drama		15/12/2023		25/03/2024		08/07/2024

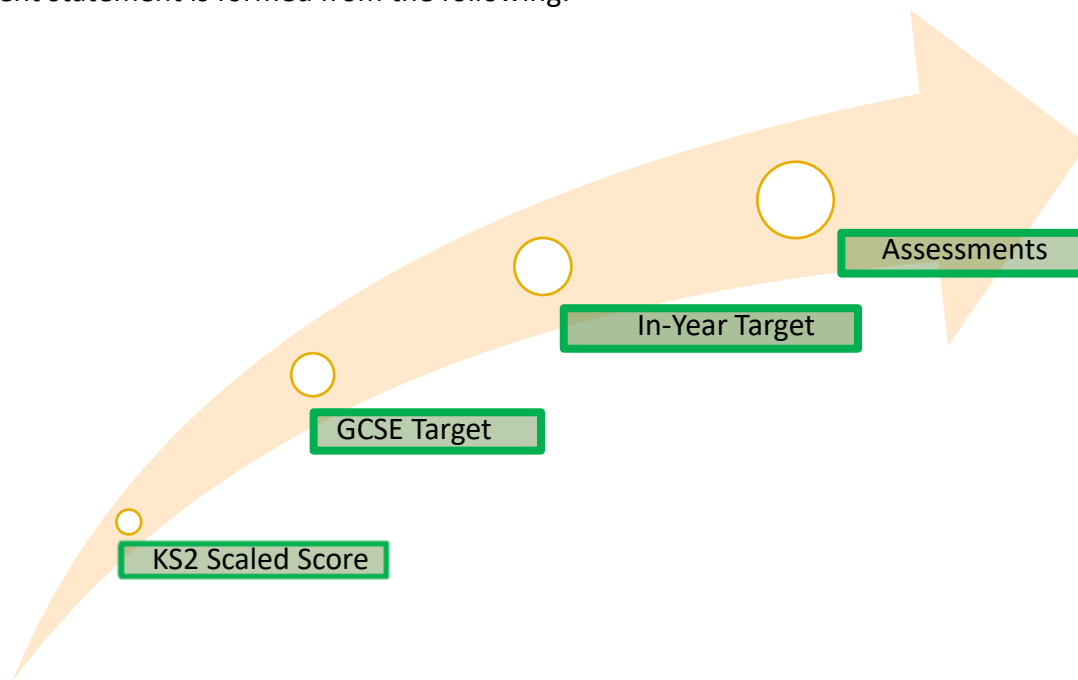
The following report dates\* for parents below indicate when we, as a school will send home a school report. That school report will include the assessments that have been completed in that term. For point of reference, assessments 1 & 2 are completed in the autumn term, assessments 3 & 4 are completed in the spring term and assessments 5 & 6 are completed in the summer term:

- 8<sup>th</sup> December 2023
- 29<sup>th</sup> March 2024
- 12<sup>th</sup> July 2024

*\*Please be aware, for the academic year 2023/24, the new reporting system was implemented in the spring term of 2024.*

## How are my child's attainment statements created?

The attainment statement is formed from the following:



### Key Stage 2 Scaled Score:

Each student when they arrive at high school, from primary school, comes with a Key Stage 2 scaled score, from their Key Stage 2 SATS. The score is an average score across the SATS tests completed in English, Maths and Reading. However, students who are in current Year 9 did not sit Key Stage 2 SATs at the end of primary education – targets for these students have been arranged by CAT scores and information gathered from transition to secondary school.

### GCSE Target

Each student then has a GCSE target generated by the school to make a prediction of what the student should achieve in Year 11\*. To generate our targets, we use Fischer Family Trust data (<https://fft.org.uk/>), which is taken from hundreds of secondary schools across the country, to model the expected progress each student should make, relative to their prior attainment (Key Stage 2 scores).

*\*We are very conscious of not putting a ceiling on the aspiration and potential of our students. Whilst a target is a guide to achievement and attainment, it is only that, and we believe all students should strive to achieve well beyond any target or benchmark given to them. Additionally, the national target setting procedure employed by both Fischer Family Trust and The Department for Education does not necessarily consider the following:*

- 1. Students learn and acquire knowledge at different rates*
- 2. Students' experiences of education can vary quite drastically between high school and primary school due to many factors*
- 3. The target predictions are based on the performance of students from the last set of GCSE results. In times, such as ours, with boundaries at GCSE moving quite dramatically, it means the targets given can also move as well*

*With all this in mind and following the Department for Education guidance on assessments without levels (<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/approaches-to-assessment-without-levels-in-schools>) we want our students to strive for progress. Students in class will be told marks or a percentage they achieved in test; additionally, they can also ask where, as can parents, this ranks the student in the class/year group. However, our focus is on*

progress and the attainment statements are then used to inform a student, and parent/guardian, on the quality of the assessment completed, comparative to their ability and their ability only.

### In-Year Target

Year on year the student will improve, and as such the student’s ability and competency in that subject will improve. To ensure progress is being made the assessments designed and applied in each subject are then aligned to the curriculum being taught. The assessments are then measured relative to the ability of student. If the target for a student at the end of KS4 is a 4, then the In-Year target will also be an equivalent 4, relative the expected progress of the student.

### Assessment/s

The assessments noted in the assessment calendar are the ones that produce the attainment statement. Please note, the marks/percentages from the assessment are then compared against the In-Year target to produce the attainment statement. Please be aware, the attainment statement is produced from the cumulative marks/percentages of all assessments over the school year.

Furthermore, we are currently using the following matrices when applying attainment statements, relative to target grade students are given at entry in Year 7. The target grade is an in-year estimation (*please see blue box*), on the left of the grid, and the current grade (*please see red box*) is when the marks from an assessment correlate to a grade. The numbers in the middle of the matrices are what then produce the attainment statement. For example:

- If a student has a target grade of 4 and the marks from an assessment produce a grade of 3+ to 5-, then the student will be given an attainment statement 3: *The assessments completed by the student are at expected progress*

**Current Grade (Read down for Progress Vs Target Grade) - GCSE Subjects**

	U	1-	1	1+	2-	2	2+	3-	3	3+	4-	4	4+	5-	5	5+	6-	6	6+	7-	7	7+	8-	8	8+	9-	9	9+
U	3	2	2	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
1	4	3	3	3	2	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
2	4	4	4	3	3	3	3	3	2	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
3	5	5	5	4	4	4	3	3	3	3	3	2	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
4	5	5	5	5	5	5	4	4	4	3	3	3	3	3	2	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	4	4	4	3	3	3	3	2	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
6	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	4	4	4	3	3	3	3	3	2	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1
7	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	4	4	4	3	3	3	3	3	2	2	2	1	1	1
8	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	4	4	4	3	3	3	3	3	3	2	2	2
9	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	4	4	4	3	3	3

Please remember, subjects such as Drama, Music and PE use a different scaling. Please see below:

**Current Grade (Read down for Progress Vs Target Grade) - Vocational Subjects**

	U	L1P-	L1P	L1P+	L2P-	L2P	L2P+	L2M-	L2M	L2M+	L2D-	L2D	L2D+	L2D*-	L2D*	L2D*+
U	3	3	3	2	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
L1P	4	3	3	3	2	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
L2P	4	4	4	3	3	3	3	2	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1
L2M	5	5	5	4	4	4	3	3	3	3	2	2	2	1	1	1
L2D	5	5	5	5	5	5	4	4	4	3	3	3	3	2	2	2
L2D*	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	4	4	4	3	3	3	3

## How do we assess students?

We assess the learning of students in two ways allowing our teachers to act swiftly and appropriately to the needs of students. These are as follows:

FORMATIVE	SUMMATIVE
<p>Formative assessment is a continuous form of assessment that is central to the classroom and the role of the teacher.</p> <p>Examples include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Quizzes</li><li>- Low Stakes Testing</li><li>- Show Me Boards</li><li>- Live Marking</li><li>- Questioning</li><li>- Classwork</li></ul>	<p>Summative assessment occurs after a block of learning to check for understanding. Summative assessment helps validate formative assessment and is a periodic method to check a student's progress:</p> <p>Examples include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- End of unit tests</li><li>- Mock exams</li><li>- Non-examined assessments</li><li>- Formal examinations</li></ul>

Formative assessment is what we want our teachers to focus on most. Evidence and research reports that the formative assessment has the greatest impact on learning. Formative assessment does not involve grading of work, but rather the teacher identifying a student's strengths and weakness and then adapting the learning to ensure the student can improve.