

9 February 2021

Dear Parents/Carers

This is the third report in our Praising Stars® Cycle used to inform you about your child's progress, which has been sent to your child's Academy Gmail account. As teaching and learning is currently being accessed via the remote platform 'Google Classroom', we have made some adjustments to your child's report as the pandemic has impacted on some aspects of our usual assessment processes. In addition, we have adjusted the criteria for our effort grades to reflect these teaching methods; these grades are applicable to students who are learning from home or attending our Key Worker & Vulnerable Student provision.

Reports in Y7-9 focus purely on effort grades and staff will return to formalised assessments when students return to classroom-based learning; Y10-13 have predictions included in the report as students have continued to study A level, GCSE or BTEC qualifications throughout the closure. All students receive Praise data each week via email and we are delighted with the high standards of engagement and effort from the vast majority of students.

Effort Grades

E1: Outstanding Effort with remote learning	Learners have high levels of engagement with remote learning. They regularly submit work that is of a high standard and demonstrates their t learning. They always engage in virtual lessons and Google Classroom tasks. They likely participate well in online discussions, respond to questioning and feedback, trying their best with quizzes and other forms of learning checks. Praise needed for this student.
E2: Good Effort with remote learning	Learners have good levels of engagement with remote learning and engage well in Google Classroom tasks. There is evidence that learning is taking place through participation, contributions to classes, and responses to tasks set. Some good quality work has been submitted.
E3: Some effort with remote learning	Learners are accessing some remote learning. They sometimes engage in Google Classroom tasks but need to participate more. Some work has been submitted, but more effort could be made.
E4: Concerns over effort with remote learning	Very limited engagement with remote learning demonstrated. Little/No work submitted. Concerns for this student and follow-up will be needed.

The effort grade criteria is based on remote learning, which brings many challenges for students, parents and carers. The aim of the grade descriptors is to highlight the significant efforts of many students with their learning online and with submission of their work set by teachers. The report also highlights where staff have concerns about limited engagement and the Academy will continue to work closely with parents/carers to ensure all students follow their timetable and continue to access the teaching provided. The only subjects that will not report an effort grade will be for Tutor Time, Post 16 Guidance sessions and Core PE lessons.

Next half term, there will be a parent/carer/tutor meeting offered in all Year Groups on Tuesday 2 March 2021. This will be held as a virtual meeting and will last approximately 8 minutes. This will be an opportunity for us to continue to work closely with yourselves to best support all students with remote learning and as we begin to see students return to face to face teaching. Further information regarding this event will be communicated after the February half term.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'B. Kelly', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Mr Kelly
Principal