

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Over the course of the last academic year we have developed our new, meaningful and proactive approach to KS3 levelling, which is known as **Key Stage 3 Pathways**. We have combined this with updates to the Progress Checks to provide you with useful and actionable information. This new system:

- Demonstrates a clear direction of travel through Key Stage 3 and to the end of Key Stage 4
- Identifies whether students are making the expected amount of progress in each subject
- Provides the opportunity for teachers to give immediate advice to boost progress within the progress check itself
- Continues to highlight the importance of effort and attendance

In addition to this letter, you will receive a copy of our Key Stage 3 Pathways poster, which provides further detail on the five pathways and what those pathways mean. This is a useful document to view alongside your child's Progress Check.

It is important to note that End of Year 11 estimated GCSE grades for each student have been used to place each student on their expected pathway. Consequently, if a student continues to make expected progress throughout Key Stage 3 then they will remain on that **same pathway at every Progress Check**. We do not expect to see students gradually moving up the pathways. That said, if a student is performing at a higher level than expected then their teacher may move them up a pathway. Likewise, if a student is performing below their expected pathway then they might move down, and consequently a Progress Booster will be recommended by the teacher.

We have developed this system with the ambition of providing positive and meaningful information to students and parents/guardians in order to support progress. We are confident Key Stage 3 Pathways will do exactly that.

Yours faithfully

MR J CARTER

Assistant Principal