

The New Key Stage 3 Curriculum

Key Stage 3 National Curriculum Levels were abolished by the Department for Education from September 2014. All schools in England are now expected to develop their own model of assessment and publish it for parents.

Senior and middle leaders from all four of our secondary Academies worked closely together during 2013/14 to develop our own approach:

- For the current Year 7 we have defined the standards we want students to meet by the end of the next 2 years in each subject
- New 2 year KS3 programmes of study across all subjects have been designed.
- At a maximum of three points in the year, students will take an examination-style assessment which will inform our teaching.
- In the core subjects of Maths, English and Science, our assessments will be comparable across the Dixons Group.
- This approach will prepare students best for the new GCSEs, and allow us to compare student performance across the Dixons Academies.

Reporting to parents

For each of the three assessment cycles, parents will receive the following information about the performance of their child in the core subjects. For non-core subjects they will receive this twice a year.

Firstly, the mark achieved in the examination, expressed as a **percentage**.

Secondly, an **attainment** colour coding indicating how their child is performing against national standards:

PRAG	Standard of Work
	<i>On track to achieve GCSE grade A or A*, or at least a new Grade 6</i>
	<i>On track to achieve GCSE grade B, or at least a new Grade 5</i>
	<i>On track to achieve GCSE grade C, or at least a new Grade 4</i>
	<i>On track to achieve GCSE grade D or below, or at most a new Grade 3</i>

Thirdly, a **progress** colour coding (or “PRAG” for purple, red, amber and green). From this, parents will know how well their child has done, compared to all the other children across the four academies who started with the same National Curriculum sub-level from primary school:

PRAG	Progress Made
	<i>Making above nationally expected progress from my starting point</i>
	<i>Making expected progress from my starting point</i>
	<i>Making slightly less than expected progress from my starting point</i>
	<i>Making less than expected progress from my starting point</i>

In this way, parents will know how well their child is performing in comparison to other students across the four Dixons Academies and against standards nationally.