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July 2017

Dear Parent/Carer

Year 9 Summer 2 Student Profile

Your son/daughter's end of year Student Profile is now available in Insight as well as the SIMS Learning Gateway. You can access the document by logging on to our Parent Portal (SIMS Parent Gateway), via the school website. Once connected, scroll to the bottom of the page and click on "View Report", this will then give you access to your son/daughter's school reports. If you have any problems accessing SIMS Learning Gateway please email: slg@helsbyhigh.org.uk

Students are also bringing home information as to how to log onto Insight – an alternative access point to the SLG which we are trialling with Year 9 families up to the end of term. You can access the link to Insight by going to www.helsbyhigh.org.uk/insight/

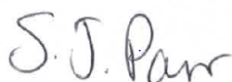
The profile contains:

- Your son/daughter's Minimum Expected Grade (MEG) for the end of the year
- A progress indicator for each subject indicating whether your son/daughter has exceeded their MEG, achieved their MEG or is working below their MEG for the year.
- Effort grades and area for improvement targets where effort grades are C or D.
- Behaviour levels
- Your son/daughter's summer exam results with the class average (French and German results are given as a new GCSE grade, all other subjects given as a percentage)
- Your son/daughter's tutor report

This year we have been trialling a system of using the new GCSE grades to set students' minimum expected grades and to help teachers track student progress through KS3 and 4. The new system is very much a work in progress, partly because the new GCSE grades are derived from new GCSE exams that have not yet been sat by students. This summer, 2017, GCSE students will take the new English and Maths exams for the first time and next summer, 2018, GCSE students will take the new exams in all other subjects except Business Studies, Design and Technology and Media Studies, for the first time. We are in the process of gathering information about how informative parents find the new system of reporting progress and would be grateful if you could complete the consultation document attached to this letter to help us make informed decisions about how we further improve the system for next year. Please return completed consultation documents to Student Services by Monday 10 July.

For any other queries regarding your son/daughter's student profile, please contact Mrs N Turner, Year Leader, Year9admin@helsbyhigh.org.uk.

Yours sincerely



S Parr (Mrs)
Deputy Headteacher

Introduction

This year, we have been trialling a new system of tracking the progress of students in KS3 using end of year minimum expected grades (MEG) based on the new 9 to 1 GCSE grades. This trial was explained to parents in the autumn term via the booklet that was issued to all parents and published on the website. <https://www.helsbyhigh.org.uk/parents/targets/>

Parents have been kept up to date with their son/daughter's progress through parents' evening and the Student Profiles (progress reports), published October, February, May and July via SIMS Learning Gateway, SLG.

These progress reports have contained the following progress information:

- Minimum Expected Grade for the end of the year in each subject
- Progress indicator
 - Working above – expected to exceed MEG by the end of the year
 - Working at – expected to achieve MEG by the end of the year
 - Working below -
- Effort grades
- Area for development targets
- Behaviour grades

At Helsby High School we are committed to ensuring that parents know whether or not their son/daughter is making progress and the steps that parents can take in helping their son/daughter to make good progress. To inform the decisions that we make with respect to how we track student progress next year and how we report to parents on their son/daughter's progress I would be grateful if you would complete the following questionnaire, also available via the school website: <https://www.helsbyhigh.org.uk/parents/forms-and-letters/>

Once completed please either hand it into Student Services or e-mail it to the relevant year group's admin address, listed below, by Monday 10 July 2017.

My son/daughter is in Year _____

1. a) Does talking to subject teachers at parents' evening give you the information you need about your son/daughter's progress?

Yes No

b) If no please give details of how we can improve the information that parents are given?

2. a) Are you able to access your son/daughter's Student Profiles (progress reports) via SIMS Learning Gateway (SLG)?

Yes No

b) If not please indicate provide and up to date e-mail address and mobile phone number to enable us to re-issue your log-on details.

3. Do your son/daughter's Student Profiles give you the information you need about whether your son/daughter is making progress in each subject?

Yes No

4. Do you find the following helpful?

- | | |
|---|--------|
| a) End of year minimum expected grade (MEG) | Yes/No |
| b) Progress indicator | Yes/No |
| c) Effort Grade | Yes/No |
| d) Area for development target/s | Yes/No |
| e) Behaviour grade | Yes/No |

5. If you have answered no to any of the parts of question 4 please indicate how we could make the information more helpful.

6. a) Do you use the subject skills and knowledge checklists, available on the school website in each subject's area, when you talk to your son/daughter about what they are learning at school?

<https://www.helsbyhigh.org.uk/curriculum/>

Yes

No

b) If yes, do you find them helpful and in what way?

c) If no, please give brief details of how we can make them more helpful.

7. If you have any further comments, suggestions or questions about the progress information you receive from the school via the parents' evenings and the Student Profiles please add them here.

Thank you for taking the time to complete and return this survey.