



Dear Parents and Carers,

I am writing to provide some guidance with regards to the GCSE numerical grading scheme which was introduced as part of a national curriculum overhaul in 2014 but rolled out in 2017.

I can appreciate that when many of us were at school, we became accustomed to the traditional grading system of A/B/C, etc., and as some of us now have children sitting their GCSE's for the first time, you would like to fully understand the grading system.

The number scale is not directly equivalent to the old letter one. However, the two scales do meet in certain places.

For example, the bottom of grade 7 is aligned with the bottom of grade A, and the bottom of grade 4 is aligned with the bottom of grade C.

The three number grades 9, 8, and 7 correspond to the two previous top grades of A* and A.

Pupils will need a grade 4 for a "standard pass" and 5 for a "strong pass". The government's school league tables are based on the percentage of pupils who achieve a grade 5 or above in English and Maths GCSE.

Many sixth forms insist on a number of grades 5s or 6s as a condition of entry for further study.

In our reporting system, we will report on progress in numerical grades, so it is useful for us to familiarise ourselves with the grading system in place.

There is always further information in our FAQ. We will put this letter on our website under Parents- Go for schools should you need to refer to it in the future.

Yours sincerely,

Monica Allitt
Deputy Headteacher

Old grades	New grades
A*	9
A	8
B	7
C	6
	5 Strong Pass
	4 Standard Pass
D	3
E	2
F	1
G	1
U	U