



GIGGLESWICK SCHOOL

M M Turnbull, MA, Headmaster

Dear Parents/Guardians

GCSE – new grade scales

As you may be aware, from August 2018, GCSEs will be graded using a 1 to 9 scale, with 9 being the highest grade. The graphic below broadly outlines the way these grading scales compare to the A* to G levels.

New grading structure	Current grading structure
9	A*
8	A
7	A
6	B
5	B
4	C
3	D
2	E
1	F
1	G
U	U

The C grade now covers 4 to 5.5. 4 will be considered a low pass and 5 will be considered a good, or strong, C grade pass.

To encourage our pupils to see their progression along the 1 to 9 scale from Years 7 to 11, we will be monitoring their progress and reporting back to you using the 1 to 9 scale. This reflects their progress through a 'skills ladder' for each subject. In order to clearly monitor pupil progress, each level on the ladder will be divided into three steps as shown below:

Level 4	Mastered
	Secure
	Developing

Developing: the student has begun to demonstrate the skill
Secure: the student has a good understanding and is able to demonstrate the skill consistently
Mastered: the student is able to apply the skill confidently to new areas

All subjects will be reported using the 1 to 9 scale. However, where departments take the iGCSE, the final grade reported by the exam board will use the old A* to G grading. To give an indication of broadly expected levels of attainment in each year group, we would expect most pupils to be working within the following levels:

Y7	Level	1 to 3
Y8	Level	2 to 4
Y9	Level	3 to 5
Y10	Level	4 to 6/7
Y11	Level	4 to 9

I am always happy to talk to parents who have questions about assessment, so do please contact me, alwood@giggleswick.org.uk if you wish to discuss any of the above information.

Yours sincerely

Anna Wood
Assistant Head, Academic