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Dear Parents/Carers

Reporting on Progress

Currently at Holy Family we have two different methods of monitoring and reporting on pupils' progress: one for Key Stage 3 (Years 7-9) and one for Key Stage 4 (Years 10 & 11).

The Key Stage 3 system asks teaching staff to provide a comment on whether your child is 'On track', 'Working towards' or 'Not on track' to be GCSE ready in their subject area by the end of Year 9. The Key Stage 4 system compares your child's estimated final GCSE grade to a target grade based on their Key Stage 2 SATs results.

These targets are provided by the Fischer Family Trust (FFT), a non-profit organisation that supports over 16000 schools, multi academy trusts and local authorities across the country. Over the last 22 years, FFT have tracked millions of students' academic performance throughout their school lives and use this data to provide estimated GCSE outcomes based on the average progress made by children.

We regularly look to review our reporting methods and the feedback we have received, from both students and parents, has told us that you like the reports you receive for Key Stage 4 and that they allow you to easily identify the areas in which your child is doing well or where they need to focus. They also give you the information you need to help you support your child with planning for their future education.

The feedback we have received regarding the Key Stage 3 progress reports has told us that these are not as helpful or as easy to understand. You have told us that the 'On track', 'Working towards' or 'Not on track' comments do not allow you to easily see how your child is progressing over the three years in Key Stage 3 or to identify areas in which your child is excelling. We welcome this feedback and are developing a new reporting system for Key Stage 3 this academic year.

The half-termly Attitude to Learning and Behaviour reports will continue and these will now be complimented with a Progress report twice a year. These Progress reports will give you information on how well your child is progressing in each subject, based on their attainment at the end of primary school. This new system will allow you to easily see how well your child is progressing based on their own individual attainment level, and will also identify areas where they are doing better than expected or areas where they need to develop further. The Key Stage 4 Progress reports will remain unchanged. More information regarding the new Key Stage 3 Progress reporting system will be shared during the Spring Term.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for support so far this year and to wish you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Yours sincerely

Mr D Devlin
Head of Progress

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