

Year 7 Parent and Tutor Evening 2019



**Curriculum and Assessment at
Tunbridge Wells Girls' Grammar
School**

How will your daughter be assessed at TWGGS?



Graded assessments at TWGGS will take many forms.

Examples include:

- End of Topic tests.
- Assessment of verbal response.
- Project work.
- Independent research.
- Vocabulary tests.
- Presentations.
- Formal yearly examinations – Year 7 exam week is 2nd – 5th March 2020

The idea is to use a variety of assessment styles in Years 7-9 to gain a rounded picture of your daughter's attainment – not just her recall of factual information.

Marking and Feedback



Feedback is an integral part of helping your daughter to understand how to make progress and improve.

Extended lesson time given over to feedback after graded assessments is a whole school policy at TWGGS, known as Dedicated Feedback Time.

Teachers will use a variety of strategies to help your daughter understand what she does well, and what she needs to do to move on to the next grade.

These may include:

- Self and peer assessment.
- Targeted questions about your daughter's work to help her target areas of weakness.
- Seeking alternative solutions to problems.
- Strong and aspirational target setting for the next assignment.
- Subject clinics, and Prefect support from older pupils.

Grading of key assessments at TWGGS



All key graded assessments at TWGGS are marked as GCSE grades.

2019/20 is the fifth academic year we are marking pupils in this fashion.

In September 2014 the government scrapped the previous system known as National Curriculum Levels. Schools were given independence to decide their own systems of assessment.

At TWGGS we have adopted the GCSE grading structure so that Years 7-11 are tied together, providing a system that pupils and parents can understand.

Grading operates from 9-1



When your daughter studies for her GCSEs between September 2022 – June 2024 they will be graded from 9-1.

A*-G has been progressively phased out, and all GCSEs now use 9-1 grading.

A Levels are retaining a lettered Grade from A*-E.

What will your daughter's grades look like in Year 7?



As pupils move from Year 7 to Year 11 we would expect them to start at a low grade and steadily improve to a high grade.

In Year 7 pupils will enter the school at **Grades 1 to 3 in most subjects**, possibly Grade U (0) in Modern Foreign Languages, as they may have had very little teaching in these subjects at Primary School. Over the course of Year 7 we would expect **most pupils to progress to a Grade 2-3 with a few top performers at Grade 4 in some subjects.**

In Year 8 we would expect that your daughter would begin working at a Grade 2-3, and will progress to Grade 3 to 4.

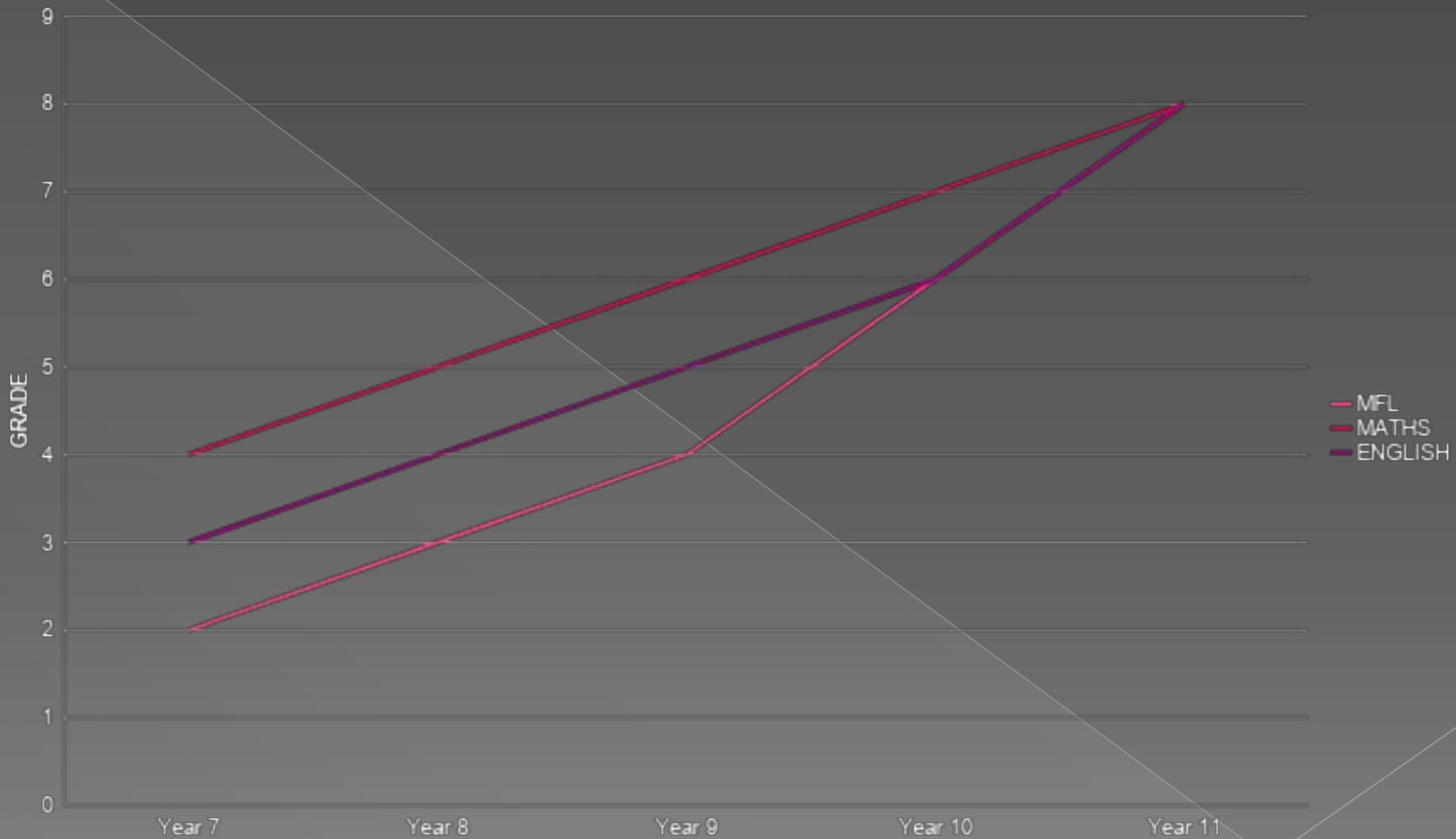
In Year 9 we would expect most pupils to progress to Grade 4 or 5 with a few very able students achieving Grade 6 in some subjects.

In Years 10 and 11 we would expect most pupils to be working from Grade 6 up to Grade 8 and 9.

Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11
				9 – restricted to Year 11 grading
			8	8
		7 – A few high flyers.	7	7
		6 – End of Year 9 for many subjects.	6	6
	5 – End of Y8 for top achievers	5 – End of Year 9 for many subjects.	5	
4 – End of Y7 for top achievers.	4 – End of Y8 for many	4		
3 Entry point for some. End of Y7 grade for many.	3 – Possible end of year for MFL			
2 Entry point for many	2			
1 MFL entry				

While this would represent a 'typical route' through TWGGS and many assessments may have set limits to what can be achieved – there is no glass ceiling and **exceptional** students may perform beyond the allotted grades if assessments allow it – BUT 9 should be kept for Year 11.

9-1 PROGRESSION BY SUBJECT



9-1 GCSE Results 2019

9	19.6%
8	25.1%
7	26.1%
6	17.0%
5	9.1%
4	2.3%
3	0.7%
2	0.1%

Subgrades – where is my daughter performing within a grade?



It has always been the case that some pupils work at the top end of a grade, some in the middle, some lower down. For your daughter to understand her position in a grade and the progress she is making, we operate a sub grade system:

- A – Advanced** – has met all the requirements for this grade.
- S – Secure** – meets many of the requirements for this grade, but has not mastered all of them.
- F – Foundation** – has begun to master some of the requirements for this grade.

So a Year 7 pupil could receive a report indicating the following:



English - 3A
History – 3S
Art - 3F

This would mean that she is achieving a Grade 3 in all three subjects, but that she has been most successful in English where she has mastered all the requirements of that Grade and is ready to move on to Grade 4.

In History she is a secure Grade 3, with a few aspects left to master, and in Art, she has moved up from a Grade 2 as she is beginning to master some aspects of Grade 3.

Reporting to Parents of Year 7 pupils in 2019/20



10th December 2019 - Interim Grades to parents.

9th January 2020 – Year 7 Parents’ Evening (TW&I)

16th January 2020 – Year 7 Parents’ Evening (G&S)

2nd – 5th March 2020 – Year 7 examinations week.

23rd April 2020 – Year 7 Reports to parents.

13th July 2020 – EOY Grades home to parents.

Interim Grades for 2019/20

Attitudes to Learning from 1-4



1	Punctual, properly equipped, enthusiastic, engaged and courteous. Meets deadlines. Ambitious, independent and makes outstanding contributions. Inspires others. Readily approaches or seeks new challenges with enthusiasm.
2	Punctual, properly equipped, interested, engaged and courteous. Meets deadlines. Involved, thoughtful and makes relevant contributions. Willing to tackle new challenges
3	Usually punctual and properly equipped. Focus and engagement need improvement. More involvement and an improvement in consistency and quality of work would bring about greater progress in learning. Needs to show more resilience when faced with new challenges.
4	Can be late; often not prepared to learn. Easily distracted and can be distracting to others. Deadlines may be missed and the quality of work is often below the standard expected. Often unwilling to tackle challenging material.

Interim Grades for 2019/20



Baseline Grade and Autumn Term “Working At” Grade – from 4-1 plus a subgrade A/S/F as described above. This is the grade that your daughter is “working at” at the time that the interim grades are completed. It may well be below her Year 7 target grade as she will only have been studying her subjects for a few weeks.

Year 7 Target Grade – the grade that your daughter should be aiming to achieve by the end of Year 7. This is projected via statistical analysis from your daughter’s performance in the CAT tests conducted on 11th October, and baseline tests conducted by departments.

Name: Roberta Smith



Subject	Attitude to Learning	Baseline Grade	Working At Grade	Target Grade
Art & Design	1	1A	2S	3S
English	1	2F	2S	3S
Geography	2	1A	2A	3F
German	2	U	1A	1A
History	2	2F	3S	3S
ICT	3	1S	2S	2A
Mathematics	3	2A	3F	4S
Religious St	2	1A	2S	3F
Science	2	1S	2S	3S
Spanish	2	U	1S	1A
Technology	2	1A	2A	3A

Key Stage 3 curriculum and enrichment at TWGGS

Year 7 Tutor and Information Evening –
1st October 2019

Subjects taught and lesson allocation (per fortnight)

- English x 6
- Maths x 7
- Science x 6
- PE x 4
- Spanish X 3
- German x 3
- Geography x 3
- History x 3
- Technology x 2 (Resistant materials, Graphics, Food, Textiles)
- Computing x 2
- Religious Studies x 2
- Music x 3
- Art x 2
- Drama x 1
- PSHE x 1

Homework

- 3 subjects each night
- Tasks should take about 30 minutes
- These can include revising for tests, research tasks for discussion in lessons and reading

Changes in Year 8

- Science taught as 3 separate subjects (Biology, Chemistry, Physics)
- Pupils taught in sets for Maths based on performance throughout Year 7
- Pupils start learning French, in addition to continuing with Spanish and German

Year 9

- Science and Maths GCSE courses commence (for examination in Year 11)
- GCSE options made in January 2022

Currently pupils make 4 choices but 2 of these must be an MFL and a Humanities subject.
(History/Geography)

Religious Studies GCSE is now an option subject and not a compulsory one

Extra curricular opportunities

- Year 7

- Bowl Water
- Geography Field Trip to Bluewater
- Theatre Trip
- Medieval Workshop in school
- World Book Day
- Visit to Harry Potter World

- Year 8

- Ski Trip (February Half-Term)
- Geography Field Trip
- Hampton Court Palace
- Globe Theatre Trip
- Shakespeare Festival
- Arts Award

- Year 9

- Battlefields tour
- Activity Week in Devon (Week after June Half-Term)
- German Theatre performance
- Drama Festival
- CCF

Parents' Evenings

9th January 2020, 7T, W and I

16th January 2020, 7G and S

- Feedback from subject teachers
- Pupils make 5 minute appointments on your behalf via planners
- Pupils expected to attend

Measuring progress and reporting.

- CATs – October 11th 2019 to gather data for GCSE predictions and target setting. Results not shared with pupils
- Interim Grade sheets sent home on 10th December 2019
- Exam Week – Exams in most subjects held w/b 2nd March 2020
- Full academic reports sent home on 23rd April 2020