



ST MARGARET WARD CATHOLIC ACADEMY



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Principal: Mr. D. McKenna B.Soc.Sc. MA. PGCE. NPQH.

03Y/DataPointReports/HMF/LB

21st December 2018

Dear Parent/Guardian

I am writing in an attempt to clarify some of the issues that have arisen since the data point reports have been issued.

Before I do this I would like to say that it has been a pleasure to welcome your child into Year 7 at St Margaret Ward Catholic Academy. It has been wonderful to see and hear how well so many have settled into the often challenging and tiring routines of life in High School.

There have been many highlights during this first term both in and out of the classroom with many new friendships formed and new talents discovered. The end of term has been a lovely celebration of achievement and I look forward to watching the continued progress of each student as they strive to be the best they can be.

With reference to the report you have received, I am acutely aware that some of the numbers and phrases included may seem confusing and contradictory, as well as potentially demotivating for both your child and yourselves. Unfortunately we have realised that some staff have accurately stated that a student is 'well below' their target in some subjects. This is because they are not going to be anywhere near the level they have been predicted to get in Year 11 at this stage in their school career so please do not be overly concerned about this.

Other staff have given their comment based on how the child is working at the moment and if they continue to work in this way they will be 'on target' or 'above target', therefore appearing to be making very good progress at this stage.

The 'Attitude for Life' score has also caused some confusion as we use numbers 1-4 in our lessons, however they have a slightly different definition in this context.

In summary we have managed to confuse you with this system, which we will rectify for future reports and I apologise for the upset and concern this has caused, especially at this time of year. Please be assured that we are offering your child a secure and well-rounded education. Your support is greatly appreciated and for majority of students we are satisfied they are progressing as they should and some have made an outstanding start. Those who are finding it more difficult are receiving additional help and support and we aim to inform you of any incidents we feel you need to be aware of.

Thank you to those parents/carers who have contacted us and I hope you will agree that it is just as important to have a happy and healthy young person who is learning to deal with the pressures and challenges growing up brings, as it is to be making the expected progress in the academic subjects.

Together I am confident we will achieve success for your child and may I wish you all the best for a peaceful and happy Christmas and I look forward to seeing everyone in the New Year. Remember the Spring term starts for the children on Tuesday 8th January 2019.

Yours faithfully

Mrs H Farrer
Assistant Principal

If you require this information in a different format, please contact the school.

