

Pupils in years 7, 8 and 9 have been assigned flightpaths which they will follow on the journey towards their GCSEs at the end of Year 11. This is to ensure that all pupils are challenged to make continuous progress, given their individual starting points.

What are the flightpaths?

Flightpath Name	Bronze GCSE Target
Pankhurst	8
Shakespeare	7
Nightingale	6
Edison	5
Parks	4
Wilberforce	3
Mandela	2
Pasteur	1

How are the flightpaths assigned?

For students in years 7-9 we have used a new, more accurate system to create flightpaths called FFT Aspire. These FFT expectations compare your child's progress from their KS2 SATS score with the top 20% of their cohort nationally. However, we recognise that this information does not always give the full indication of your child's ability so pupils that regularly perform above expected progress on their flightpath may have it adjusted appropriately.

Is the flightpath the same for every subject?

To reflect the variation in how pupils perform in different subject areas nationally, your child will be assigned a flightpath for each of the following four areas:

Mathematics
English
EBacc - <i>science, history, geography, Spanish, computing</i>
Open - <i>art, drama, RE, music, technology, PE</i>

Your child may well have the same flight path for all four areas or, conversely, may have two, three, or on rare occasions four different flight paths. We believe this will allow us to make more accurate assessments of their progress.

How will progress be reported?

- Working WELL ABOVE his/her flightpath (GOLD)
- Working ABOVE his/her flightpath (SILVER)
- Working ON his/her flightpath (BRONZE)
- Working BELOW his/her flightpath
- Working WELL BELOW his/her flightpath

Note that all pupils will be encouraged to GO FOR GOLD!

How will my child know which flightpath they are on?

Subject teachers refer to flightpaths in lessons and during formative/summative assessments. The monitoring reports sent out during the year have this information on and we encourage you to discuss the information with your child. However, we choose not to share the anticipated GCSE grade with pupils until Year 9 because we are trying to keep the focus on what pupils should be aiming to do to continually improve rather than the final grade. We respectfully ask that you consider this prior to discussions with your child.