

9 January 2020

Dear Parent/Guardian

### Review of Sixth Form targets

As you may be aware, over the last few years, students at Maiden Erlegh Trust schools have been involved in a process of setting themselves ambitious academic targets based on information provided by Fischer Family Trust. The Fischer Family Trust is an independent, non-profit organisation which is mainly involved in undertaking and supporting projects addressing the development of education in the UK. In this our aim is to promote student engagement and involvement in their own learning and progress. This year, for the first time, we are able to use a similar process to support a review of targets set for Sixth Form subjects.

In October 2019 the students set themselves a subject benchmark based on their performance at GCSE and a model provided by ALPS (A Level Prediction Service). The ALPS suggested grades are simple to calculate and are available very early in the course. They have been a very helpful tool for setting benchmarks at the start of the course. Over the last few years it has become increasingly apparent that in some subject areas these benchmarks are not sufficiently aspirational. The new FFT estimates help us now to see in which subject areas a review of the previous benchmark is advisable.

On Friday 10 January 2020, during the tutor period, students in Year 12 will be given subject estimates generated by FFT for their A level courses. For each subject a percentage estimate is given for achieving each grade in that subject. The FFT recommended target is also shown and students are encouraged to review their previous ALPS benchmark using these estimates and their knowledge of their progress on the course to date.

For example, if your child has a 46% chance of achieving a grade B in Biology and a 21% chance of gaining a grade A then the estimates are telling you that 1 in 5 of similar students will go on to gain this higher grade A. With support, and their desire to do well, could your son/daughter be one of those students who achieve the grade A?

The students will reflect on this information during the tutor period and suggest a revised benchmark they now wish to set themselves and record it in the right-hand column. During the lessons over the following two weeks their teacher will discuss this with them and, using their professional experience, will help guide your child to a revised benchmark.

I am writing today to inform you about this process and engage your support. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Yours sincerely



Mr G Attridge  
Trust Lead for Assessment and Reporting