

Dear Parent/Carers

Thank you all those parents/carers who attended the meeting about the new grading system at The Barlow, the PowerPoint is now available on the school web site. We feel that is important for all parents and students to be aware of the changes which have been set out by the Department for Education.

I would like to inform you that at The Barlow we will no longer be reporting using 4a/4b/4c etc.. for Years 7 and 8 and for Years 9 and 10 we will not be reporting using A\*-G grades, for all years we will be using the new 9-1 grading system that has been introduced for GCSE's. For Year 11 we will still report using A\*-G, except for English and Maths which will report using the new 9-1 grading system.

There is a flight path available on the school web site to show you what grades pupils should be achieving by the end of the year, this will differ for children depending on their SAT's results in Year 6.

Each pupil will now undertake a number of formal assessments throughout the year and all of Year 7-10 pupils will have an exams week in June. Below is a table to show you when these assessment weeks will take place, it also makes you aware of when you should receive tracking and reports. Please be aware that occasionally these dates may alter slightly due to factors beyond our control.

**Yr 7 – 11 Assessment dates at the Barlow**

	Assessment dates	Tracking to go to Parents	Reports to go to Parents
Year 7	Baseline assessment and CAT tests – Wk beg 5 <sup>th</sup> Sept 2016 Wk beg 3 <sup>rd</sup> Oct 2016 Wk beg 21 <sup>st</sup> Nov 2016 Wk beg 6 <sup>th</sup> March 2017 <b>Exam Week – Wk beg 5<sup>th</sup> June 2017</b>	Wk beg 17 <sup>th</sup> Oct 2016 Wk beg 12 <sup>th</sup> Dec 2016 Wk beg 27 <sup>th</sup> March 2017 Wk beg 3 <sup>rd</sup> July 2017	Wk beg 30 <sup>th</sup> Jan 2017
Year 8	Wk beg 3 <sup>rd</sup> Oct 2016 Wk beg 21 <sup>st</sup> Nov 2016 Wk beg 6 <sup>th</sup> March 2017 <b>Exam Week – Wk beg 5<sup>th</sup> June 2017</b>	Wk beg 17 <sup>th</sup> Oct 2016 Wk beg 27 <sup>th</sup> March 2017 Wk beg 3 <sup>rd</sup> July 2017	Wk beg 19 <sup>th</sup> Dec 2016
Year 9	Baseline assessment – Wk beg 5 <sup>th</sup> Sept 2016 Wk beg 14 <sup>th</sup> Nov 2016 Wk beg 6 <sup>th</sup> Feb 2017 <b>Exam Week – Wk beg 5<sup>th</sup> June 2017</b>	Wk beg 10 <sup>th</sup> Oct 2016 Wk beg 13 <sup>th</sup> March 2017 Wk beg 26 <sup>th</sup> June 2017	Wk beg 19 <sup>th</sup> Dec 2016
Year 10	Wk beg 19 <sup>th</sup> Sept 2016 Wk beg 14 <sup>th</sup> Nov 2016 Wk beg 6 <sup>th</sup> Feb 2017 <b>Exam Week – Wk beg 5<sup>th</sup> June 2017, the timetable will be sent out nearer the time</b>	Wk beg 10 <sup>th</sup> Oct 2016 Wk beg 5 <sup>th</sup> Dec 2016 Wk beg 13 <sup>th</sup> March 2017 Wk beg 26 <sup>th</sup> June 2017	Wk beg 1 <sup>st</sup> May 2017
Year 11	Wk beg 19 <sup>th</sup> Sept 2016 Yr 11 Mocks 1 - Wk beg 14 <sup>th</sup> Nov 2016 Yr 11 Mocks 2 - Wk beg 13 <sup>th</sup> Feb 2017 <b>GCSE Exams timetable will be sent out nearer the time</b>	Wk beg 10 <sup>th</sup> Oct 2016 Wk beg 5 <sup>th</sup> Dec 2016	Wk beg 20 <sup>th</sup> March 2017

Please do encourage your son/daughter to revise for all of these assessments as it is essential that all pupils stay on track to meet all of their target grades throughout their 5 years at the Barlow.

There is also a guide on different ways to revise on the school web site, or a copy of this is available from me.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any further questions

Yours sincerely

**Penny Scott**

**Deputy Headteacher**