

Student Attainment and Progress at Haileybury Turnford

**KS4 (Year 10 & 11)
Progress Updates 2025/2026**

Reporting to Parents and Carers



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GCSE grading

- GCSEs have replaced the old A*- U with numbered grades from 9-1 in all subjects
- Grade 9 is the highest possible grade which can be achieved
- Vocational Technical Qualifications (VTQs) have a different grading system (guidance on VTQs is provided later in this document)



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Explaining GCSE 9-1 grades

The following information should give you an indication of the grade distribution and equivalence to the historical grading used:

- **Grade 9** is higher than the previous grade A* and it will only be awarded to the top 2% of students across the country
- **Grade 8** is the equivalent of the previous A*/A boundary
- **Grade 7** is the bottom of the previous grade A
- **Grade 6** is the top two-thirds of the previous grade B
- **Grade 5** is the equivalent of the top third of a previous grade C and the bottom third of a grade B; this is the new benchmark by which schools are assessed (a “Strong Pass”)



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Explaining GCSE 9-1 grades continued

- **Grade 4** is the equivalent of the bottom of a previous grade C and is considered a “Standard Pass”. If a student achieves lower than a grade 4 in English Literature or Language and/or Mathematics they will be required to retake that exam again in the Sixth Form, at College or as part of their apprenticeship programme. Most Sixth Forms will require a grade 5 or higher to access courses at Level 3.
- All grades 1-9 are considered to be passing grades. A “U” grade indicates that a student has failed to meet the standard required for a grade 1 and the result is ungraded

Old GCSE	A*		A	B		C	D	E	F	G
New GCSE	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	



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Explaining VTQ grades

- Vocational Technical Qualifications use a different scale for awarding grades and are modular in nature. Students will sit 3 or more modules across KS4 and the overall grade received will be the aggregate of those individual module results.
- VTQ grades and their equivalent to GCSE grades are shown opposite.

VTQ grade	GCSE grade
P1 (Pass Level 1)	1
M1 (Merit Level 1)	2
D1/D*1 (Distinction Level 1)	3
P2 (Pass Level 2)	4
M2 (Merit Level 2)	5/6
D2 (Distinction Level 2)	7
D2* (Distinction star Level 2)	8/9



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Tracking Attainment at KS4 (Year 10)

- KS4 students in Year 10 took their primary school SATs in 2023 and a target grade for their GCSEs has been calculated based on their achievement from Year 6 in both Reading & Maths. The DfE judge the progress of students over 5 years (Year 7-11) based on these predicated grades.
- KS4 target grades for Year 10 will be shown on the January progress updates and are considered the minimum expected grade for that student based on their KS2 (SATs) attainment.
- Haileybury Turnford staff will review the targets for suitability, and we will track progress throughout KS4 using these target grades and report progress towards those targets 3 times per year.



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Tracking Attainment at KS4 (Year 11)

- Progress Updates for KS4 Year 11 students contain a target grade set by the school using a range of data sources since Year 7. This is what he/she should be aiming towards and beyond. His cohort did not sit their SATs in 2022 due to the pandemic.
- KS4 students have taken a number of robust, externally standardised assessments during KS3 including GL Assessment Reading Age Tests, Progress Tests in English and Maths (completed at the end of Year 9) as well as CAT4 tests taken on entry in Year 7 (for those who started with us).
- Haileybury Turnford staff will review the targets for suitability, and we will track progress throughout KS4 using these target grades.



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Tracking Attitudes to Learning - descriptors

ATL 5	The student's attitude to learning is conscientious and diligent. They are highly motivated, use their initiative, ask questions to extend their learning and take responsibility for their own learning. Students seek challenge and support as necessary, and extend their studies by proactively seeking opportunities to develop their subject knowledge beyond the classroom. They are keen to share their work and discuss related topics with staff and peers. Homework is completed to a very high standard.
ATL 4	The student's attitude to learning is pro-active. Students are motivated individuals who complete tasks fully and independently in lessons, actively reviewing and improving their work before seeking support from a teacher. They consistently undertake extension activities and produce homework of a good standard. They are willing to redraft and improve work repeatedly to attain the highest standard of work possible.
ATL 3	The student shows a willingness to learn, but they can often be passive rather than pro-active when it comes to their own learning. Students can work independently to produce work of a good standard, but rely on the teacher to direct evaluation and assessment. They make little use of extension activities in lessons and they require prompting and encouragement to complete redrafts and improvements. Homework is generally completed to an acceptable standard.
ATL 2	The student may not complete tasks fully, and may require a significant level of monitoring to ensure that concentration is maintained. Students may be slow to start tasks and do not actively seek support if they are unsure what to do. Students may lack resilience and are content with completing the minimum requirements. Homework is often incomplete and rushed.
ATL 1	The student's attitude to learning is cause for concern and they often fail to actively engage with or take responsibility for their own learning, even with encouragement and support. Students may be fully dependent on staff and may resist support or create barriers to learning, giving up quickly if they are struggling. They can be disengaged and only rarely demonstrate interest in topics or pride in their work. They are often without the appropriate equipment and rarely complete homework.



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Further information and contacts

- If you have any queries, please contact your child's Form Tutor or Year Achievement Coordinator in the first instance

Year Group	Year Achievement Coordinator Contact Details
Year 10	Miss J Lee – leej@haileyburyturnford.com
Year 11	Mr S Aydin – aydins@haileyburyturnford.com
Year Group	Assistant Year Achievement Coordinator Contact Details
Year 10	Miss R Robinson – robinsonr@haileyburyturnford.com
Year 11	Mrs C Lynch – lynchc@haileyburyturnford.com



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Senior staff contacts

- Alternatively, contact the following staff with further queries

Year Groups	Senior staff contact
Year 10	Mr B Walsh – walshb@haileyburyturnford.com
Year 11	Mr N Megaw – megawn@haileyburyturnford.com
Senior Vice Principal	Mrs M Goodes – goodesm@haileyburyturnford.com



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