



12 January 2024

Dear Parents/Carers

We very much hope that you have had a lovely festive period. There are a number of key messages in this Parent Communication relating to continued concerns around the safe use of social media, the upcoming Y7 Subject Evening, and understanding Y7 Target Grades.

## **Social Media Use**

We continue to be concerned about the use of social media by students. As a school with a no mobile phone use policy the monitoring of mobile phone use remains the responsibility of parents. Please do check your child's use regularly. The parent com with specific information on how to keep your child safe whilst accessing their mobile phone, sent to parents 10.11.23 can be found [here](#)

## **Year 7 Subject Evening For Parents/Carers - Monday 29 January 2024 from 4.00 – 8.00pm**

It is with pleasure that I write to inform you of the arrangements for the Year 7 Subject Evening, which will take place face-to-face in school. It is strongly advised that your child also attends the evening to allow them to hear the feedback their teachers provide.

All bookings for the subject evening will be done via SchoolCloud. Appointments can be made from Monday 15 January 2024 at 5pm and will close on Monday 29 January 2024 at 9am.

A number of students may have two teachers in some subjects, and where this is the case the system will allocate you one of these to book with.

Appointments are available for all students in the core subjects of Maths, English and Science. In other subject areas some teachers teach a large proportion of the students in the year and appointments are offered on a first come first served basis. If you are unable to get an appointment with one of these staff and have a specific question please contact them directly.

As this is a subject evening you will be unable to book appointments with your child's Form Tutor due to their subject commitments. If you do wish to speak to them at any point during the year then please contact them directly via e-mail.

The attached guide will step you through the process of booking appointments.

All appointment lengths are 5 minutes, and we would encourage you to start with any specific questions to ensure there is sufficient time for these to be answered. If you need longer with a member of staff they may ask you to make an appointment to speak to them at another time, in order to keep the evening running smoothly. Members of the Senior Leadership team will be available for any general questions in the student services area.

The most recent attainment and engagement data will be available via GO 4 Schools in advance of the evening and we would encourage you to re-visit this prior to the appointment and to be ready to ask any specific questions you have.

If you have any issues or queries with booking appointments then please contact [data@northleamington.co.uk](mailto:data@northleamington.co.uk)

## **Year 7 Targets**

On Monday 15<sup>th</sup> January Year 7 targets will be published on Go4Schools. You can see these on the app by scrolling down to the attainment section, or by logging on to the web-based version and clicking on the progress tab.

Our aim is to set aspirational targets for all students throughout their journey with us, and so we use an external target setting company called Fischer Family Trust who help us to ensure our targets challenge students to make progress in line with the top 20% of students nationally who have the same Key Stage 2 test results as a starting point.

In year 7, 8 and 9 students will have a target attainment band for each subject, called the **Main Target Band**. The target bands available are A-D and they represent journeys to the GCSE grades indicated below.

Attainment Band	GCSE Target Grades included in this band
A	Grades 8 and 9
B	Grades 6 and 7
C	Grades 4 and 5
D	Grades 1, 2 and 3

Please note: GCSE grades are awarded on a 9-1 scale. All GCSE grades are a pass at GCSE level, but a grade 4 is known as a standard pass (similar to the old Grade C) and is achieved in approx. 70% of entries nationally with NLS results exceeding 80% of all entries.

At each data cycle staff will indicate if a student is making the necessary progress at that stage in their journey to be on track for their target band, using one of the 4 descriptors below. The next two cycles will be in March and July

Above Target
On Target
Working towards Target
Below Target

Target bands are a starting point and whilst set at an aspirational level are not a ceiling. There is always opportunity for students to demonstrate they are working above their target band, and where this happens the target band will be increased, this is known as a **progressive target band** and would also become visible on Go4Schools and future reports.

If you have any specific target grade questions, members of the Senior Leadership team will be available to answer questions in the Student Services area at the Subject Evening.

### PSHE Curriculum

Students in Year 7 will be studying aspects of Gaming this half term during PSHE lessons.

Year 7 will look at:

- Understand what gaming is.
- How to game safely on-line.
- Understanding the emotions attached to gaming.

- What motivates people to game.
- What are the benefits and risks of gaming including professional gaming.
- How to regulate when gaming.

Finally, as an RSC Associate School we have been offered tickets to the preview of First Encounters with Shakespeare, Romeo and Juliet on Tuesday, 30 January 2024, 18:30 - 20:00, at Sydenham Primary School, Leamington Spa. Tickets are available for NLS using the following link. There are 150 available and have been offered to all the schools in the Leamington Network. Access to the ticket sales is [here](#).

Kind regards,

Mrs Sarah Barley-Morey

AHT Y7/Careers Leader/Student Self Reflection Lead