

# Target and Expected Grades

2011

# Alps

- National scheme
- They look at how students with a particular GCSE mean score perform at AS and A level.
- They group the students into bands depending on their mean GCSE score.
- They publish the grades achieved by each band of students in the best, worst and middle performing schools.
- They suggest using a score which would put a school into the top 25% of schools so this is what we do.

# Calculating the target grade

- Calculate the mean GCSE score
  - All A\*s                      58 points
  - Half A\*s, half As        55 points
  - All As                        52 points
  - All Bs                        46 points
- Use the ALPS benchmark tables to establish target grade

# Examples

- Mean GCSE score 56 points (mainly A\*s with some As)
  - Range of grades AAAB and Alps target grade A-
- Mean GCSE score 46 points (mainly Bs)
  - Range of grades CCDD and Alps target grade C/D

# Points to remember

- This is a challenging target
- 89% of students achieved target in one or more subjects.
- In no way limits the grades that can be achieved.
- It is not used to determine the UCAS (university application) estimated grade

# Warning

- This target is statistically generated using mean GCSE score.
- It may underestimate the potential of
  - Students who were very weak at GCSE in area of the curriculum they are not continuing with.
  - Students who were ill or whose GCSE grades were affected by a particular issue at the time.
- However, we have found the majority of students benefit from a target against which they can measure their subsequent performance

# Uses

- To help students gain a feel for the level they can aspire to.
- To help us spot problems at an early stage.
- To help the school monitor the performance of departments and teachers.
- To help the school compare its performance with other schools.

# Expected grades

- This is the grade the teacher feels is most likely to be achieved based on latest work.
- Issued each term
- Should be used to monitor progress – a drop in the expected grade suggests current work is poorer than previous term's work.
- Becomes more secure as course progresses.
- The next 2 slides show the target sheet issued in September and the expected grade sheet issued each term.

## Sixth Form Target Grades

**Sue Smith**

**12PJC**

We use a national scheme called 'Alps' to produce target grades. They have looked at how thousands of students have performed in recent years and have found that the mean GCSE points score gives quite a good indication of the grade that will be achieved at AS and A level.

The grades shown in the table below are designed to be challenging but achievable. Last year most students achieved at least their target grade in most of their subjects.

Approx GCSE grades	GCSE score band	QCA score band	AS level minimum target grades per subject	AS level minimum target grades per student
Mainly A and A*	7.5-8.0	55.0-58.0	A	AAAB
Mainly A's	7.0-<7.5	52.0-<55.0	B	ABBB
Mainly A's few B's	6.7-<7.0	50.2-<52.0	B	BBBC
Mainly A's & B's	6.4-<6.7	48.4-<50.2	B/C	BBCC
Mainly B's few A's	6.1-<6.4	46.6-<48.4	C	CCCC
Just over all B's	5.8-<6.1	44.8-<46.6	C/D	CCDD
Mainly B's few C's	5.5-<5.8	43.0-<44.8	C/D	CDDD
Mainly C's few B's	5.2-<5.5	41.2-<43.0	D	DDDD
Mainly C's	4.7-<5.2	38.2-<41.2	D	DDDE/DDE

**Your mean GCSE points score is**                      **55.75**

**Target grade per AS subject**                      **A**

**Overall target for AS subjects**                      **AAAB**

Each term during the year you will be given what we call your current 'expected grade'. This will help you monitor your progress towards your target. The first set of expected grades will be issued in early November.

The estimated grade that is put on your university application is based on how well you are doing on the course and is not limited by your target grade. If you are working above your target grade a higher grade will go on your UCAS form.

**Lancaster Girls' Grammar School**  
**Tracking student approach to learning (ATL)**

**Izzy Williams 13HL**

Alps Target Grade - A\*/A

	ATL – in lessons	ATL – Independent learning	Expected A level Grade
Physics	2	1	A

Izzy's's attendance:	100.0 %
<b>What this means:</b> 100% - fantastic. 95%-99% - Well done. Attendance above 95% is the expectation. 90%-95% -Satisfactory, but there could be a cause for concern here Under 90% - You are missing a significant part of your learning	

# Attitude to Learning grades

- These are issued alongside the expected grades each term.
- One grade for work in class and one for independent learning .
- A grade 2 is the grade which indicates that we are very happy with the attitude to learning and that work is of the very high standard we expect.
- The criteria for each grade accompany each report.