

December 2023

Dear Parents and Guardians

Assessment and reporting to parents in Key Stage 3

This year we are introducing a new way to report your child's performance in each of their subjects and how they are working in lessons.

At Key Stage 3 we think the most helpful way to describe your child's attainment is to indicate where they are compared to other pupils based on their assessments in each subject. We do this in five bands (quintiles) ranging from 1 to 5 with 20% of the year group in each band. Within the school report, it tells you which quintile your child is in, based on the results from the assessment which was completed by the whole year group.

If they are in quintile 5, this means their mark was in the top 20% of marks for this assessment in this year group. If they are in quintile 1, their mark was in the lowest 20% of marks for this assessment in this year group. We would expect pupils to be in different bands based across their subjects as every child has strengths in different areas.

Alongside your child's attainment we also provide a grade for your child's behaviour for learning. This measures how your child prepares for and approaches lessons in each subject over time. Your son/daughter's behaviour for learning is in many ways the most important aspect of their report. Regardless of the quintile your son/daughter's assessment places them in for any particular subject, a pupil who is working hard and displaying a positive attitude to learning, will be in the best position to make progress over time, in all subjects.

A grade 'B' indicates that your child is doing what we would expect, whilst an 'A' grade indicates that we are really pleased with your child's approach and couldn't really wish for more. Grades 'C' and 'D' are below or well below our required standard and we will expect your support as we work with your child to ensure these improve. There is nothing to stop all our pupils getting 'A' behaviour grades if they really apply themselves.

Yours faithfully,



Mr S Porter

Senior Assistant Headteacher

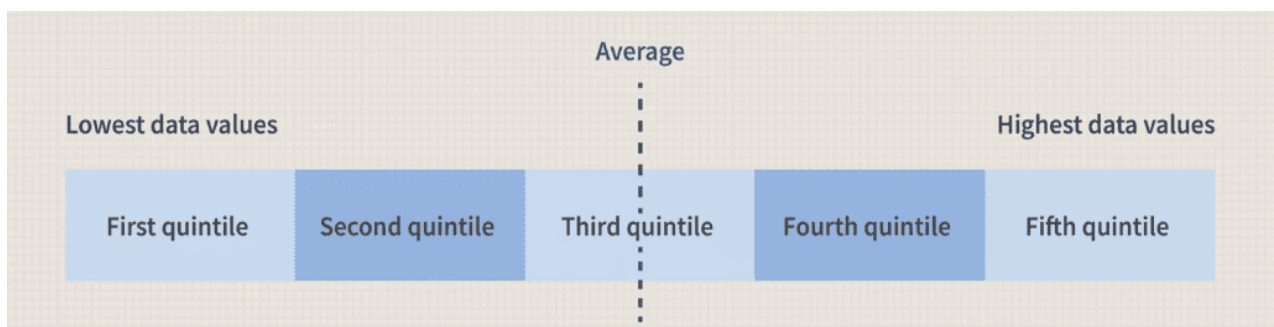
INFORMATION IN THE REPORT – FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What is a quintile?

Quintiles are the values that divide a list of numbers into five equal parts.

To decide the quintile value for each subject, we put the scores from the results of the assessment into an ordered list. This gives us the range of marks. For example, the lowest mark could be 6/50 and the highest mark could be 49/50. Our range of marks would then be from 6/50 – 49/50 or from 12% – 98%.

We then 'cut' the range into five equal parts. The quintiles are at the 'cuts'.



What do the quintiles mean in the school report?

The school report tells you which quintile your child is in, based on the results from the assessment which was completed by the whole year group. If they are in quintile 5, this means their mark was in the top 20% of marks for this assessment in this year group. If they are in quintile 1, their mark was in the lowest 20% of marks for this assessment in this year group.

But the children are all in different classes, does this make a difference to their quintile?

No – the assessments completed in the assessment cycle are identical in all classes and are moderated in departments to ensure that marking is accurate and fair.

My son/daughter, who is in the year above, got the same mark as my son/daughter when they did this test last year and it put him in Quintile 2 but my daughter has been put in Quintile 3. Why is this?

The quintile 'cuts' are done in response to the range of marks from this cohort of pupils for this assessment. This will obviously change from year to year, assessment to assessment so the same mark as a previous year, or previous assessment will not necessarily mean the same quintile.