November 2020

**Dear Parent** 

This letter should reach you together with a report sheet as part of the Associated Sixth Form assessment and reporting system. This shows the latest information about your son's or daughter's projected grades, as submitted by subject teachers. The aim is to provide the most up to date information about performance so that parents and students can discuss progress and explore strategies for improvement. Please note that for the projected grades we ask subject teachers to give their assessment of the most likely grades that students will achieve at the end of the course based on the work and progress seen; in some cases these will not be the same as the recently-issued predicted grades, which are used to support students' applications to Higher Education and employment.

On the reverse of this letter is an explanation of the effort grade criteria which have been applied in this report. A more detailed report from all subject teachers including feedback on the December mock examinations will be issued in January (mock grades)/February (full report).

We hope that you find this interim report helpful and thank you for your support in helping us to encourage your son or daughter through the demands of A Level study.

Finally, we would be grateful if you could read the following information, which is taken from our Admissions Policy 2021. We feel it is important that parents and students are aware of the potential implications of under-performance at A Level and therefore of the need for students to take every opportunity to attain the best possible grades in the summer.

**Exceptional Circumstances** 

The Associated Sixth Form only offers a third year of study to students in exceptional circumstances. This is defined as a situation where a student's health or personal circumstances have affected his or her ability to complete the courses in two years, in which case a third year may be negotiated. Any student wishing to enquire about a Year 14 option should be aware that it is not possible for students to simply retake all previous courses: this often proves demotivating to students and does not meet funding regulations. Where students do not meet these criteria but wish to continue their studies, the pastoral team within the Associated Sixth Form will support them in accessing alternative provision.

Yours faithfully,

C I Kidman

Head of Sixth Form, St Aidan's

N Beetles

Head of Sixth Form, St John Fisher

## **Effort Descriptors 2020-2021 for Sixth Form Reporting**

| Outstanding      | Student is extremely motivated and focused throughout all lessons. Homework is always completed to a very high standard. Deadlines are always met. Student enjoys contributing fully to class activities and welcomes challenge. Student can work independently. |
|------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Very Good        | Student is motivated and focused in lessons. Homework is completed to a high standard and deadlines are met. Student contributes to all class activities. Student can work independently on most tasks.                                                          |
| Good             | Student is motivated and focused in the majority of lessons. Homework is completed on time to the required standard. Student contributes to class activities. Student can work independently at times but on occasions requires guidance.                        |
| Some Concerns    | Student can lack motivation at times including being passive. They often require guidance and encouragement to remain on task.  Homework can be incomplete and deadlines are not always met.  Student can fail to engage with class activities.                  |
| Serious Concerns | Student lacks motivation and focus in the majority of lessons.  Homework is rarely completed and deadlines frequently missed.  Student seldom involves themselves in class activities.                                                                           |