

ATTAINMENT and PROGRESS in SCHOOLS EXPLAINED

						Yr 6 PoS
					Yr 5 PoS	Above
				Yr 4 PoS	Above	Expected
			Yr 3 PoS	Above	Expected	Below
		Yr 2 PoS	Above	Expected	Below	
Attainment descriptors might say...	Yr 1 Programme of Study	Above	Expected	Below		
Greater depth, above Exceeding...	Above	Expected	Below			
On track, expected...	Expected	Below				
Emerging, working towards, below...	Working towards					

Primary schools describe attainment broadly in 3 areas – above, expected or working towards. As children move from yr 1 through to yr 6 they follow a Programme of Study (PoS). Schools will try to support children to make expected progress every year – and if they do this then they make one jump up the stairs (or follow the blue arrow).

Key stage 3 at Secondary School is years 7, 8 and sometimes 9. The chart above continues in the same way into these years and the same descriptors apply.

Key stage 4 at Secondary School is years 10 and 11 (sometimes also yr 9). The new GCSE grade system is shown below. 4 is considered a Standard Pass (old C) and 5 is a Secure/Strong Pass (top C/lower B)

New GCSE grades explained

9	A*
8	A
7	B
6	C
5 (strong pass)	D
4 (standard pass)	E
3	F
2	G
1	U
U	U

Good Questions to ask...

Attainment : where my child's learning is currently

- **Q. Is my child's attainment at Expected levels for their age and against national expectations? If not, why is this?**

Progress : where my child's learning is compared to their starting point

- **Q. Is my child making expected progress? If not then why is this?**
- **Q. Is there any additional support/intervention that my child would benefit from ?**
- **Q. What is the impact from the interventions they have had?**

Things to consider ...

- Schools might use different points/descriptors – but should *always* be able to show you on the grid above where these match your child's achievements.
- There is a flight path / trajectory of 'Expected Progress'. Where a child is working at Expected levels at the end of Yr 2 the school is tasked by the Government to help that child reach Expected levels at end of Yr 6 SATS (they are expected to go up the staircase consistently each year.)
- Where Children leave Primary school and achieve 'Expected' in SATs, Secondary schools are tasked by the Government to help that child to achieve at least Grades 4-5 at GCSE.
- Watch out for the word 'Below'. Your child might be in Yr 5 but be working in a different Year's Programme of Study eg Yr 3. Ask exactly *how* below they are.
- Consider whether your child has SEN. If they have learning difficulties they might have Attainment Below Expected – but they should still be making Expected Progress.
- Don't accept 'coasting'. If children are already working at Expected levels then ask how they might move towards Above Expected.
- Children in specialist provisions for Learning may be working on P levels (P1 to P8). P levels help track learning at a level significantly below year 1.
- Children in EYFS (pre school and yr R) will be working in months and are 'expected' to reach a 'Good Level of Development' in all areas by end of Yr R.

Please do feel able to email your VSK Locality team for further advice.

