

Key stage 3 advice – targets, flightpaths and reports

KS3 is the stage in a student's education when they may start to think about the type of career that they want to pursue after secondary school.

It doesn't matter if a student does not have clear ideas, but research has shown that many students have a good idea in Y8 what they would like to focus on.

Some careers need specific grades and it is useful for a student to be aware of these and whether they are on track to achieve them



The spring of Y9 is when students decide upon their option choices for GCSE.

Estimates are what GCSEs you might be expected to achieved at the end of Year 11.

The flightpath is how you have to perform to get there. In the past this was measured against National Curriculum levels. These have now been removed and so we have adopted a system of tracking flightpaths towards estimated grades right through from the start of Y7 to the exams in the summer of year 11.



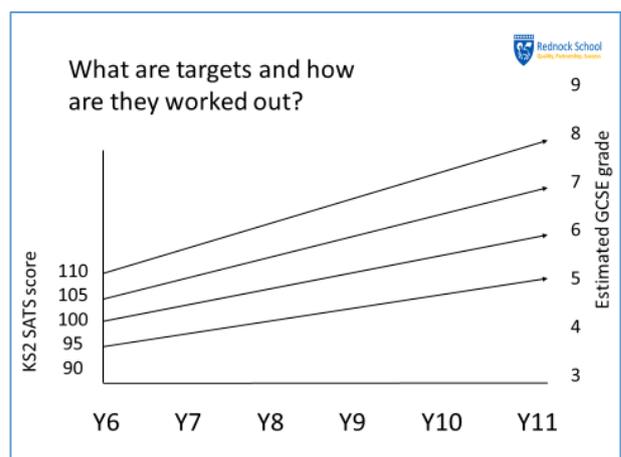
Your target is the grade, for each subject, which we would expect you to get at GCSE. These estimates are generated by FFT¹ by analysing all of the nation's GCSE results from each year to see what grade you are most likely to get from each starting point at KS2

For instance

A student with a score of 100 (national average) in the Y6 Sats test you may be expected to achieve a Grade 6 at GCSE.

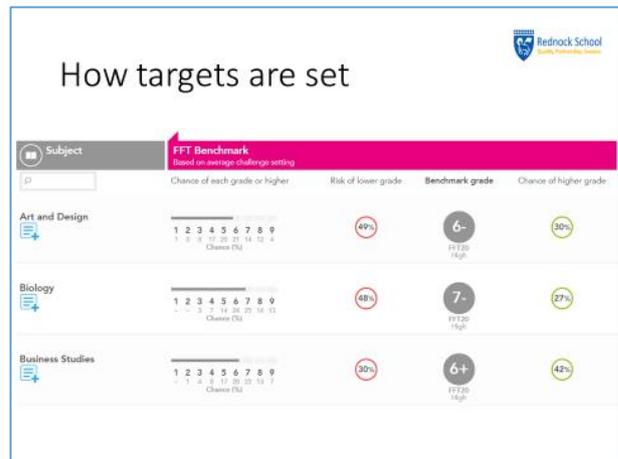
A slightly lower score of 95 may be most likely to achieve a 5 and a slightly higher score of 105.

(please note that these numbers are for illustration only and will not be settled until the new SATS and GCSEs have been running for a number of years)



¹ FFT or Fischer Family Trust – a national educational charity.

For a pupil with a KS2 score of 100 a GCSE grade 6 may be the most likely, but there is a significant percentage chance of beating or missing that grade. For example In Art in this example the student is most likely to most likely to achieve a 6, but quite a high chance that he could fall to a 5 or climb to a 7. These variations need to be taken into account when interpreting this information.



Different professions have very different entry requirements. If you have decided on a particular career you should be able to find out if you need to achieve particular A and GCSE grades to pursue the career.

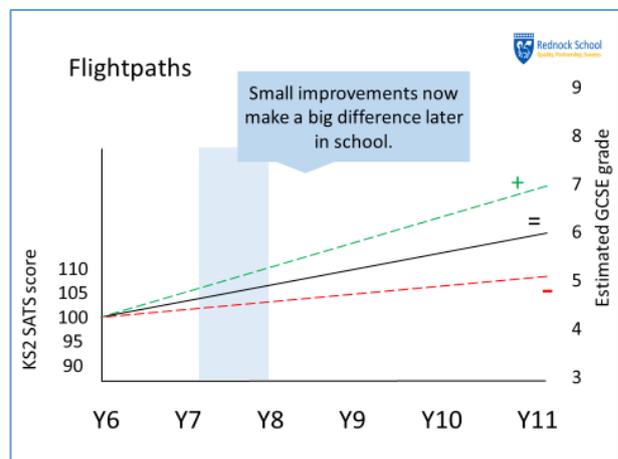
Different careers / different requirements

- GCSE: Grade 4 in 5 GCSEs inc English, maths and science
- A level: Minimum C in sciences and good passes in 3 subjects

- A level: AAA – including chemistry and one other lab based science

Remember, you will need grade 6 or above at GCSE to get onto the A level courses that you need.

A combination of a student’s KS2 SATS results and the GCSE estimates for them allows a progress flightpath to be plotted. This shows what stages need to be reached through KS3 in order to achieve an estimated GCSE grades that enable you to proceed to the A levels that you want. Your progress reports will show you whether you are on that flightpath



Progress reports

Joe BLOGGS							
Subject/Teacher	GCSE Target	Progress Indicator by Report				Current Attitude to Learning	Current Behaviour
		1	2	3	4		
English Mrs S Keith, Mr G Ritchie	6	=				Good	Excellent
Maths Mr D Muir	7	=				Excellent	Excellent
Science Miss L Millward, Mr T	6	=				Good	Good
Computing Mr A S Birkett	7	-				Good	Good
French Mrs V Wytchard	6	+				Excellent	Excellent
Geography Mr A Haddon	7	+				Excellent	Excellent
German Mrs J Hemper, Mrs A Lin	6	=				Excellent	Excellent
History Miss E Ryall	6	-				Excellent	Excellent

What can you do

- Check your reports – if you are behind ask your teacher what you need to do to improve and work on it
- Small changes now have a big effect later on