



# The De Montfort School

UNLOCKING YOUR CHILD'S POTENTIAL

**Parent Voice Meeting**  
**Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> December 2015 6pm**

**Present:**

Mr G Nichols, Headteacher  
Mr T Dolan, Deputy Head Progress & Standards  
Mrs C Kent, Vice Chair of Governors  
Mrs J Sampson, Business Manager

1. New Progress Report Format

Mr Nichols explained how we will have to report on student progress in the future. Levels have gone and we find ourselves trying to keep hold of an excellent system of reporting we developed last year but keeping in line with national changes. Mr Dolan is putting the report together and trying to ensure parents, students and staff navigate their way through the changes. We have 2 draft letters for PVT to see. We need to get information out to parents very quickly as we have had to delay issuing the progress reports.

Mr Dolan explained that changing the reports and coming up with a new tracking system has been very challenging. The report should give feed back of your child's attainment on national standards. Levels have gone which we previously used for years 6, 7, 8 & 9. Ofsted have criticised schools that are still using levels.

The new terminology is Entering, Developing, Secure and Mastery. We are very aspirational in our targets.

In year 9 and year 10 there will be a new grading system for GCSE. This is the last year there will be letter grades for GCSEs. English & Maths will have number grades 1-9 (9 is equivalent to A\*). For year 8 students onwards they will have all their GCSE grades in numbers.

We have tried to develop a system where we are able to track progress throughout the whole transition. For year 9 we are going to report in GCSE grades. If we do this now it will future proof the system.

We have used the new system to link the national curriculum year grade to the level that the student is working at parents need to note that the governments' age related standards are now very high. By raising expectations this will help us then focus our intervention strategies on any students falling behind. We have also included fine grades by adding a plus sign. Our tracking system for the current year 11 will not change.

Suggestions: Entering, Developing, Secure and Mastery have a description on the progress report.

Mr Dolan explained that full details of the new system will be on the website.

There is no national way of monitoring student progress and recording this. We don't know of any other school that has gone as far as TDMS for assessment reporting for years 6, 7, & 8 students. Some schools have started recording year 9 students against the GCSEs.

We want to get the assessment reports out by the end of this week.

English & Maths have moved forward very quickly but other subjects have had to rewrite their planning. Mr Dolan said the new system has created a lot of work for all the staff as their planning and assessment has had to change as well as the reports. A lot of subjects are still marking and talking in levels. We need to ensure that students know about the new system and so we will do some assemblies.

Targets are set for students according to their KS2 results and Progress 8 measures progress from KS2. Targets for year 10 students are their expected GCSE results.

Year 7 and year 8 reports English & Maths have a base line which is how they did in their SATS. The other subjects they do not have this baseline so we will use Assessment 1 as the base line. We will colour code from Assessment 2 onwards.

In future years their baseline would be where students have got to at the end of year 6 and year 7.

Agreement was made that individual bespoke year letters will go out to explain the new reporting system.

**ACTION: J Winfield to work with T Dolan on the letters to parents**

2. Letter to John Edwards

Parents gave GN comments about the school to feedback to John Edwards.

3. Parent Survey Results

We have had information back from parents, students and staff surveys. The staff survey has the same questions on as Parent View. Staff are very positive with only negative feedback generally down to work life balance as staff want to do the best they can so work incredibly hard to ensure this happens.

On the written parental survey we had over 200 responses and it matches very closely the data we had at the end of last year. We have 92% recommending the school. There were also 4% who were unsure.

On the online Parent View we are still at 99% out of 75 parents which is very important as it is used as a reference by Ofsted.

On the student survey we had the following:

Year 12 students are very positive.

Year 13 are not such a happy group although so we will investigate this further.

Year 11 are very positive.

Year 9 & 10 not so happy. With year 9 or year 10 have not had the 1-1 meetings with Mr Nichols so this will provide a greater insight.

Year 6 & 7 are glowing about the school but year 8 are less so. Parents felt that perhaps year 8 students are thinking about the future and are a bit uncertain at the moment.

#### 4. Review of the Term

Parents discussed the Open Evenings at TDMS and other high schools and gave some very positive feedback about the TDMS Open Evening. Some useful insights have been gathered to help us improve on our very good Open Evenings.

#### 5. A.O.B.

Parent View information was given to parents. Mr Nichols asked parents to ensure that both parents of students have voted.

Mr Nichols is going to Blackminster School on Friday to their Christmas Fair and will give them the PV results and some other promotional handouts.

Thank you to all the parents for completing the Parent View information.

GN said that 3 things keep him motivated:

- 1 – the students
- 2 – the incredible staff at The De Montfort School
- 3 – parents who have been so committed and so passionate

Suggestion made to send a text reminder to parents to ask them to complete Parent View.

#### 6. Date of Next Meeting

- ❖ Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> January 6pm. All parents are welcome to attend.

Mr Nichols thanked all the parents for their tremendous support for our school. Please invite other parents to join the group as we want as many parents as possible on our PVT so we maximise our improvements.

Meeting closed at 7.45pm