



# KS3 Assessment Framework

## Policy

### Document Control:

This document has been approved for operation within:	Al Islah Girls High School
Date of last review	August 2018
Date of next review	August 2020
Review Period	2 years
Owner	Al Islah Girls High School

Approved by the full Governing Body: August 2018

Following the end of National Curriculum levels, Al Islah Girls' High School introduced a new assessment and reporting system in September 2016 for Years 7-9. The new system aims to further enhance the quality of teaching, learning and assessment so that our pupils make outstanding progress and have a strong foundation for achieving success at GCSE. When embedded, the system will:

- be aspirational and challenging while giving pupils a sense of achievement
- provide a precise and robust measure of pupil progress and attainment
- make it clear to pupils, the knowledge, understanding and skills that they have mastered and the next steps they need to make in their learning
- give reliable information to parents about how their child is performing
- be coherent with the reformed GCSEs

**Al Islah Girls' High School 1-9 system at Key Stage 3**

The Al Islah Key Stage 3 assessment system is based on a 1 (lowest) to 9 (highest) grade scale. The knowledge, understanding and skills needed for each grade have been set so that the grade a pupil is working at during Key Stage 3 broadly reflects the standard we would expect a pupil to be at to progress to achieve the same grade at GCSE. For example, if a pupil achieves a grade 5 for a subject in Year 9 it puts them on track for achieving broadly a grade 5 in the same subject at GCSE. However, it is important to emphasise that a pupil's rate of progress often varies over time and may differ between subjects. Therefore, while the grades a pupil achieves during Key Stage 3 may be an indicator of possible achievement at GCSE they are not the school's prediction of a pupil's GCSE outcomes.

	Year 8			Year 9			GCSE grade
				9			9
				8			8
Year 7	9			8			7
	8			7			6
	7			6			5
	6			5			4
	5			4			3
	4			3			2
	3			2			1
	2			1			
	1						

The diagram above shows how the 1-9 grade system works from Year 7 to Year 11. Unlike the old National Curriculum levels, the standards for each grade get progressively harder from one year to the next during Key Stage 3.

A 9 - 1 grading system across all subjects has been created where grades are grouped into Bands to ensure a smooth transition to the new GCSE grading system:

- Advanced - Grade 7 - 9 (A student in this Band is at an advanced stage for the age expected grade range for that subject)

- Secure: Grade 4 - 6 (A student in this Band is secure in the age expected grade range for that subject)
- Emerging: Grade 1 - 3 (A student in this Band is emerging towards the age expected grade range for that subject)

### **Types of Assessment**

Subjects assess and grade pupils once per new term (6 times a year) using a combination of assessments that best suits that subject. This may include formal end of topic tests under exam conditions, project based assessments where pupils work in lessons and at home and other forms of assessment such as group presentations. Each termly assessment does not necessarily cover all of the course content but does so over the course of a year. There are two formal annual exams in Mid Year Exams and End of Year Exams in which content covered thus far in Key Stage 3 is assessed under exam conditions. Each exam period lasts for a week to a fortnight and pupils receive an exam timetable which shows when each subject exam takes place.

### **Reporting**

Two Progress Reports are published each year which contain an overall 1-9 grade for each subject as well as information about a pupil's learning attributes including their effort, behaviour and homework. The progress which a pupil is making is monitored by comparing their 1-9 grade with a subject specific target.