

What is our system based on?

All attainment grades at Spalding High School are based on the GCSE 9-1 system.

Reference Guide for new GCSE Grades		
New		Old
9		A*
8		A
7		
6		
5	5 and above = top C and above	B
4	4 and above = bottom of C and above	C
3		D
2		E
1		F
		G
U		

Grade 4 is known as a STANDARD PASS

Is the same system used for all year groups?

Not quite. We monitor pupil attainment in Years 7 & 8 using 'Projected GCSE **Grade Bands**'. As the pupils are still at a very early stage of their learning, it is too soon to confidently award a specific 9-1 grade. Therefore, we feel that the bands are a more useful indicator at this stage. This gives pupils a chance to get used to the GCSE grading system that we use from Year 9 onwards. A pupil's grade band in any given subject represents the teacher's view of how current work, homework, effort and attitude to learning are most likely to translate into a GCSE grade. Please be assured that all departments routinely track and monitor the progress and attainment of all pupils, and help and support are provided accordingly.

What do the bands actually represent?

The range within which individual PROJECTED GCSE GRADES currently fall. There is no such thing as a 'Current Working Grade' based on 'flight paths of progress' at SHS. *The destination is the focus, not the journey.*

Year 7 Grade Bands	4-6	4-6+	7-9	7-9+		
Year 8 Grade Bands in spring:	4-5	4-5+	6-7	6-7+	8-9	8-9+

NB: '+' bands = progress made **within** a band between spring and summer

What happens in Year 9-11?

Years 9-11 receive actual 9-1 GCSE PROJECTED GRADES (see table above)

What is a Projected GCSE Grade?

“Based on the work you have produced that I have seen and marked, assessments and tests, the effort you make, the extra work you put into this course and from what I know about you, if you continue as you are, the most likely grade or grade band you will achieve at the end of the course, at this point in time, is....”

What exactly is reported and when?

Year 7

Autumn	Spring	Summer		
Effort Grade only	4-6 band →	4-6	4-6+	7-9
	7-9 band →	4-6	7-9	7-9+
	Effort Grade	Effort Grade + Full Report		

Year 8

Autumn	Spring	Summer	
Effort Grade only	4-5 band	4-5	4-5+
	6-7 band	6-7	6-7+
	8-9 band	8-9	8-9+
Effort Grade	Effort Grade + Full Report		

Year 9

Autumn	Spring	Summer
Effort Grade only	Projected Grade between 9-4 OR 4-	Projected Grade between 9-4 OR 4-
	Effort Grade	Effort Grade + Full Report

Year 10

Autumn	Spring	Summer
Projected Grade 9-4 OR 4-	Projected Grade 9-1	Projected Grade 9-1
Effort Grade	Effort Grade	Effort Grade + Full Report

Year 11

Autumn	Spring
Projected Grade 9-1	Projected Grade 9-1
Effort Grade	Effort Grade + Mock Exams + Full Report

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS ABOUT OUR ASSESSMENT AND REPORTING SYSTEMS IN YEARS 7-11

	Autumn	Spring	Summer
Year 7	Effort grade only	4-6 band →	4-6 OR 4-6 ⁺ OR 7-9
		OR 7-9 band →	4-6 OR 7-9 OR 7-9 ⁺
		Effort grade	Effort grade & full report
Year 8	Effort grade only	3 bands: 4-5, 6-7, 8-9 Effort grade	4-5 6-7 8-9 4-5 ⁺ 6-7 ⁺ 8-9 ⁺ Effort grade & full report
Year 9	Effort grade only	Projected Grade between 9-4 OR 4- Effort grade	Projected Grade between 9-4 OR 4- Effort grade & full report
Year 10	Projected Grade 9-4 OR 4- Effort grade	Projected Grade between 9-1 Effort grade	Projected Grade between 9-1 Effort grade & full report
Year 11	Projected Grade 9-1 Effort grade	Projected Grade between 9-1 Mock exams Effort grade & full report	