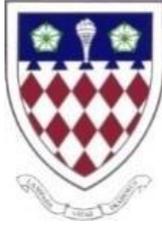


SPALDING HIGH SCHOOL



ASSESSMENT, MONITORING & REPORTING POLICY

HEADMISTRESS: Mrs M K ANDERSON
DEPUTY HEADTEACHER: Mrs T WALDRON (Curriculum, Exams, Pastoral)
ASSISTANT HEADTEACHER: Mr J BLACKBOURN (Assessment & Reporting, Y11-13)
ASSISTANT HEADTEACHER: Mr B LOVE (Teaching & Learning, Y7-10)
ASSISTANT HEADTEACHER: Mrs L RAY (Safeguarding, Attendance, Anti-bullying)
SENDCo: Mrs L HEBBLEWHITE
LINK GOVERNORS: Mrs D MULLEY (Chair Standards Committee)
Mr E FRAGALE (Chair Pupil Support Committee)

DATE AGREED: October 2021
REVIEW FREQUENCY: ANNUAL

Executive Summary:

The aim of this policy is to set out the arrangements for assessment, monitoring and reporting at Spalding High School. We believe that this policy should ultimately enable all staff to support students as a result of effective monitoring and the system should furthermore serve to motivate our students.

Related Policies:

Behaviour for Learning Policy
Curriculum Policy
Equal Opportunities Policy
Examinations Policy
Homework Policy
Literacy Policy
Teaching and Learning Policy

Chair of Governors

Date

Headmistress

Date

Section 1: Aims

- 1.1 It is the aim of teachers at the school to offer all pupils an opportunity to show what they know, understand and can do.
- 1.2 In order to help pupils develop their understanding, knowledge and skills, we see assessment as a vital tool.
- 1.3 Through assessing, monitoring and reporting on pupils' work, we aim to:
 - Motivate pupils to understand what they have to do to attain specific levels and grades
 - Facilitate the setting of clear targets for improvement
 - Allow staff and pupils to plan more effectively
 - Involve pupils and their parents/carers in the pupils' progress
 - Provide staff with information to evaluate teaching
 - Give pupils helpful feedback including DIRT time, in order that they can learn more effectively
 - Ensure that our practices in this area adhere to the equal opportunities policy of the school.

Section 2: Principles

- 2.1 Assessment, recording and reporting at Spalding High School should:
 - Be based on an agreed framework of consistent principles used throughout the school
 - Enable the school to fulfil its statutory obligations
 - Inform teachers' forward planning
 - Involve the learners, so that pupils feel motivated and are aware of the criteria by which they are assessed and that they are provided with feedback so that they can learn more effectively
 - Be integrated into curriculum plans. Individual departments are responsible for choosing assessment opportunities, procedures and systems, in order that the pupil is best served in each separate subject
 - Provide intelligible and meaningful information for parents
 - Be manageable within existing resources and time
 - Use a wide variety of assessment techniques
 - Be simple and understood by all.

Section 3: Implementation

The principles of the School's policy give rise to agreed practices in assessment, recording and reporting, specifically:

Assessment techniques

- 3.1 Responsibility lies with the individual teacher and with the HoD leading the subject team to use as wide a variety of assessment methods as possible.
- 3.2 Pupils will be given full opportunities to show what they know, understand and can do. A range of assessment techniques also increases variety and interest in teaching and learning.
- 3.3 A great deal of CPD has been focused on assessment and reporting including the sharing of good practice between departments; displays, discussion, observation, oral presentation and practical work are examples of wider evidence which can be used to assess pupils. The more formal task of marking can be varied to include grades for effort and attainment, marks for specific skills, pupil self-assessment and comments on the completed work.

Marking and feedback

- 3.4 Departments should be confident when assessing to common standards. As part of this, it is expected that, within a department, there will be a common marking system, consistently applied by staff and understood by pupils, which includes the School's Literacy Policy.
- 3.5 Teachers' feedback to pupils, both written and oral, should focus on their progress and achievement. Such feedback has two purposes; firstly, to reward and praise progress and achievement and, secondly, to identify areas for improvement, future targets and ways to progress.

Quality Assurance

- 3.6 At departmental level, it is the role of the HoD to monitor standards of teaching & learning and consistency of assessment within his or her team. It is the responsibility of the HoD to develop, together with teachers within the department, a set of criteria for the assessment of pupil work in that subject which should include the School's Common Tasks for all year groups to ensure consistency of marking within departments. Staff must also adhere to the criteria of external assessment bodies. To support these aims, departments are developing pupil friendly assessment criteria related to specific topics.
- 3.7 Work scrutiny is carried out at departmental level by the HoD and at whole school level through the work of the Senior Leadership Team. Learning reviews/departmental learning walks are carried out each year to monitor teaching and learning and observations are carried out for appraisal. A peer observation is carried out annually. HoDs work in conjunction with a designated member of the SLT, meeting at least three times throughout the year to discuss set agenda items. Departmental DDPs are also discussed at these meetings.

Monitoring, Tracking and Progress

- 3.8 Target setting is individual and estimates may be based on Key Stage 2 scores, GCSE scores or CAT4 data with an appropriate measure of added challenge. Estimated grades are set with reference to prior and current performance as well as potential. Departments publish student friendly success criteria to enable pupils to understand what is required to make progress in each subject.
- 3.9 HOD, subject teachers and pastoral staff track individual progress and examine reviews of the results of the monitoring process. Intervention is taken at a variety of levels if students appear to be diverting from their estimated grades and parents are involved in the process when appropriate.

Reporting

- 3.10 Written school reports are summative and are issued in November (Years 11 and 13) or in July (Years 7 – 10, 12). For Years 11 and 13 they include end-of-year examination / assessment week results and a projected grade in comparison to a pupil's estimated grade. Reports for Years 7-10, 12 include projected grades and an end-of-year target. Deadlines for reporting are issued to staff and the assessment coordinator issues regular reminders to staff. Arrangements are made to discuss the student's progress at parents/carers' consultation evenings or at the request of the parent with senior pastoral staff or SLT.
- 3.11 Contact with home is promoted through the planner system, student monitoring and the importance given to the role of pastoral staff to ensure that parents feel they are involved in their children's progress.

Consultation Evenings

- 3.12 Each year group has one parent/carers' consultation evening per year which will continue to take place online for the year 2021-22. Pupils make appointments with the teachers in their subjects through a website and appointment lengths vary depending on the year group. The form tutor, Head of Year and SLT are also available to discuss pastoral issues.

Rewards (currently under review by the change team)

- 3.13 Individual departments set the criteria for awarding 'excellents', but teachers can also award them for helpful behaviour, or good conduct about the school. Staff sign these marks in the student's planner at key stage 3 and recorded on SIMS at key stages 4 and 5. They accumulate so that the Head of Year or SLT awards bronze, silver and gold certificates at achievement assemblies. Pupils are also praised within the classroom situation; this can be in the form of oral comments, written response to work or in the planners. Many departments award certificates or postcards for consistent effort or very good work and the sixth form team run a 'Stars of the Month' system.
- 3.14 At least twice each term, student achievement is celebrated in assemblies. Prizes and certificates are awarded for progress, effort and achievement. At the end of term assemblies and at annual prizegivings, student achievement is celebrated in all its forms.

Examinations

- 3.15 Mock examinations are held in February for Y11 and Y13. The internal examinations timetable is created and arranged by the examinations officer, who also administers all arrangements for external examinations. Internal examinations in June for Years 7-10 and 12 have been replaced by optional in-class assessments.

Analysis of examination results

- 3.16 Results of external examinations and mock exams are analysed both in subject departments and for the school as a whole. The intention of these analyses is to identify where strong performance exists and where improvement is needed. Departments are required to consider the reasons for particular levels of performance and trends over time between specifications, subjects, teachers, teaching groups and identifiable groups, As a result, good practice is identified and shared, and areas for improvement addressed.

Training

- 3.17 The Assistant Headteacher with responsibility for A&R (AHT i/c A&R) delivers training to whole staff, or smaller departmental, and/or pastoral groups. New staff have an assessment, recording and reporting session within their induction programme. There are regular reminders and tips offered at staff briefing sessions, or statutory meetings. The AHT is available to assist departments or staff members throughout the year and attend departmental or pastoral meetings. The HoD or HoY is responsible for training and supporting individual staff in assessment, recording and reporting practices, which affect their particular areas. Departmental policy should be clearly stated and issued to all staff within that area.

Section 4: Evaluation and Review

- 4.1 The process undergoes review annually. HoD/HoY is responsible for monitoring and evaluating the application of the policy and reporting to their line manager. The AHT i/c A&R compiles the findings and carries out the overall evaluation, making changes where necessary.