

Marking Policy FAQ

Why are you changing the marking policy?

We are changing the policy because we believe we can help students make more rapid progress by targeting improvements more quickly in lesson time.

We also believe rewarding effort has a more positive effect on a child's attitude to learning than rewarding outcomes (i.e. grades and scores).

What will happen if my child receives an effort grade of a 3

If a child receives a 3 for effort, they will be expected to attend a lunchtime detention with the member of staff of subject leader who issued the effort score. During that time, they will improve the work to the required standard.

My child has SEN needs; how will the marking policy affect them?

Every child's work will be considered on an individual basis. The teacher will identify what good effort looks like for each student before awarding an effort score. If a child has a learning difficulty or behaviour need, they will not be penalised for this. They will be rewarded for their effort rather than the outcome.

Will My child be told the grades they are working at in each subject?

Yes. Every half term, your child will complete a summative assessment, this will be marked and graded by the teacher. This grade may be shared with you and your child, so that you know how your child is progressing.

Exercise books will not be graded. The effort score is the only judgement that will be made on their exercise books. This is to support ongoing effort.

How can I help my child to be successful in their book work?

Parents are really important in helping their children be successful in all aspects of school. To support them to complete excellent book work, ask to see their books and look through the work they are doing. Reward them for high effort scores and question what they need to do to make sure they get merits for their effort.

If you are concerned about your child's bookwork, speak to their teacher or subject leader and share your concerns so we can work together to make improvements.

Does this mean teacher won't mark books?

No. This will mean, teachers mark books more frequently but write less in each individual book. This will help teachers to keep a close focus on student's strengths and areas for development, then respond more quickly to secure knowledge. You will see fewer written comments in red but you will see more frequent effort scores.