



November 2016

Dear Parent/Carer,

I am pleased to provide for you your child's academic progress and performance for Autumn 1 which I hope you will find informative.

Irlam & Cadishead College Response to Assessment 'Life After Levels'

Nationally, all schools have new requirements given Government changes that affect how we, in schools, assess and report on student progress, performance and achievement.

Irlam & Cadishead College (ICC) has a new Assessment Policy intended to simply and support students, teachers and parent/carers for 'Life After Levels' and ensure that we are ahead of the field in its implementation.

ICC Personalised Progress Paths (PPP)

We continue in our commitment to prioritise a personalised approach in all we do. On entry to Irlam & Cadishead College all students will have a Personalised Progress Path (PPP) which will track their progress in their College career, Year 7 – 11.

- During the academic year ICC will provide for parent/carers 5 Data Assessment Captures which will report on their progress and performance in their subjects. This was introduced last year and parent/carers have reported that they have found this most useful. Additionally, all parent/carer will receive their Annual Written Report.
- It is imperative that all teachers at ICC recognise the validated data provided by primary schools. Previously this had been SAT levels in English, Maths and teacher assessment in Science.
- Primary Schools now report on English and Maths Test scores which high schools receive as a 'scaled scores' e.g. '100' being what used to be referred to as 'National Average'. These 'scaled scores'. ICC will use this data together with Cognitive Ability Tests (CATs) and their first half term subject baseline data to appropriately set targets and group students.
- 'Old' national curriculum levels have now been replaced with a new 6 Stage Banding Pathway – Band 1 to 6. Please see enclosed your child's Data Assessment Capture 1 report and note that we will use 'E', 'D', 'S' or 'M', outlined overleaf, to help you understand how your child is performing.

‘E’: Emerging – The student has just started to understand and complete work within this band.

‘D’: Developing – The student is working through the content and skills within this grade and is developing a deeper understanding of the work.

‘S’: Secure – The student now has a full understanding of the work at this band.

‘M’: Mastering – The student can answer any questions on the work at this stage and should progress to the next band.

Key Information for Key Stage 4 Students (Year 10 and Year 11)

- In August 2017, Year 11 students will receive their results graded ‘9’ – ‘1’ in English and Mathematics (Grade 8 being equivalent to an A*). All other subjects will be graded ‘A*’ – ‘G’.
- In August 2018, current Year 10 students will receive their results graded ‘9’ – ‘1’ in all subjects, except Technology subjects.

Parent/carers can expect to see our commitment to these changes and our Data Assessment Capture will reflect the new grading systems. Please see below Term Dates for the Academic Year 2016 – 2017.

| <u>Autumn Term</u> | <u>Spring Term</u> | <u>Summer Term</u> |
|---|--|---|
| Monday 5th September 2016 Autumn Term 1 Ends Friday 21st October | Monday 9th January 2017 Spring Term 1 Ends Friday 17th February | Tuesday 18th April 2017 Summer Term 1 Ends Friday 26th May |
| Autumn Term 2 Starts: Monday 31st October End of Autumn Term 2 Wednesday 21st December | Spring Term 2 Starts: Monday 27th February End of Spring Term 2 Friday 31st March | Summer 2 Starts: Monday 5th June End of Year Thursday 20th July |

Please do not hesitate to make contact with us if you have any questions about the assessment or report but, in the first instance, address any comments to the Progress and Development leader for your child’s year.

Miss Clements - Year 10 Progress & Development Leader - Tel. 0161 921 2196

Yours faithfully,



M A Nightingale
Principal
Irlam & Cadishead College

<<ChosenName>> <<Surname>> - D.O.B: <<DoB>>

Irlam & Cadishead College has launched a new attendance initiative called *ICC Diamond Attendance Tracker*. We have revised our procedures and will be working with parents/carers to improve attendance and punctuality. Research has shown that regular attendance and good punctuality are crucial factors in students achieving their full potential. Irlam and Cadishead College is committed to providing a full and efficient education to all and encouraging students to strive for excellence. Therefore, for a student to reach their full educational achievement, a high level of attendance is essential.

Working in partnership with parents and carers we need your full support in ensuring that your child attends Irlam & Cadishead College every day and on time. We welcome and encourage Home/College partnership working to resolve any difficulties. The target attendance figure for all pupils is a minimum of 97% attendance. Based on personalised current attendance figures your child will be placed in one of the following groups as shown on the Diamond Attendance Tracker below. Your child will be informed of their Attendance Group by their Form Teacher.

**<<ChosenName>>'s Attendance from 3rd September to 21st October was
<<PercentageAttendance>>%**

With <<UnauthorisedAbsences>> unauthorised absences and <<AuthorisedAbsences>> authorised absences.

<<ChosenName>> has been late <<NoOfSessionsLate>> time(s)

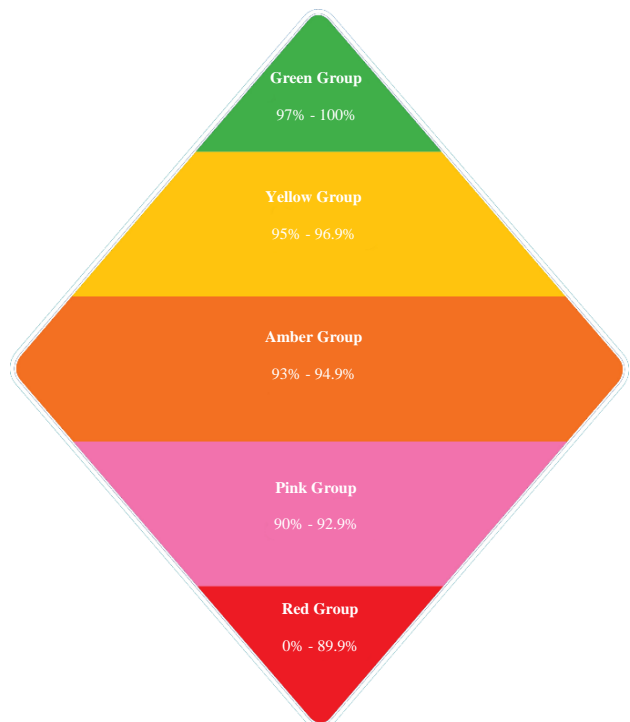
Group 1: Good **Green Group**
Student attends for 97% - 100% of the time

Group 2: Concern - **Yellow Group**
Student attends 95% - 96.9% of the time

**Group 3: Risk of Underachievement
Amber Group**
Student attends for 93% - 94.9% of the time

**Group 4: Severe Risk of Underachievement
Pink Group**
Student attends for 90% - 92.9% of the time

**Group 5: Extreme Risk of Underachievement
Red Group**
Student attends for 0% - 89.9% and the College may expedite to Court



National attendance figures that show impact on Attainment:

- Attendance of 96% or above: **82%** achieve 5 A* -C including English and Mathematics
- Attendance of 90% or above: **52%** achieve 5 A* -C including English and Mathematics
- Attendance of 80% or above: **36%** achieve 5 A* -C including English and Mathematics
- Attendance of 70% or above: **18%** achieve 5 A* -C including English and Mathematics

Regular attendance is not merely a legal requirement but it is vital for pupils to maximise their learning and achieve full potential here at Irlam and Cadishead College. There are a number of important steps that you can take to ensure your child maintains a high level of attendance:

Ensure your child attends every day, on time, equipped and ready to learn. Form Teacher time begins at 8.30am and all pupils need to be on site by 8.25am.

Ensure that the College has accurate contact details i.e. addresses and telephone numbers. We will contact you by text, or by telephone if your child is absent and you have not contacted the College.

If your child is ill or unable to attend College please provide a note in their Student Planner for their return to College. Please make sure you telephone the College every day your child is absent. The ICC Attendance Team can be contacted directly on **0161 921 2105** or by email, iccattendance@salford.gov.uk.

If no contact is received regarding the absence, it is recorded as unauthorised. Ultimately the College is responsible for deciding if the absence is acceptable or not. Only genuine absence will be authorised. You will be asked to provide medical evidence if your child has a poor attendance record – you may use the Student Planner for this, recording attendance and reasons for absence in the 'week at a view' section.

The following may help:-

Ensure that all medical appointments are made outside of College time, whenever possible.

Avoid trivial absence such as, 'buying new shoes'. This will not be accepted as a reasonable absence and will be recorded as unauthorised.

Holidays should not be taken in College time. It is a legal requirement that holidays will not be authorised during term time.

Respond to College letters or telephone calls regarding attendance and punctuality, by contacting the Attendance Team in Student Services on **0161 921 2105** or by email, iccattendance@salford.gov.uk

Contact your child's Form Teacher if you are experiencing difficulty in getting your child into College.

Thank you for working in partnership with us to achieve the highest possible levels of attendance and punctuality at Irlam and Cadishead College.