



FAQs	Answers
What is rank order assessment?	<p>Rank Order Assessment is the process of assessing students, through formalised examinations. Assessments will take place biannually in January and June. Students will be ranked in order of performance based upon the percentage achieved in each assessment. Rank order assessment will be used for individual subjects and overall across a range of subjects.</p> <p>The subjects that will be assessed using rank order will be English, Maths, Science, French, Geography and History.</p> <p>Rank order assessment will be used for students in Key Stage 3 – Year 7, 8 and 9.</p>
What will rank order assessment look like?	<p>Each student will be given a unique four-digit code. All rank order displays in school will be anonymised using the unique four-digit code. The rank order will show performance from highest to lowest percentage, student attendance, their attitude and performance in homework and their movement compared to the previous assessment.</p> <p>The rank orders will be displayed in corridors outside of the associated subject.</p>
Why are we doing rank order assessment?	<p>Rank order assessment has been proved to raise aspirations, motivation and ultimately increase the performance of students across secondary school. Rank order assessment creates a culture of self-competition. Initial concerns are always about potentially demotivating those students who appear lower in the list. When these concerns are overcome, students thrive upon improving their rank through increased performance. As a school will additionally provide students with a statement linked to their performance compared to Key Stage 2 data.</p> <p>Students can gain success through rank order in the following ways:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Increased percentage performance in the associated examinationIncrease rank order positionPositive progress against Key Stage 2 data



How will we support students who find themselves at the bottom of a rank order?	<p>Students who finish towards the bottom of the rank order will receive bespoke intervention where appropriate and, in some cases, parents/carers will be invited in for a meeting with a member of the Leadership Team to dissect the possible reasons for a low rank order. Intervention may include in class provision, tutor or after school sessions, support with reading and opportunities to enhance literacy and numeracy.</p> <p>The biggest cause of underachievement in GCSE examinations is low attendance. Students with attendance below 96% are likely to underachieve by 1.5 grades across all qualifications.</p>
What else will the school do with the rank order information?	<p>The rank order will only be used within school. Information that rank order provides will be used to ensure that all students are making strong progress across the range of subjects. It is important during Key Stage 3 that students develop a strong foundation so that when they progress to Key Stage 4 they are able to build upon and deepen their knowledge and understanding.</p>
When will we rank order?	<p>Rank order assessment will be used at six points across Key Stage 3. Assessments will take place in January and June of each academic year. The assessments used to generate the rank order will be created by the United Learning subject advisors in conjunction with each department. Rank order assessment will be used to ensure that the setting in Maths is appropriate.</p>
How will the overall rank order be worked out?	<p>The overall rank order will be generated using the following process. English and Maths will be triple weighted, Science will be double weighted and all other subjects will be single weighted. This reflects the nature of the GCSE examination system in which English and Maths are essential to ensuring progression into Post 16 education. Science is double weighted because as a GCSE it is worth two grades.</p>
Is it fair that students know if they are ranked at the bottom?	<p>GCSE scores are not based on any kind of arbitrary grade boundaries and are generated by allocating grades on a bell curve. A student who achieves a Grade '1' in a subject is essentially being told they have performed in the bottom 1% nationally in this subject.</p> <p>By providing students with an early understanding of where they sit within rank order system they have sufficient time to address areas for current weakness and achieve a higher rank (and therefore higher grades) by the time they complete their terminal examinations in Year 11.</p>



How as a parent/carer, how can I support my child with rank order assessment?	As a parent / carer the best support that can be provided is by encouraging a positive attitude and taking an interest in the learning. Students who have a high attendance (96% or above) complete all independent work at home through homework and prepare for examinations through revision will be more successful and improve their rank order. Regular contact between school and home can support the learning process and parental consultation evenings provide an opportunity to discuss progress and areas of focus across all subjects.
Will students be rewarded for their rank order?	<p>Students will be rewarded after each rank order assessment. Rewards will be given based upon a variety of criteria and not merely those students who finish at the top of the rank order.</p> <p>Rewards will be given for those students who have:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Improved their rankImproved their performance across the range of subjectsWorking above the level expected based upon Key Stage 2Have excellent attendanceHave excellent attitude and performance in homework
What information will be presented to parents / carers after completion of the rank order assessment?	<p>After each assessment parents / carers will be provided with the following information:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Percentage score achieved in each assessmentThe highest score achieved in each assessment across the school cohortThe average score achieved in each assessment across the school cohortThe rank order position for each subjectThe overall rank order position across the range of subjectsThe rank order position for attendance and homework across the school cohort
Can parents / carers refuse to allow their son / daughters name from being displayed on noticeboards?	The noticeboards displayed in school are all anonymised and students are given a unique code that is personal to them. This code will not be shared or displayed at any point. Students are not required to share their unique code with any of their peers. As a school we will consider exemptions for specific reasons.



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