



Horsforth School

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Headteacher: Dr P C Bell

Dear Parent/Carer

I am writing to you to give some clarification around some changes we have made to the way we are reporting each student's Attitude to Learning (ATL) from this academic year onwards.

Horsforth school places great emphasis upon developing and monitoring each student's Attitude to Learning. It is our belief that if students consistently show a positive Attitude to Learning, there will be direct benefits on their achievement. We want our students to be curious learners who fully engage in every opportunity, and we expect them to take responsibility for their own learning through actively participating in lessons and developing their resilience to overcome challenges.

We have therefore revised our ATL descriptors to bring them further in line with our school focus on effort in and out of class, and there are now 5 key elements that we will look for when assigning ATL scores:

- Engagement in class / Willingness to learn
- Resilience / Response to feedback and challenge
- Quality of work / Pride in what they do
- Behaviour for learning (including punctuality)
- Homework completion and quality

The ATL scores assigned will remain on a scale from 1-6 as they have done previously and a table breaking down what each score now means can be found at the end of this letter.

We are very aware that due to the increased rigour of the descriptors, some students may see a drop in their ATL scores from previous years. We do not want students or parents/carers to worry unduly but do hope that this change gives those students the chance to reflect upon, and improve, their attitude to homework in particular.

We continue to expect our students to achieve a minimum ATL score of 4 in all subjects but ask that they 'Strive for 5' at all times. Students who meet these expectations will be recognised and rewarded for their positive attitude. Any students who display a less positive attitude will be supported to make the most out of every learning opportunity.

ATL scores will be shared (via Progress Review Reports) 3 times a year and the ATL scores for Half Term 1 will be sent home to all year groups (and available on the Sims Parent App) on Friday 20 October.

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact school.

Yours faithfully

Claire Wright - Assistant Headteacher (Assessment)

'Opportunity and achievement for all'

ATL Score	Student Descriptor
6	<p>An EXEMPLARY student...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is fully engaged, proactive and highly productive in every lesson • Shows great resilience and is always eager to be challenged • Produces work of the highest quality and show pride in all tasks • Shows respect and tolerance to staff and students • Produces homework of a consistently high standard, on time every time, reading around the subject to address gaps or extend knowledge
5	<p>A MOTIVATED student...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is an active learner, going above and beyond expectations in many lessons • Shows resilience and responds positively to feedback and support • Shows pride and produces work of a high quality in every lesson • Is punctual, settles quickly and always arrives ready to learn • Produces homework of a high standard, on time every time seeking help if needed and demonstrating some independence
4	<p>A COASTING student...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sometimes lacks focus and can be passive in their learning • Can lack resilience and be reluctant to act upon feedback or learn from mistakes • Sometimes produces work that lacks pride and is not in line with their ability • May need reminding of classroom expectations but usually acts upon these quickly and positively • Will complete most homework tasks but may not actively seek help if struggling
3	<p>An UNMOTIVATED student...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shows inconsistency in their approach to lessons and is often off task • Lacks resilience and can respond negatively to feedback and support • Often shows a lack of pride in their work and can leave classwork incomplete • Regularly needs reminding of classroom expectations including punctuality and can often be a source of distraction to others • May not regularly complete homework tasks to a satisfactory standard if at all
2	<p>A DISENGAGED student...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shows no sustained desire to engage in their own learning in lessons • Lacks resilience and a desire to improve, giving limited responses to feedback • Puts little effort or pride into their classwork leaving most tasks incomplete • Is often late to lessons and can seek to distract the learning of others, needing regular reminders of classroom expectations • Rarely completes homework and frequently misses deadlines
1	<p>An UNSATISFACTORY student...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Does not engage in lessons • Does not respond to feedback in any way and does not seek to improve • Puts very little effort into any written work and lacks pride in what they do • Is frequently late to lessons, regularly seeks to distract the learning of others and can be disrespectful when challenged • Does not complete homework tasks or revise for assessments when directed to
0	<p>A NON-ATTENDER...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Does not attend school regularly

Please note: A score of zero is only assigned when a student does not attend lessons in that subject – this may be for a variety of reasons and is not a reflection of poor attitude, teachers are simply not able to assign a score of 1-6 due to student absence from that subject / class.

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