

Baldragon Academy Mr Hugh McAninch – Head Teacher 69 Harestane Road, Dundee DD3 0LF Telephone: 01382 436170 email – <u>baldragonacademy@dundeeschools.scot</u> website – <u>www.baldragon.ea.dundeecity.sch.uk</u> twitter – BaldragonAcad & Baldragon_HT learning portal - <u>https://tinyurl.com/y5pwje3e</u>



18 February 2025

Dear Parent/Carer

S4/S5/S6 Progress and Tracking Report

Following this letter is a term 3 progress and tracking report, with ratings, for your child.

You will undoubtedly appreciate that these weeks and months are very important, particularly now that your child is working within the Senior Phase towards national qualifications. Since the start of the new session, we have been trying our best to encourage and support your child, and every young person in Baldragon Academy, to develop a positive approach to school and learning.

Teachers complete 4 reports based on progress in learning, tracking of attainment and achievement and give a rating to indicate your child's performance in key areas of Effort and Behaviour. I hope that you and your child find this report useful in the conversations you will have with your child about their learning at Baldragon Academy.

You can expect to receive reports throughout the year:

- wb 18-Feb-25 S4/S5/S6 Progress and tracking reports to parents
- wb 21-Apr-25 S4/S5/S6 progress and tracking reports inc. SQA estimates to parents

All reports have ratings which are explained below. In addition to the ratings, teachers are expected to provide an action plan comment on your child's progress on 2 out of the 4 reports issued in the year. You may therefore find that in each report, some teachers will have commented but others not. We have taken this approach to reporting in the Senior Phase as it allows our pupils to receive relevant feedback at times when it matters the most, giving you and your child a more meaningful report.

Explanation of Terms/Grades for Reports

Target Grade (TG): Working Grade (WG/PG):	grade your child was given to achieve during this reporting period. grade your child is presently working at.
Next Target Grade (NTG):	grade your child should aim to achieve by the next reporting period.
Attainment:	performance showing your child's working grade against their target grade.
Effort (E):	the extent to which your child works hard, is motivated, participates in the lessons and comes properly prepared.
Behaviour (B):	the extent our child behaves in class, is focused and on task.
Teacher Action Plan:	a comment intended to maximise pupil progress by addressing areas of weakness and strength to be developed.

	Effort	Behaviour
Excellent	Always works conscientiously	Always behaves well
Good	Usually works conscientiously	Usually behaves well
Inconsistent	Makes some effort but capable of more	Sometimes behaves well
Needs improvement	Rarely puts in the effort to make good progress	Serious concerns



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National 3, National 4 Qualifications

Qualifications at Level 44, 45, 46 (equivalent to National 4, 5 and Higher)

There is no external examination for these qualifications. Success is determined by a series of unit assessments undertaken within the school. These qualifications are graded as a pass or a fail in this progress report, with a 6 indicating a pass and an 8/9 a fail.

Grade	Meaning				
6	Pass				
7	At risk of not achieving				
8/9	Fail				

National 5, Higher, Advanced Higher Qualifications

The qualification grade for these subjects is determined by your child's success in the externally assessed SQA exam. There are no unit assessments, but in some subjects, there is a requirement to submit an assignment or folio. If a grade 7 or less is given in this report then your child is at risk of failing and should take action now to remedy this by attending study support, ensuring homework is completed on time and by seeking the advice of their subject teacher. If there is no improvement, further interventions will be arranged in consultation with you, your child and the relevant Depute Head Teacher, Guidance Teacher and subject Principal Teacher.

Grade	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Level	А	А	В	В	С	С	D	No Award	No Award

Other School Courses

The focus of this report is on your child's entitlement of 6 subject qualifications in S4 and 5 qualifications in S5/6. There are no reports for subjects such as PC Passport classes for college pupils, Skills classes in S5/6 and S6 Wider Achievement options. These courses are certificated and bring added value to your child's portfolio of qualifications. Reports for core subjects such as PE, PSE and RME are just for Effort and Behaviour as these courses are not certificated and there is no requirement for grading.

Learning at Home

There is an expectation that all young people will take responsibility for studying at home. Consistent home study creates good routines for learning and improves qualification grades. For every level, young people should aim for 1 to 2 hours per week for each National Qualification and a minimum of 3 to 5 hours per week for each Higher/Advanced Higher.

Many additional supports for home learning are available through the Education Scotland National e-Learning Offer:

Baldragon Academy

Visit the Baldragon Academy Website on any device: <u>http://baldragon.ea.dundeecity.sch.uk</u> and click on the tab: **Learning Portal.** There are a variety of links on the home page, including Glow, West OS and e-Sgoil. From this page you will also be able to navigate the **Departmental Launch Pad** on the top right, select the specific subject area and follow the steps to access learning. There are also **How to Guides** for accessing Glow and Microsoft Teams on multiple devices. Your child's teachers have also created Microsoft Teams for their classes so that pupils can access subject lessons and homework directly.

Achieve

Achieve Learning is a high-quality learning resource which can be found <u>here</u>. It provides course notes, questions and past paper examples along with the relevant solutions. (Class codes can be obtained from the relevant class teacher).

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e-Sgoil Study Support 2023/24

Offered at different levels from N4 to Advanced Higher. The Study Support Webinar programme is designed to focus on key aspects of each subject as well as offer hints and tips on how to be successful in assessments. For a timetable of these sessions and other learning supports, including how to register, please visit: www.e-sgoil.com/senior-phase/

Parents' Evenings

At Baldragon Academy, we use an online appointment booking system which allows you to choose your own appointment times with your child's teachers. Once you make your appointments, you receive an email confirming your appointments. You may find that your child's teacher has already requested an appointment with you, and we ask that you honour this. Prior to each Parents' Evening, we will issue full details on how to register, book teacher appointments and use the system.

Dates for Senior Phase parents' evenings this academic session are:

- 25-Feb-25 S4 to S5/S5 to S6 Parents Course Choice Session 5.30pm- 7pm (online via MS Teams)
- 26-Feb-25 S4-S6 Targeted Parents' Night Post Assessment 5.00pm 7.30pm

With your continuous support we want your child to become a successful learner, a confident individual, a responsible citizen and an effective contributor to the school and wider community. To do this we ask that every pupil comes to school dressed in uniform and prepared to learn and to contribute positively to the learning of others. This involves following the school rules by behaving safely, behaving positively, showing respect to others and respect for property, trying hard in each and every lesson to achieve their very best and completing homework well and on time. In short, living our school values of respect, achievement, responsibility, honesty and fairness.

As always, thank you for your continuing support. If you have any comments or concerns, please contact your child's guidance teacher to discuss these and /or arrange an appointment via the school email address: <u>baldragonacademy@dundeeschools.scot</u>

Balgay House Craigowl House Law House Mr G Marshall & Miss M Scott Mrs C Robertson & Miss P Connar Mrs C Collin & Ms C Pearson

Yours sincerely,

Mr H McAninch Headteacher