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PTA (Parent-Teacher Association)

MEETING

15.10.2020

Agenda Items

Main purpose is to update on conversations which took place on 10th September.

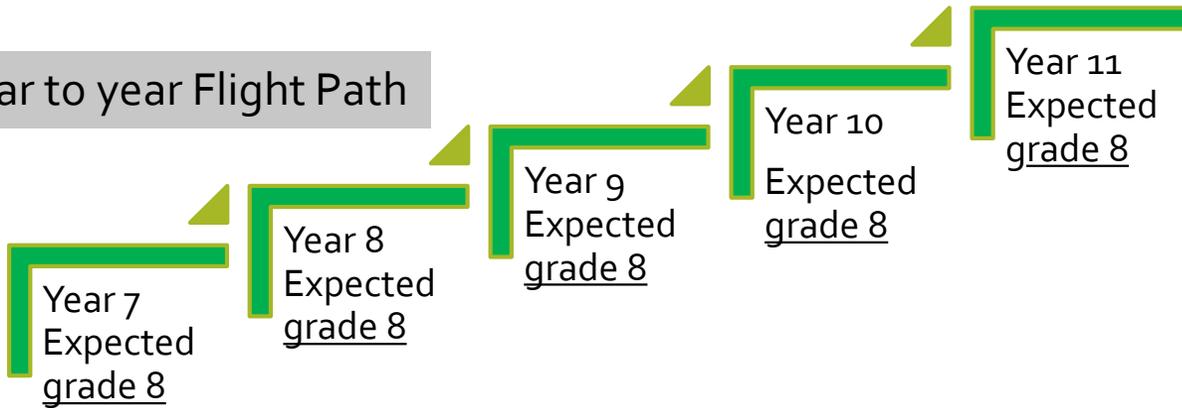
- Teaching & Learning
- School Fees
- Marketing the school
- Catering Provision

Teaching & Learning

- Teaching & Learning is improving
- Our Education Director will summarise where we are with monitoring
- GCSE results where 94% of students achieved a grade 4 in five or more of their GCSEs. This is compared to 89% the previous year.
- However, we are focusing on the progress your children make (year to year and from entrance to exit)
- For example, we now expect that a student who achieves a grade 5 in year 7, achieves at least the same grade at GCSE. Outstanding schools make even better progress (value added).

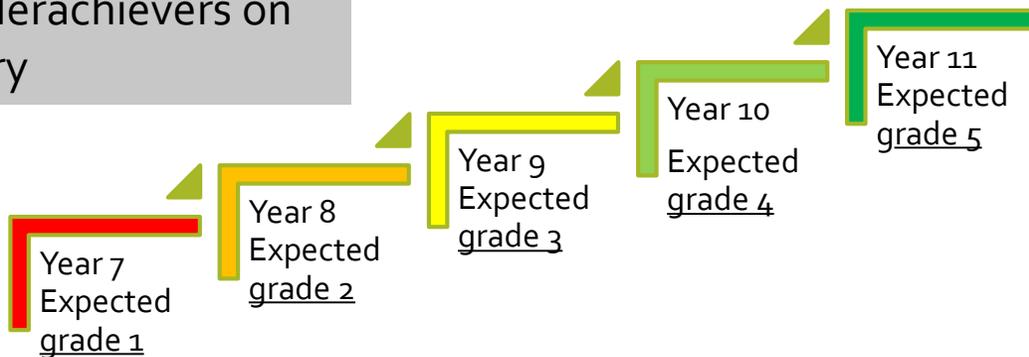
Ensuring progress

Year to year Flight Path



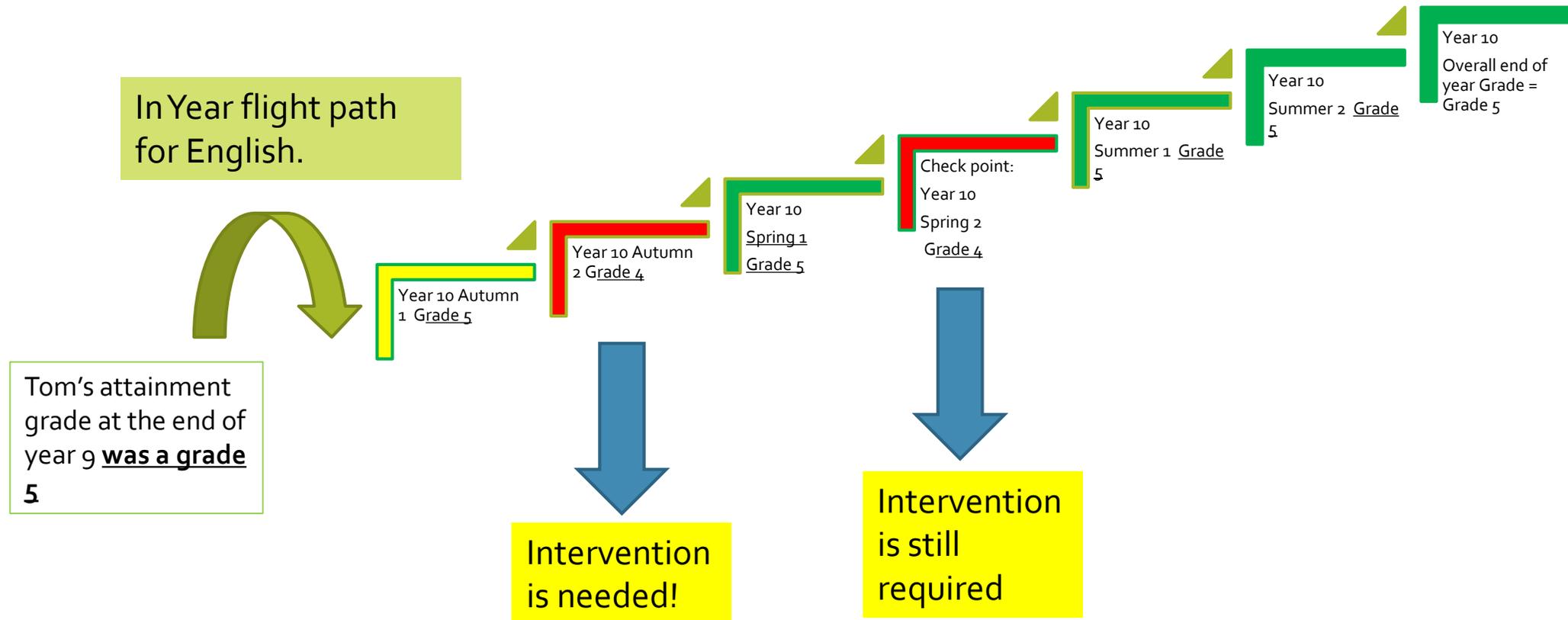
- If a student starts their journey with us, on a grade 5, they need to retain this throughout their time at the school.
- This is what we mean by PROGRESS! because a grade 5 in year 7 is easier than a grade 5 in year 8 and so on.
- This must link to their SATs, for similar subjects. Additionally, subject baseline tests will help to determine starting points.

Underachievers on entry



- However, students will need to accelerate progress if they start with a low grade.
- Which is why we set targets for each student.

So how do we ensure progress?



Gina Abbequaye (SEND and EAL report)

- The School has a strong provision for its EAL and SEND support is improving.
- Staff are more competent and experienced in the provision and are able to express it confidently.
- Record-keeping and 'tracking' of students' progress is a strong point

How can parents support their child?

1. Please ensure that your child is prepared for school. This includes bringing in the correct equipment and arriving on time. Evidence shows that **poor punctuality, low attendance** and **poor organisation**, negatively impacts students' learning.
2. Ensure your child has access to '**Remote Learning**'. If they need to be at home, but are still able to access their learning, they can join the lesson remotely. Year 11 students will be given extra lessons remotely during school holidays.
3. You will soon be sent the results of your child's **GL Assessments** for **Math, English and Science**. Here, you will see the progress your child has made since their previous assessments in January 2020. It is important to read the diagnostic so that you are aware of the **gaps in your child's learning** and encourage them to revisit these gaps at home.
4. You will also receive a half termly report over half term, giving the attainment of each subject. In subjects with a low attainment grade, it is important that you contact your child's subject teacher via email to see what needs to be done to accelerate their progress. The Head teacher will also be ensuring that Intervention classes take place after half term for all students not making progress or achieving a low attainment grade. **Please ensure you compare each half termly grade to their previous End of Year result (EOY) achieved.** The half termly grades should be greater or equal to the EOY grades.

Schools Fees

- It is confirmed that school fees will increase in January 2021. School fees will increase by 2%. There will be a 2.5% reduction in the Adventist discount.
- The reasons were given at the recent parent meeting in August.
- Parents have recently asked questions around the history of the financial deficit of the school. We have had £280,000 deficit in the past (students who have left), which is directly related to outstanding fees. Outstanding school fees currently stands at £80,000 for this term alone.
- Parents can help with the finances by ensuring that fees are paid on time.

Marketing

- Proprietors are willing to support the school and will be starting by devising an action plan to drive marketing.
- We have an external advisor who will be supporting the school.
- We have redeployed staff to give more support weekly and drive administration of marketing.
- Our marketing committee are starting much earlier this year and will be looking to increase our student numbers significantly next year. This is a key focus for Governors and staff.

Catering provision

- We are looking to recruit an external company to supply our catering services at lunchtime and have asked students to bring in a packed lunch in the meantime.
- We are looking for high quality provision. In particular, nutritional food from a reputable company that fits the vision and ethos of Adventist education.
- Two companies have already expressed an interest and provided a food tasting session during the summer term.
- As we have little interest since then, we will be looking for one for the companies to provide lunches for a short period and then evaluate the service provided before we commit long term. This provision is likely to start after half term.