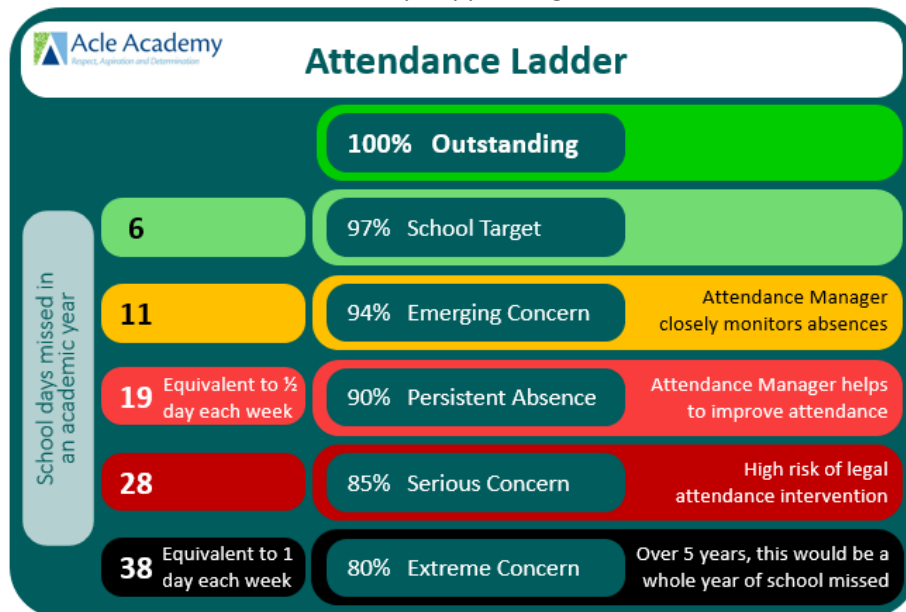


Attendance Matters

The DfE document entitled "*Working Together to Improve School Attendance*" became statutory in August 2024. It gives clear expectations for schools and parents in terms of their legal responsibilities for ensuring that children are receiving an education.

Our Attendance Manager will continue to monitor attendance closely and will be liaising with the Heads of Year to identify emerging concerns. We appreciate that there are a variety of barriers to regular school attendance and want to work with the families of our students to help support regular attendance.



GCSE Grading

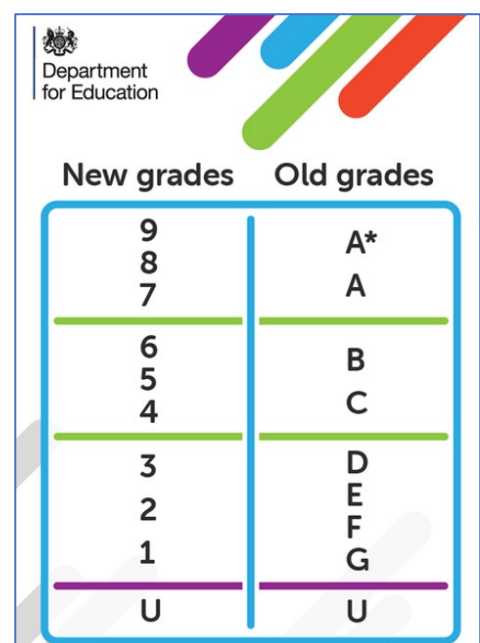
The numerical grading system for GCSEs was introduced in 2017 and was to signal more challenging GCSEs and to better differentiate between students' abilities – particularly at the higher grades between the A*-C grades. There used to be only 4 grades between A* and C, now there are 6.

The grades are ranked from 1, the lowest, to 9, the highest.

The grades don't exactly translate, but the two grading scales meet at three points, as illustrated in the diagram:

- The bottom of grade 7 is aligned with the bottom of grade A
- The bottom of grade 4 is aligned to the bottom of grade C
- The bottom of grade 1 is aligned to the bottom of grade G

Students studying **Combined Science** will receive an award worth 2 GCSEs, consisting of two equal or adjacent grades from 9-1 (9-9, 9-8, 8-8, 8-7, 7-7, 7-6, ... to 1-1). If the numbers are different, the highest number will always be first.



Department for Education	
New grades	Old grades
9	A*
8	A
7	
6	B
5	C
4	
3	D
2	E
1	F
	G
U	U

Vocational Qualifications

The vocational courses we offer in Year 10 are:

Cambridge Nationals	BTEC Technical Award	WJEC Level 1 / Level 2 Vocational Award
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Construction Sports Studies 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Music - BTEC Tech Award in Music Practice 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hospitality and Catering

Their grading differs to the GCSE qualifications, as they use numbers and letters.

- The most important element is the **Level** of the qualification which is shown as the **number**.
- The better is Level 2 which indicates the qualification is between GCSE grade 4 and 9, whilst a Level 1 qualification indicates the qualification is between GCSE grade 1 to 3.
- Within each level, there are subsets of Distinction*, Distinction, Merit and Pass. These are shown in descending order, so the Distinction* is the highest and Pass the lowest.
- A Level 2 Pass (shown as P2) is worth 4 GCSE points which is more than a Level 1 Distinction

The points for the Level 2 qualifications are the same for each of the 3 different types of vocational qualifications we offer at Acle Academy. However, there is a slight difference at Level 1 as **only** the WJEC Hospitality and Catering awards a Level 1 Distinction*. Consequently, the points for the Level 1 qualifications vary slightly.

Cambridge Nationals & BTEC					
	Levels & Grades	Report Code	Points	GCSE (9-1)	GCSE (A*-G)
Level 2	Distinction*	D2*	8.5	9	A*
	Distinction	D2	7	8	A
	Merit	M2	5.5	7	B
	Pass	P2	4	6	C
Level 1	Distinction	D1	3	5	D
	Merit	M1	2	4	E
	Pass	P1	1.25	3	F

WJEC (Hospitality & Catering)					
	Levels & Grades	Report Code	Points	GCSE (9-1)	GCSE (A*-G)
Level 2	Distinction*	D2*	8.5	9	A*
	Distinction	D2	7	8	A
	Merit	M2	5.5	7	B
	Pass	P2	4	6	C
Level 1	Distinction*	D1*	3	5	D
	Distinction	D1	2	4	E
	Merit	M1	1.5	3	F
	Pass	P1	1	2	G

If you have subject specific questions, please direct them towards the appropriate teacher. If you have any general questions regarding your child's report, please don't hesitate to contact Mr Newstead, vice principal snewstead@acle.norfolk.sch.uk