



ACADEMY CHALLENGE

How much progress are Reading Girls' School students making this year so far?

You might know that in September we brought in a brand new assessment system that allows us to track students' achievement very closely by taking five "data drops" across the year. Your daughter's reports and exercise books should show what grades she is attaining each time she is assessed. We have now analysed our most recent data drop (DD3) and I thought you would want to know that there are some promising improvements in students' achievement across the year.

We want each one of our girls to achieve as well as possible, so this year we have set a minimum threshold we want all students to beat. This equals 0.7 grades across the full year, so by this point in the year the expectation is that students will have progressed by 0.42 grades since September. The excellent news is that students on average have made 0.54 grades of progress, which is well above expectation, so they deserve enormous congratulations for applying themselves so well to their learning.

Achievement is particularly impressive in Year 8 and 9 where they are not only making good progress but the rate of progress is increasing. Overall, Year 10 have made the most progress with an average of 0.87 grades since the beginning of the year. Year 7 have made the least amount of progress, at 0.32 grades, and are the only year group coming in below our threshold at this stage. Not surprisingly, we are looking closely into why this is.

In Year 11, we are working particularly hard as we try to maximise the achievement of each one of our girls in their exams. Last year, the main performance measure that was announced on results day was the percentage of students who got A*-C in both English and Maths. We achieved 49% in 2016, and this year our own assessment tells us that we have already passed this landmark, as 50% of Year 11 students attained grades 9-4 (equivalent to A*-C) at DD3. Our target is 56%, so our Year 11 girls are making excellent progress towards what is a very challenging aim.

Thank you for all that you do to support your daughter and the school as we improve the quality of education and raise all students' achievement.

Leo Gilbert
Headteacher

Laura Evans
Assistant Headteacher