

Grade Descriptors

Target Grade (TG)

This is a statistically derived grade that shows the average performance of all students in England. It takes the A level/Vocational grades that have been achieved by every young person for a given GCSE level of attainment. So, the calculated CTG is the average grade achieved for that subject/course by students nationally who did that course previously, and had the same average GCSE score.

Progress Grade (PG)

At each progress point (PI), teachers will assign a Progress Grade, which is defined as:

“ In my professional opinion, taking into account your work in class, your evidence of independent study, homework completion and your assessment scores, you are currently working towards achieving a grade ‘x’ in this subject ”

If the PG is lower than the TG, then working progress is below average for a student of that capability and needs some work to improve things.

Effort Grade (EG)

Teachers use a five point scale as indicated below to advise students on their understanding of the level of effort being made on the course:

Exceptional

- ⑤ Always works to the best of their ability in and outside of class. Fully engaged in class at all times. Independent learning and homework always completed on time and to a high standard.

Good

- ④ Almost always works to the best of their ability in and outside of class. Fully engaged in class most of the time. Independent learning and homework is almost always completed to a good standard.

Requires attention

- ③ Tends to work to the best of their ability in class. Independent learning and homework is not always completed outside of lessons and the student requires some support, follow up and intervention.

Poor

- ② Doesn't always work to the best of their ability in and outside of class. Not always fully engaged in class. Independent learning and homework is often not completed on time and the standard of it is sometimes limited. Attendance at support/study skills is required.

Unacceptable

- ① Rarely works to the best of their ability in and outside of class. Often not fully engaged in class. Independent learning and homework are rarely completed on time and the standard of work is generally poor. A number of interventions have failed, and college place is at risk.

1. The College's Annual Progression Event- Thursday 9 March 2023 (5.30pm - 7.30pm)

The event is compulsory for all students on first year and Level 2 programmes. It forms a key element of the planning for progression into their future and helping plan their next steps.

Parents and carers are also welcome to attend. We'll have dozens of Universities, Employers and other stakeholders exhibiting and advising students on the opportunities available to them. A range of talks and presentations are also on the evening's programme, from student finance to finding an apprenticeship and much more.

In class over the next few weeks, students will be doing some work on Labour Market Information and opportunities planning to help them get the most out of the evening. They'll be able to bring home details of the event for you too.

2. Revision preparation, healthy habits and Easter Holiday revision opportunities

This term we begin our countdown to summer 2023 exams and assessments with our 'Kickstart your Revision' campaign. Starting from February half term and throughout the remainder of the year we will work with students to plan and implement effective revision techniques, as well as offering support for exam anxiety and wellbeing.

We are also offering a selection of on-site revision and coursework support sessions during the Easter holiday break (Monday 3rd – Wednesday 5th April). We'd appreciate your support in encouraging attendance in any appropriate sessions. The programme will be released to students via their google classrooms and teachers will also give reminders over the coming weeks.

3. Arrangements around May bank holidays

You may be aware that Monday 1 May and Monday 8 May (Coronation holiday) are bank holidays and the College will be closed.

We've made some changes to the timetable during these weeks to compensate for some of the lost lesson time: Students with lessons in A block (which includes the Wednesday afternoon slot 1.00 pm to 2.35 pm) will have their lesson on the afternoons of both Wednesday 3 May and Wednesday 10 May extended, finishing at 4.15pm. If this causes any problems please let us know.

4. Why attendance matters

We work with thousands of young people every year, and we've learned a lot about how attendance affects their college experience. It's not just about grades at the end of the course.

We know that students who are present for lessons or ASPIRE sessions feel better about themselves and feel less anxious about learning and their studies. They are more confident and better prepared to move positively into their next steps, whether that is employment, apprenticeships or higher education. They are more able to establish good study routines which means they can keep on top of their work. All students, particularly those with SEND or High Needs, benefit from the consistency and routines of regular attendance.

Conversely, we also know that when students miss lessons, they feel more anxious about returning to lessons, and worry more about being with their peers, because they know they're behind their classmates. When students suffer from anxiety, they often think that taking time off or taking a holiday will help to relieve their worries – but we know from experience that it usually means they

are even more anxious when they return.

Take a look at this blog <https://hbhistory.co.uk/2022/08/30/the-a-level-student-who-made-every-lesson-count/> from a student about making every lesson count. Although the blog talks about learning strategies, the first step was about being present in lessons.

5. January exam results and resits

You can see here the information we've shared with students regarding January exam results and arrangements in place in case any resits are needed. Please get in touch with us if you are unsure about any of this:

January exam results will be available on the Student Portal from early March. There is a very quick turnaround for anyone wanting to enter for a resit.

Entry deadlines, fees and an electronic entry form will be available on the Franklin website.

	Results Released	Resit Entry Deadline	Resit Fee
Cambridge Technicals	15/03/23	17/03/23 (5:00 pm)	£ 40.00
Level 2 BTEC Firsts	23/03/23	29/03/23 (12:30 pm)	£18.40
Level 3 BTEC Nationals	23/03/23	29/03/23 (12:30pm)	£38.70

All entry forms and payments **must** be made by the resit entry deadline listed above. Late entries will be subject to a late entry fee in addition to the resit fee.

6. UCAS updates including Unconditional offers

Please see here the information we have shared with all students who are applying to university this year:

- If you have applied to university you may have already received offers
- If you have received and are considering an unconditional offer, it is vital that you still put 100% effort into your studies. It is important to note that your Level 3 qualifications will stay with you for the rest of your life and it may impact on job offers in the future. We have also had feedback from previous students who found it more difficult to adjust to the demands of the work at the start of the degree courses.
- Please check on UCAS track the deadline date for replying to offers and ensure you have replied by this date. This is usually either late May/early June depending on the course you have applied for. It is your responsibility to check this.
- Do not rush your decision as once you have replied and accepted a firm choice and an insurance choice it is very unlikely that you would be able to change this.
- If you have not applied to university and have changed your mind and would like to apply, please see your Progress Coach.

7. Franklin College Adult Learning – something you might be interested in?

Franklin Sixth Form College has a dedicated community learning hub located just to the side of the main campus on Chelmsford Avenue. The hub specialises in Part Time courses for adults, many of which are free and some of which are accessible online.

We offer courses from Entry Level to Access to Higher Education courses, many enrol throughout the year not just in September. If you are interested in any of these courses, please get in touch via the website, telephone or Facebook or Instagram.

- English (Beginners - GCSE)
- Maths (Beginners - GCSE)
- ESOL (Beginners - Level 1)
- Digital Skills (Beginners)
- Employability (Professional Development for all)
- Childcare courses (Level 1, 2, 3)
- Health and Social Care (Level 1, 2)
- Access to Health Professions (Level 3)
- Level 2 Distance Learning Courses (Study independently with support from a tutor) inc. Counselling, Understanding Autism, Behaviour that challenges, Information Advice and Guidance, Mental Health, Learning Disabilities.

See our full prospectus at: <https://www.franklin.ac.uk/courses/adult-learning-courses/>

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