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Letter No: 060/2026

14th October 2026

Dear Families,

Year 12 Target Grades

We have today issued Target Grades to all Year 12 students, and I would like to take this opportunity to explain both how they are generated and the philosophy that underpins them.

We generate these Target Grades using a system called **FFT (Fischer Family Trust)** which provides schools with access to large, nationwide data sets. This system takes each individual student's GCSE Grades, as well as their Average Points Score (APS), and looks at how students nationally with similar GCSE outcomes have performed in their A Levels and Level 3 Qualifications in the past. At Sandringham, we have high aspirations for all of our students, and so we set deliberate aspirational targets which are comparable with students performing in the top 5% nationally.

I would like to stress that these Target Grades are absolutely not a prediction, nor are they designed in any way to be a cap on our student's aspirations or outcomes. These Target Grades simply provide a rough approximation of how students with similar GCSE outcomes, in similarly performing schools, have gone on to achieve at A Level. It is my firm belief that while these targets are aspirational, with hard work and determination, our students can meet – or even exceed – these Targets.

Ultimately, these Target Grades do not seek to define or limit student outcomes, but rather seek to motivate our students to ever-greater success. I took the time in an Assembly this week to explain all of the above to Year 12 and emphasised the importance of taking ownership of their studies and making the most of all the opportunities available to them.

As a final note, I would also like to congratulate Year 12 on their fantastic start to their post-16 studies. We are incredibly pleased with how they have settled in and are thoroughly enjoying working with them. We hope that they are coming home enthusiastic about their studies, proud of their achievements, and excited by all that is to come.

Yours sincerely,

Thom Leat
Director of Sixth Form