



# Bishop Wordsworth's School

Exeter Street, Salisbury, Wiltshire SP1 2ED

Telephone: 01722 333851

Fax: 01722 325899

E-mail: [admin@bws.wilts.sch.uk](mailto:admin@bws.wilts.sch.uk)

Website: [www.bws-school.org.uk](http://www.bws-school.org.uk)

Head Master: Dr S D Smallwood BSc (Hons) PhD NPQH

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Dear Parents/Guardians

## **Change to Target Grades for GCSE 9-1 in Mathematics and English**

We are writing to inform you about a change in the way we allocate target grades in Mathematics and English. Having read the recent Ofqual consultation, we are aware that the grade allocations for the first years' examination will be purely statistical (i.e. a certain percentage of candidates will be placed in each grade boundary) rather than being based on skills demonstrated. Effectively this means that the allocation of 8 and 9 grades is out of our control. We are also aware that the 9 grade is going to be a challenge to achieve, with the proposal suggesting that fewer than 4% of candidates nationally will receive it.

Therefore, given this uncertainty, the Mathematics and English departments have decided to modify the top Target Grade for the current Year 10 to an **8/9** and allocate this to boys who currently have an 8 or 9 as a target grade.

We will continue to allocate single grades as Current Performance Grades (i.e. 7, 8 or 9) but we would like to emphasise that a 9 will only be given for "exceptional performance".

Yours sincerely

Mr Craig Ennew and Mrs Jackie Barrett  
Head of English and Head of Mathematics