

Setting Policy



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Setting

Where setting takes place it is based on a combination of assessment data and targets. Some professional judgement may also be used when deciding on a teaching group, but the overwhelming factor is progress against targets and the evidence from summative testing over time that supports this. In particular longer assessments, such as mock exams and yearly exams, hold a greater weight than shorter tests and assessments based on a smaller chunk of the curriculum.

A strong performance in one test does not indicate that a set change is needed, it indicates that a set change is possible if that strong performance continues over a sustained period of time and in particular, if it is replicated in a mock exam or yearly exam.

Students are able to make progress irrespective of the set that they are in, there is no ceiling on progress. A student who is continually meeting their target is likely to be in the correct set. Meeting the target is not grounds for moving to another set.

Set Change Procedure

1. Academic Areas review setting arrangements on a regular basis - a set change in one subject can have timetable implications for another, so a Head of Department needs to consult with other subject areas before agreeing to any change.
2. Any changes should be agreed with the AHT for TL&A 2 weeks before the end of each term, and parents informed of the change by letter. Set changes occur because the academic evidence shows a need for this change.
3. The Head of Department informs students of their sets for the following year during the last week of the summer term.
4. It is good practice that students and parents are aware that a set change is likely in the future if students continue to perform at their current level - it should never come as a shock that a downward change is happening. This can happen through discussions with students, a phone call home or a letter.
5. The Data Manager and SIMs administrator should be informed promptly of any set changes so that GO4 Schools and SIMs can be updated, and a new timetable issued.

Links with other policies

This Setting policy is linked to:

- Assessment Policy
- Target Setting Policy