

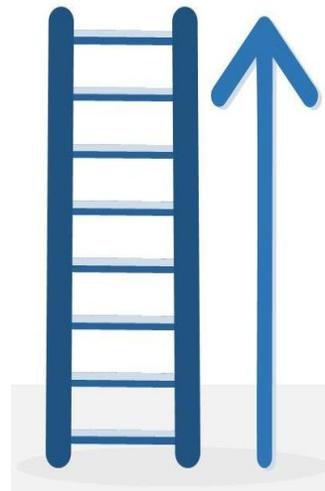


Achieve Excellence Programme - Parent Newsletter

“Appraisal grades are not a judgement of ability — they reflect the habits and behaviours that your child is developing every day. Parents who actively engage with these grades see the greatest improvement in their child’s outcomes.”

Did You Know? What Your Child’s Appraisal Grades Mean

We assess your child using an appraisal system that looks at three key areas: **engagement in lessons, quality and completion of homework, and organisation and meeting deadlines.** Grades run from A (excellent) to D (requires significant improvement). These appraisals are closely linked to predicted grades — **students who receive strong appraisals consistently perform better over time.**



Understanding the A–D Appraisal Scale

- **A – Excellent:** Consistent high engagement, all homework submitted on time and to a high standard, fully organised
- **B – Good:** Engaged in lessons and meeting expectations most of the time. Homework is mostly completed on time. Very occasionally unequipped for school.
- **C – Requires Improvement:** Engagement or homework quality is inconsistent and organizational habits need strengthening.
- **D – Requires significant improvement:** Frequent disengagement, homework not completed or submitted late, poor organization.

Please read on — there are clear steps you can take at home to support improvement.

How Appraisals Connect to Predicted Grades

Your child's appraisal grade is not just a behaviour score — **it directly reflects the working habits that lead to academic achievement.** Research consistently shows that **students who are well organised, complete homework thoughtfully, and remain engaged in class achieve significantly higher outcomes than their potential alone would suggest.** If your child's predicted grades are lower than you hoped, the appraisal grade can show you exactly where to focus your support at home.

- Low engagement — passive presence rather than active participation in lessons
- Homework submitted late or incomplete, or not treated as a genuine learning opportunity
- Poor organisation — lost materials, forgotten equipment or missed deadlines
- No regular home study routine to consolidate classroom learning
- Not responding to teacher feedback or acting on areas for improvement



Building Strong Organisation at Home

Organisation is a **learnable skill**, not a fixed trait. With your support, your child can develop the habits that will serve them for life.

Encourage your child to:

- Pack their bag the night before and create a checklist of everything needed for the next day
- Use a planner or homework diary consistently — review it together each week
- Keep notes and exercise books tidy and organised by subject

Small daily habits add up to significant long-term gains.



Supporting Your Child's Engagement in Lessons

Engagement is one of the strongest predictors of progress. A student who **is present and active** in their learning will always outperform a student who is merely present in the room.

How parents can support engagement:

- Ask each evening: *"What did you contribute in lessons today?"*
- Encourage them to stay away from distractions
- Remind them that asking questions and answering in class is a sign of strength, not weakness
- Ensure they arrive on time and well-rested — fatigue is one of the biggest barriers to engagement
- Talk positively about learning

The goal is for your child to be an **active contributor** in every lesson.



Improving Homework Quality and Deadlines

Homework done well deepens understanding and builds the independent thinking skills needed in exams. Rushed or incomplete homework has little to no benefit.

Parents can help by:

- Setting a regular, distraction-free homework time each evening — phones away and notifications off
- Asking: *"What homework do you have this week, and when will you complete each piece?"*
- Checking that homework has been completed (not just started) before screens or leisure time
- Praising effort and care, not just completion — quality matters as much as handing it in

Helping Your Child Act on Teacher Feedback

Teacher feedback is one of the most powerful tools available to your child — but only if they act on it. Many students read feedback and move on without making changes.

Encourage your child to:

- Show you their marked work and explain *what* the teacher said they need to improve
- Rewrite or improve answers using the feedback — not just read and forget it
- Keep a “things to improve” list for each subject and review it before their next piece of work
- Attend any available support sessions or ask teachers for extra guidance



What Can Move a Predicted Grade Up?

Predicted grades **can and do change**. Teachers update them based on the evidence they see. Here is what makes the biggest difference:

- **Sustained improvement** across several pieces of work, not a one-off effort
- **Visible application of feedback** — teachers notice when students act on what they have been told
- **Strong appraisal habits** — high engagement, homework quality, and organisation all signal readiness to achieve more

Your involvement at home is one of the most important ways to move your child's predicted grade upward.

Conversations to Have at Home This Week

Research shows that regular, positive conversations about school significantly improve pupil outcomes. Try these questions this week:

- *"What is one thing you did really well in school this week?"*
- *"Is there any homework coming up this week? Let's plan when you'll do it."*
- *"What feedback did a teacher give you recently, and what are you going to do differently?"*
- *"If you could change one thing about how you work, what would it be?"*

Listen without judgement. Your belief in them is one of the most powerful motivators available.

Next Issue: Revision Strategies That Work

Look out for evidence-based revision techniques and how parents can actively support their child's study sessions at home.



Live Parent Webinars

Live parent webinars from Elevate Education will continue to take place next half term. You can register below to attend the 'live event' and ask questions or watch the recording afterwards.

[Register your place in our parent support series](#)

