

Five  
Grade 7+

January 14<sup>th</sup>  
2019



# Aiming High



- Sunday Times Top Comprehensive School in the South West three years running.
- Excellent performance for high ability students.
- Great continuity to A-level.

# Why has my child been invited to be part of this group?

- Their results from primary school put them in the top 40% of students nationally.
- Their teachers have given them high progress grades.
- This tells us they should be able to do very well at GCSE and higher levels of study.

# What are the goals of the group?

- To let pupils know aiming for 5 or more grades at 7+ is reasonable for them.
- This is something they can achieve and we want to set them this challenge.
- Pupils with your child's profile have achieved this in the past.
- We set this benchmark because it is an indication of excellent achievement.
- Last year 40% of Balcarras students achieved this.

# What are the goals of the group?

- We want to let your child know what opportunities they will have here in the 6<sup>th</sup> form to allow them to keep aiming high.
- We want to give them an idea of the opportunities aiming high will give them in the future.
- The 6<sup>th</sup> form team will talk to them about this.
- They will also have a presentation from current 6<sup>th</sup> form students.

# What have we done so far?

- ✓ Identified the pupils.
- ✓ Meeting with the pupils tomorrow.
- ✓ Established how well they are doing at the moment.
- ✓ Discussed the issue with staff.
- ✓ Departments have devised strategies for maximising achievement.

# What are we doing from now on?

- ✓ Involving you the parents.
- ✓ Monitoring the developing situation for EACH pupil.
- ✓ Further discussions within departments and with each pupil.
- ✓ A series of talks to make pupils aware of the benefits of aiming high.

# What do teachers say makes a 7+ Student?

- ✓ Good organisation – folders, past paper questions to hand.
- ✓ Tests and tries many revision strategies throughout the two years to find out what suits them.
- ✓ Attends revision sessions.
- ✓ Ability is not as important as effort.
- ✓ Hits deadlines/ controlled assessments.
- ✓ Motivation, an understanding that it is down to them not their teacher or parent to get the best grade they can.
- ✓ Reacts to information such as progress grades and is proactive.