

Dear Parent(s)/Carer(s)

RE: End of Key Stage 3 Graduation Programme

As a school we are delighted to introduce the 'Key Stage 3 Graduation Programme' which will result in a graduation ceremony towards the end of the final term of Year 8. The aim of this programme is to give Key Stage 3 its own identity and to encourage our students to do the very best they can by the end of their first two years at St John Fisher School.

The programme focuses on developing the skills and attributes that have been identified as essential for success such as leadership, communication, organisation, initiative and taking responsibility. The programme sets a number of high targets and challenging activities, such as 96%+ attendance, achieving targets in subjects, representing the school, attending pre-university lectures, leading learning in the classroom and getting involved in extra-curricular clubs and activities. Furthermore, differentiation has been built into the programme, with students able to graduate with a Pass, Merit or Distinction. Every activity must be signed off by a member of staff.

To pass the programme at a 'Pass' level and attend the graduation ceremony your child will need to select and complete 10 activities from a list of 16 activities from the Graduation Booklet. This booklet can be viewed on our website at <https://stjohnfisher.school/ks3-graduation-programme>.

To pass the programme with a 'Merit' and attend the graduation ceremony your child will need to select and complete 10 activities from a list of 16 activities from the Graduation Booklet and then a further activity from 4 separate categories that can be found on page 25 and 26 of the booklet.

To pass the programme at 'Distinction' level and attend the graduation ceremony your child will need to select and complete 10 activities from a list of 16 activities from the Graduation Booklet, one of these activities must include **activity 6** (achieve target levels in at least 6 different subjects) and then a further activity from 4 separate categories that can be found on page 25 and 26 of the booklet.

We are very keen to use the Graduation Programme to recognise achievement and skills that our students do that are not necessarily linked to exam success, and to give credit for the activities that good citizens do which helps students grow. We hope you agree this looks like an exciting programme. We are looking forward to following the challenges our Key Stage 3 students will be completing.

Your child has received information about the Key Stage 3 Graduation Programme through an assembly (this presentation can be viewed on our website) and will work weekly on the programme with their Form Tutor. We would encourage you as parents /carers to look at the booklet on our website with your child and encourage them in their endeavours.

Year 7 students will be recognised for their effort working towards their desired end of Key Stage 3 goal of the programme during their celebration assembly which is planned for last week of this academic year.

Further information about the Graduation Ceremony will follow shortly.

Kind regards,

Miss Crouch  
Raising Standards Lead for Key Stage 3