

## THE WATERSHED ASSESSMENT SYSTEM

- There are two assessments every term, a first assessment and a term assessment.
- At each assessment there is an assessment of attainment and effort.
- The attainment symbols are automatically determined in the Database system based on the following:

		A LEVEL	IGCSE	
			EXTENDED	CORE
A*	Outstanding	95% - 100%	90% - 100%	
A	Excellent	75% - 94%	75% - 89%	
B	Good	65% - 74%	65% - 74%	
C	Average	55% - 64%	55% - 64%	75% - 100%
D	Below Average	45% - 54%	45% - 54%	65% - 74%
E	Weak	35% - 44%	35% - 44%	55% - 64%
F				45% - 54%
G				35% - 44%
U	Very Weak	0% - 34%	0% - 34%	0% - 34%

The Extended grades are used for all forms one to two and those form three and four students who are following the Extended syllabus.

- Effort symbols contribute to house points as follows:

Effort Symbol		House Points
1	Excellent	2
2	Good	1
3	Average	0
4	Poor	-1
5	Very Poor	-2

### WHAT IS EFFORT?

Effort is the physical and mental activity needed to achieve something, or the energy used to do something. (Cambridge)

### WHY ASSESS EFFORT?

Effort is important for success.

By encouraging effort we are preparing students for life.

Assessment of effort can motivate students.

Effort symbols inform tutors and parents of student progress.

## FACTORS TO BE CONSIDERED IN DETERMINING THE EFFORT SYMBOL

- Does the student have a positive attitude towards schoolwork? Instructions? Is the student enthusiastic?
- Is the student punctual for lessons?
- Does the student bring all the required materials to class?
- Does the student learn actively by listening to the teacher and classmates?
- Does the student participate in class and group discussions?
- Does the student respond positively to the ideas, opinions and values of others?
- Can the student follow instructions with minimal supervision?
- Does the student complete and submit class work, homework and assignments according to stated timelines?
- Is written work legible and neat?
- Does the student identify and use information, technology and resources to complete tasks?
- Does the student go above and beyond? Higher vocabulary, sentence variety, technical language, different methods of solving problems.
- Does the student demonstrate curiosity and interest in learning?
- Does the student persevere when responding to challenges?
- Are corrections done?
- Is the student's work authentic?
- Is attainment improving?

## EFFORT SYMBOLS EXPLAINED

- 1 Excellent – student does far more than expected.
- 2 Good – student does more than expected
- 3 Average – student does what is expected
- 4 Poor – student does less than expected
- 5 Very Poor – student does far less or very little of what is expected

## IMPORTANT POINTS TO NOTE

- The effort symbol represents the teacher's overall impression on the relevant factors from the list given above.
- Effort symbols enable teachers to give students clear directions for improvement.
- Teachers will communicate regularly with tutor where a student is not applying himself.
- Effort is not a reward or a punishment, but a measure of the student's commitment to their schoolwork.