

15 March 2024



**Smestow Academy**  
www.smestowacademy.co.uk

Dear Parent/Carer

### **Year 10 Academic Report**

Please note that your child's first academic report for the 2023/24 academic year has been sent home with them to share with you.

The academic report will include an 'FFT Target'. These grades are what Smestow Academy expects the pupil to achieve as a minimum in each subject, however, we aspire for our pupils to exceed them. FFT Targets are based on Fischer Family Trust (FFT) predictions. FFT processes the National Pupil Database to set predictions based on how similar pupils nationally performed in the subject last year (similar pupils are defined as similar prior attainment at KS2, gender and month of birth).

The report also includes their current attendance level which we ask that you pay close attention to. A strong link exists between school attendance and GCSE outcomes. Pupils with over 95% attendance have been proven to stand a far greater chance of getting grades 9-5 in English and Maths, as well as other GCSE subjects. The average grade for summer 2023 pupil outcomes was a 5 when attendance was above 95%. When attendance falls below 90% this has a significant negative effect on exam outcomes. Pupils with attendance below 80% had an average grade of a 2.

If you have any queries, or would prefer the report to be sent to you directly, please do not hesitate to contact us via [postbox@smestowacademy.co.uk](mailto:postbox@smestowacademy.co.uk)

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'I Chamberlain', written over a white background.

**Mr I Chamberlain**  
Headteacher



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**Matrix**  
Academy Trust  
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Smestow Academy



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