



19<sup>th</sup> October 2022

Dear Parents and Guardians

### Upper Five Interim Reviews

The Upper Five Interim Reviews are now available for you to view on the Parent Portal. Please refer to the College Parent Portal webpage or email [portal@ladiescollege.ac.gg](mailto:portal@ladiescollege.ac.gg) if you have any difficulties.

<http://www.ladiescollege.com/information/communication-to-parents#portal>

A copy of the Interim Review guidelines is attached. If you have any matters that you would like to discuss as a result of this review, please contact the subject teacher, form tutor or myself. Where "working towards" has been identified, we will already be looking at measures to be taken in College to address the situation.

My colleagues and I are working with the students to help them make preliminary A-level choices now and shall continue to do so throughout this year. There are several opportunities for you all to meet with teachers and discuss the options available to them. The key dates are listed below, and I look forward to meeting you on these occasions.

To give the Upper Five an idea of Sixth Form life and an opportunity to discuss the students' perspective, after half term there will be a series of tutor time activities, led by the Sixth Form, or in the Leaf Centre. I would encourage your daughters to make the most of these opportunities to gain a real insight to how life will be in the Sixth Form at The Ladies' College.

### A-level Choices Evening Wednesday 2nd November 2022 - 18:00 to 20:00

Prior to this event, parents and students are advised to watch the subject guidance videos. These videos will offer a clear and concise outline and guide to each subject. The videos for each subject will be available to view on the **A-level Choices Evening 2022-3 Team** and can be accessed via your daughter's device. We encourage you to watch these together. If you are unable to view these with your daughter, then please contact Mr Barnes ([hbarnes@ladiescollege.ac.gg](mailto:hbarnes@ladiescollege.ac.gg)), via an email address that is held by the College, who will provide you with a direct link. Please ensure that you and your daughter watch all the subject videos that your daughter may be considering before the Choices Evening.

The A-level Choices Evening will take place at The Ladies' College. Parents and students will have an opportunity to meet the A-level subject teachers, and ask questions that they may have, having previously watched the digital A-level subject guidance videos. We look forward to seeing you at this event.



### Upper Five Parents' Evening

**Wednesday 23rd November 2022 17:00 –19:00**

The Parents' Evening for Upper Five will be held on **Wednesday 23rd November** from 17:00 and will end at 19:00. This will take place online, using the same system as previously used, and further details will be sent shortly. We encourage your daughters to attend these appointments with you.

### Monday 6<sup>th</sup> February – Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> February 2023 (inclusive) (Study Leave)

Upper Five Mock (I)GCSE examinations

A copy of the timetable will be issued at the end of the Michaelmas term to allow students to prepare their revision schedule.

Upper Five are generally looking very smart in their uniforms, and we ask for your continued support to ensure that they wear their uniform with pride. Students are reminded that jewellery, other than necklaces with religious significance and SOS identity bracelets/discs properly inscribed with the student's name, should not be worn. May we also remind students that they should not be wearing two or more ear piercings and that nose piercings are not permitted. We have acknowledged some changing of hair colour, that, in some cases, is beyond our expectations. Hair colouring should be of a natural colour, and we encourage girls to ensure the tone is not too strong or bright. Please also be aware that college expectations regarding skirt length are for them to be no more than 2 inches above the knee. Some Upper Five students are wearing skirts shorter than this. As girls are likely to continue to grow over the coming year – we ask that, in this case, new / alternative skirts should be worn after half term. Please note that the PTA have some second-hand uniform items available, should you wish to consider this option. I would also request that any nail varnish applied over the half-term break is removed before returning.

Students in Upper Five have adjusted well to being back in College. They no doubt feel the pressures of an important year, but they are in a good position and have the full support of their subject teachers and pastoral team.

The balance between schoolwork, co-curricular activities and, if under-taken, part time employment can be hard to achieve. We are aware that, when students over-commit themselves, it does have an adverse effect on their general well-being and their studies. It is very important for students to have time to relax during the week and at weekends.

With best wishes for a restful half-term break.

Yours sincerely,

**Mrs Belinda Smith**  
**Upper Five Co-ordinator**



## Academic Year 2022 - 2023

### Interim Reviews (Upper Five):

These provide an intermediate overview of a girl's performance assessed against the following criteria. There will be two Interim Reports per year for most year groups and they are uploaded to the Parent Portal.

A SMART target will be set after the first Interim in a meeting between the student and their Form Tutor in November, and these are reviewed with their Tutors in the second half of the academic year. Upper Five and Lower Five students will also discuss their individual target grades from each of their subject teachers and the actions and support needed to work towards these. Parents' Evenings will provide an opportunity to review this together.

An Interim contains the following categories:

#### **Knowledge and Skills:** Understanding of work covered in **that group**

- **Exceeding** expectations - Has an excellent understanding of work covered
- **Meeting** expectations - Has a good understanding of work covered
- **Working towards** expectations - Has difficulties in understanding some parts of the work covered

The criteria for awarding each grade is based on the subject knowledge expected and agreed within each department for that group (year or set and not for each individual student). There should be a clear understanding as to what is required at each grade using written criteria that shows progress from one session to another.

#### **Organisation:** Arrives to lessons correctly equipped and meets deadlines

- **Meeting** expectations - Brings the required equipment and hands work in on time (allow one slip but give a warning either verbally or, preferably, recorded in their homework diary)
- **Working towards** expectations - Has difficulties in bringing equipment etc. to lessons or handing work in on time

#### **Independent learning:** is a key skill for students to develop. Our definition of an Independent Learner

is <https://www.ladiescollege.com/our-school/senior-school/independent-learning> and we provide opportunities for students to develop these attributes within and outside of subject lessons. Please follow the link for more details.

- **Exceeding** expectations – Students consistently demonstrate the skills relevant to the activity and at level appropriate to them e.g. reflecting on a test, piece of work or performance and being accountable for their actions; able to research effectively with minimal direction; work collaboratively with others and are self-motivated.
- **Meeting** expectations – Students usually demonstrate the skills relevant to the activity and at a level appropriate to them.
- **Working towards** expectations – Students are still developing skills and may require frequent support from the teacher.

#### **Effort: In lessons**

- **Exceeding** expectations
- **Meeting** expectations
- **Working towards** expectations

#### **Target grade:**

The final column is the target grade agreed between the student and teacher for that subject.