## Sixth Form Information Evening

To raise the aspirations of our young adults by nurturing a passion for learning, enriching the student experience and securing outcomes which exceed their expectations...



The move from GCSE to A Level can be quite a daunting one. Our aim is to give our students the tools with which they will become more independent in their studies. This in turn means that they will gain the most from their courses.







#### What does Sixth Form involve?

- Students study 3 or 4 subjects in Year 12, with the majority of students then continuing with 3 subjects in Year 13.
- The opportunity to complete an Extended Project Qualification (EPQ) or an AS in Core Maths.
- Building an impressive portfolio to impress Admissions Tutors and Employers.
- Developing academically, personally and socially.



#### Who are the key staff involved?



Mrs Parnaby Head of Sixth Form



Mrs Shield Head of Year 12



Mr Hope Sixth Form Progression



Mrs Wilkinson Careers Lead



Mr Harston
Sixth Form
Administrator



Mr McGovern Head of Year 13

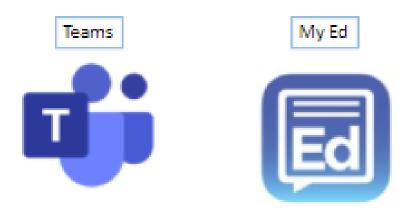


#### Communication

- Tutor Time
- Subject issue contact teacher
- Pastoral issue contact form tutor
- they will pass on information to Head of Year or Curriculum Leader
- Administrative question or information via phone or email

#### enquiries@carmel6.org.uk

- College App MYEd
- Microsoft Teams





#### Sixth Form Expectations

- •Attend all timetabled lessons, study periods, assemblies, weekly PSHE sessions, tutor registration periods and personal interviews as directed by your Form Tutor.
- •Be punctual and arrive at the start of lessons on time.
- •Manage your time effectively and organise your work so that all deadlines are met.
- •Act as a positive role model for the younger students in the College and the wider Community.
- Respect the College environment and use resources in accordance with published guidelines.



#### Attendance and Punctuality

- We appreciate that there may be occasions when you will not be in College. In the case of unexpected absence please call the College on 01325 254525 to let us know.
- If you know that you are going to be absent in advance for any reason, please inform your Tutor and subject teacher(s) and complete the appropriate Authorised Absence Form (see Mr Harston in the Main Office). If absence is for more than three days please send a letter in from your parent/carer to the College.
- If attendance falls to an unacceptable level, your entry into examinations will be placed in jeopardy and ultimately your place in College will be reviewed.

#### Tutor System

- Every student in the VI Form is part of a tutor group with your Form Tutor acting as your Academic Mentor.
- You must register with your Form Tutor on a daily basis. Morning registration starts at 8.50am. Afternoon registration is at 1.25pm.
- If you arrive late or leave College during the day, then you must sign in / out at the main reception (this is a health and safety issue to allow us to have accurate records of who is on the premises in case of a fire alarm).

#### Form Tutors

Miss Newbould 12MN

Mrs Orsi 12SO

Mrs Holt 12SH

Miss Duffy 12MD

Mrs Roberts 12AR

Mr Bray 12RB

Miss Forster 12AR

Miss Russ 12CR



#### Personal Study Periods

 There will be times during the week when you will not have timetabled lessons. Depending on the number of subjects you have opted to study, additional study periods will be allocated to your timetable.

• At the start of a study lessons students must go to the library and sign in at the front desk with Mrs Creek. Students can then choose to work in either the main library, the sixth form study room (located upstairs at the back of the library), any breakout areas within the College or the Revision Cafe (conference room), however, they must write this on the sign in sheet so they can be located if need be.

#### Bursary

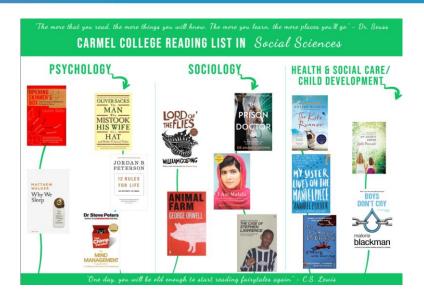
- Eligibility and applications
- Financial support for essential costs
- Young people in care, care leavers, FSM, young people who receive income support, disabled young people
- Payments
- half termly
- dependent on students meeting criteria for attendance, behaviour and punctuality

#### The Library

Opening Hours

Monday – Thursday 8.00 – 5pm

Friday 8.00 - 4.00 pm



- The Library is a silent working area- eating is not allowed
- There are computers for students to use within the library
- There are Subject Review magazines for a variety of A level subjects.
- Copies of revision guides and subject related texts for extended reading are available
- A wide selection of fiction and non fiction text are also available

# Progress Reviews and your Personal Programme of Study

 To help you achieve your full potential your progress and commitment are monitored regularly throughout the year.

 A Target Grade for each subject will be set. This is aspirational and high enough to challenge you.

Ongoing termly summative assessment performance grades.



## Studying A Levels

"If it doesn't challenge you, it won't change you."



#### Developing a Growth Mindset "The power of YET"





I haven't mastered this yet

I can always improve my work

When I'm frustrated, I persevere

I like to challenge myself

I'm rubbish at this

This work will do

When i'm frustrated, I give up

I don't like to be challenged

When I fail, i'm no good

When I fail, I learn

I like being told that i'm smart

I like being told that I try hard

If my classmates succeed, I feel threatened

If my classmates succeed, I feel inspired

My abilities determine everything

My effort and atitude determine everything









#### VESPA: The A Level Mindset

Being a Successful A Level Student





Identify any questions from this week to discuss with peers or ask in class next lesson (short term goal)



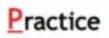


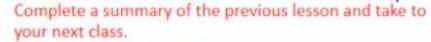
Read ahead for next class including learning key terms

Systems

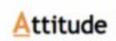


Update your file with notes, handouts, homework etc. Are you organised?





Complete an exam question



Show a positive interest in your subject - watch or read the news and bring a story/fact to class for discussion







#### How will I be assessed in the Sixth Form?

• All students will sit mock exams in January and then internal exams (in all examined subjects) at the end of Year 12.

 Some subjects will offer the opportunity for students to sit an external AS exam. These results in those subjects will not count towards the final A Level grade.



#### Why is Year 12 so Important?

AS content grades always have a significant bearing on A2 grades.

• Your A level exam will include the AS material as well as the work from year 13.

• Universities make conditional offers based on predicted grades. The basis of this prediction is largely based on end of Year exams 12 (whether these results are from internal or external exams).

#### How much work should students expect?

Unlike GCSE, there is no homework timetable.

Expect homework every night.

 Around 4 hours per subject per week is recommended, i.e. 20 hours in total in addition to timetabled lessons



#### How do students adjust to this new style?

- Students must prepare for lessons in advance.
- Get into the habit of making notes in class and writing them up at home.
- Organise your notes and files appropriately.
- Make use of a student planner or diary. Record all work set and note down deadlines.
- Revision should be an ongoing process. You cannot leave everything until Easter. (Revision should begin from week 1!)

## How do students balance so much in so little time?

- Organisation is essential
- Prioritise

- Limit the number of hours' paid employment you do
- Pace yourself get lots of sleep!
- If you feel overwhelmed, ask for help!



#### How do students excel in their subjects?

- Use private study time wisely.
- Investigate and research your subject beyond the A Level syllabus journals/ newspaper articles/ TV programmes/ TED talks.
- Act on teachers' feedback.

- Challenge yourself with each piece of work.
- Ensure a sensible balance between subjects.



#### What can I do at home to help my child?

- Check your child has developed a system for filing their notes at home so that they are prepared to revise before their January mocks and summer exams.
- Practice questions by discussing topics at home.
- Commit to a revision timetable from the start of the year.
- Reassure them that as long as they do their best, whatever they achieve will represent success.
- Psychological and physiological well-being.



• Take an active interest in progress, e.g. letters, reports, discussions.

 Link A Level study to life in the workplace – how knowledge and transferrable skills will benefit.

Discuss current affairs.

Manage expectations (A\* to E, not A\* to C!)



## Revision Techniques

"Success doesn't come from what you do occasionally but what you do CONSISTENTLY."

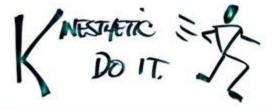


#### Learning Styles

- None of us are the same
- We all think differently, we all learn differently
- It is important to utilise our strengths for our own benefit



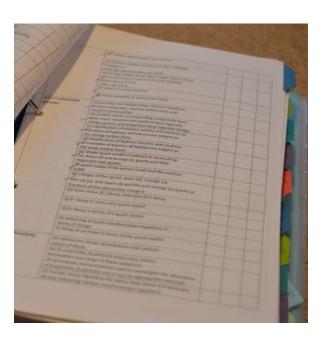




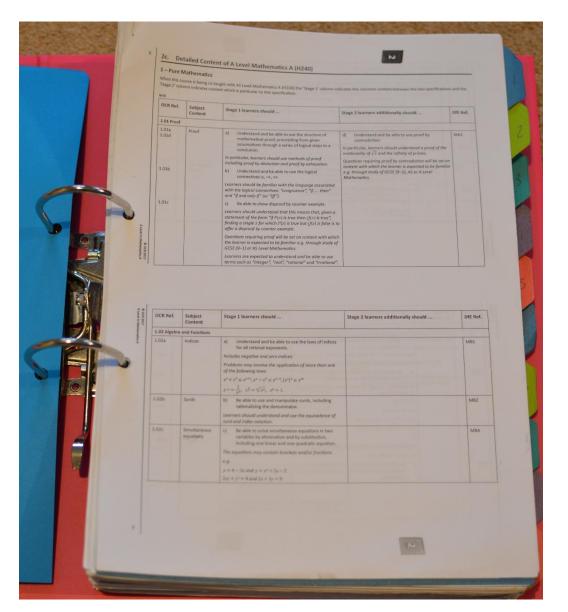


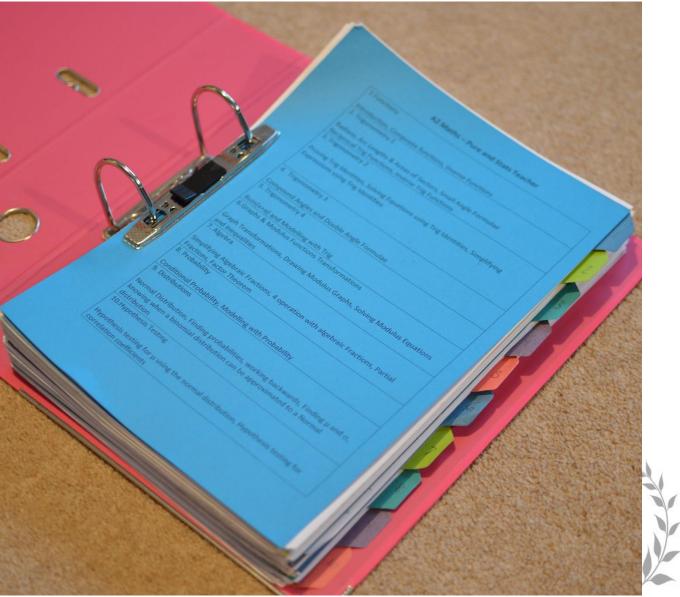
#### File Organisation

- The best files look like a textbook for the subject
- Work has dates and titles
- Checklist of topics can be found at the beginning
- Files dividers

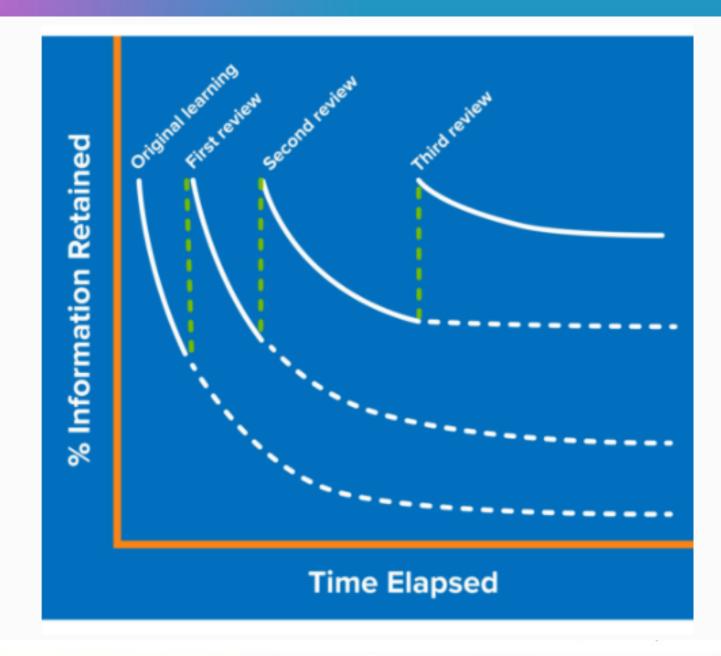








# The Ebbinghaus Forgetting Curve



#### Spaced Learning

- The most important discovery Ebbinghaus made was that, by reviewing new information at key moments on the Forgetting Curve, you can reduce the rate at which you forget it!
- Even though our memory fades quickly, a review session soon after the original learning can improve it. This session should happen when recall has slipped significantly, but hasn't fallen so low that you're essentially starting over.
- Reviewing and refreshing information regularly halts the Forgetting
  Curve. And, although forgetting starts again after each review session, it's
  slower than before. That's why each new curve shown in figure 2 is shallower
  than the last.
- The gaps between your review sessions can be longer as time goes on. So, you might refresh your learning from a lesson the following day, then two days later, then after a week, then after 30 days... and you'll still know all the key information a month on!



#### Overlearning

 Another strategy Ebbinghaus explored was "overlearning" – that is, putting in more than the usual amount of effort when you learn something. He found that doing this improved retention, and slowed the steep drop seen on the Forgetting Curve.



#### Keep Challenging Your Memory

• If you come to review some information and discover gaps in your memory, don't despair! This is the most productive time for <u>stretching your recall</u>. Learning done at this point will be all the stronger because of the mental challenge involved.

• If you're imparting learning or information to an audience, or delivering training, make it as interactive as possible. Even just asking questions will encourage people to sort and strengthen the information in their minds.

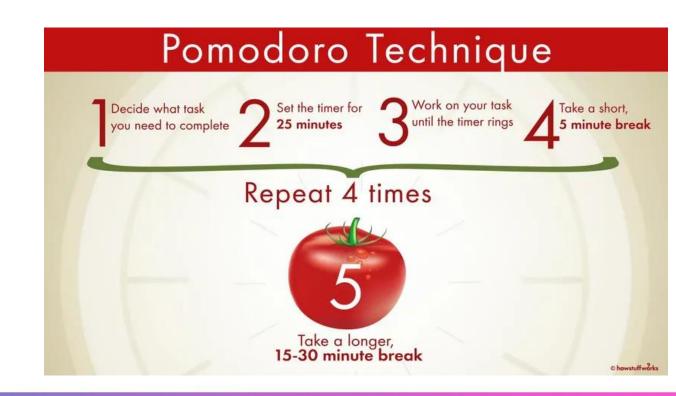
#### Making Information Meaningful

• Do everything you can to make the material that you need to learn clear, relevant and purposeful, and establish a strong reason for retaining it. The more you know **how** something will benefit you in the long term, the more likely your memory will prioritise it.

Reducing distractions and other demands – known as your "<u>cognitive</u> <u>load</u>" – should also help with this.

#### The Pomodoro Technique

- Studies show that frequent breaks can improve mental agility
- Decide what task you need to do
- Set a timer for 25 minutes and begin (1 pomodori)
- When the timer rings, spend 5 minutes doing whatever you consider would be a distraction
- After 4 pomodori, have a 30 minute break

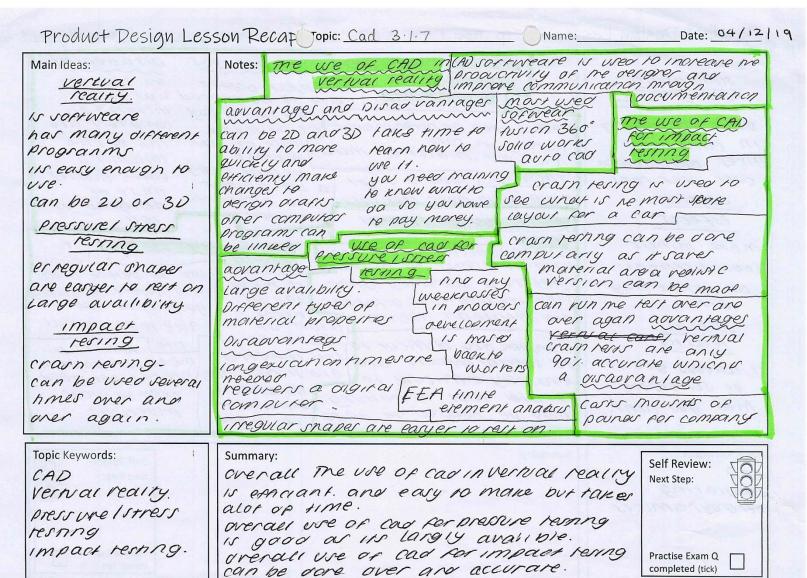


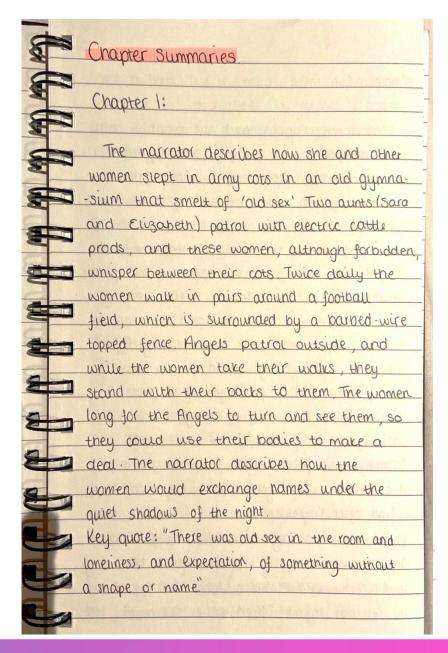
### Cornell Note Taking

Sociology: Topic Summary Topic:		Exam Paper:	Name:	Date:
Main Ideas:				
Topic Key Words:	Targets To Move Me For	rward:		Self-Review of Topic:
	.			Exam Questions Completed?
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#### Some examples





Pheasants in villages Majority of population 95% lived in villages + forme pood une mode. - outbreaks of dague + had harvests Womes down to 1485 - 1489 harvests = 9 and namered psedominant 1500 - 1503 harveels - bad - 120 La concerns 1/3 of repulation lived in powerly Enclosures main a Enclosures - jencing of land for more proplable purpos 'esue as terraves a Abolishing all common rights toppart rain sural surser I tal source of meaning land had borally Jamed into strips & allocated to from the apoun each vilager by communal agreement Common Janol to grave arunals Punishment = harsh Vagabondage to be landless and unemployed 2 asts passed If a family couldn't prove legal entitlement = evicted for the otlemps Exiction of fourities - lose luxues to be part of common ion removed of Isle of Wright Wight Act (1489) - believed island enclusive becoming depopulated the to enclosure south Coast= A national security Avealened To protect the evalure interest A General Act (1489) - to stop enclosure. Engaced by The self wherest a local landlards: never really enjorced Lords petrops - Beginning to accept responsibility prescual problems a reason for Wealmed NAB. enclosure taken place in hills of West Huough - security pronty agreements of tenants & landlands in Midlands less than 3% of the land had been enclosed. Not a concern por cutting on land-more o weren't held track by neighbors Mayor problem at time, eraggerated now n lost source of Thru mould become all mont projet Agriculture made no major changes under Mennys reign Although it was on impollant source of the vallons economic gains, he was not able to successful instigate any social or proved improvements through

CONSEL NOTES TOPIC	C/LEARNING OBJECTIVE/PURPOSE:	NAME	
F 4 P.	t-1-monthus	DATE 06/12/2019	
VI Photosophy		the nature or outeributer of God	
ESSENTIAL QUESTION:			
LINK TO POTENTIAL	NOTES: Main points, Bullets; Diagrams; Connect and Box Ideas		
EXAM QUESTIONS OR SKILL	God - created the	uninone, someone laving	
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## **Example Timetable**

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
Revise French	Revise History	Revise Maths

Time	Monday	Done
09:00	Revise: Rise of the Suffragettes	Х
09:25	Check Facebook and text friends	Χ
09:30	Revise: Rise of the Suffragettes	Χ
09:55	Facebook & brew break	Х
10:00	Mindmap: Rise of the Suffragettes	
10:25	Online shop	
10:30	Flashcards: Rise of the Suffragettes	
10:55	Watch Jeremy Kyle	
11:30	Revise: Mathematics Core 4	
11:55	Etc	

#### Timetables should be SMART

- Specific
- Measurable
- Achievable
- Realistic
- Time bound



#### Top Tips

- Revision should be immediate not just near exam time
- Cramming doesn't help you remember information
- Short bursts are more effective than intense revision
- Use a variety of techniques
- Study somewhere tidy and comfortable
- Be aware of what distracts you, and use them as a treat
- Repetition, repetition, repetition



### Thinking Ahead - Change & Longevity

- On average people who have more qualifications and at better grades earn more than those who have less qualifications or lower grades.
- Those with the highest qualifications and skills are most able to get a new job or career when the labour market changes.



### Carmel Careers Programme

- Established careers programme
- Tutors who support your next steps offering personalised and ongoing advice
- Excellent links with employers and universities
- 1:1 independent careers advice
- Unifrog online platform to record all careers activities and to focus university choices and UCAS application
- Work experience in Year 12
- Carmel works with the Tees Valley Careers Hub, Darlington 16-19 and Careers
   Enterprise Company to secure local labour market knowledge and to bring vibrant career experiences into school.

#### Careers – Work Experience

- This will start June 2022
- Students are required to find a placement for a minimum of one week
- One of the best ways of getting work experience is through who you know. Ask family, friends, neighbours etc.
- Young people are more likely to be successful in their job hunt if they have done some good work experience
- Something for the CV and UCAS application



### **Next Steps - University**

- 100+ Universities in the UK
- 50,000+ undergraduate courses
- £9,250 tuition fees per year
- Loans for tuition and maintenance are available.
- Loans are repaid when you earn over £27,295 (1.5%-4.5% depending on salary)
- Loans are written off after 30 years
- University is essential for some careers, but it isn't for everyone



### Widening Participation Schemes

- Contextual offers
- Varying eligibility criteria
- Reduced offers/UCAS points
- Year 12: Durham SP/NU Entry/York Access
- Year 13: Partners/Leeds Access













#### Next Steps - Apprenticeships

- Increasingly popular as a route post 18
- Offered by 70+ universities and 200+ colleges
- 4 levels of study Intermediate (level 2); Advanced (level 3); Higher (level 4+) and Degree (level 5-7)
- Earn while you learn
- Higher apprenticeships can be very competitive.
- Retention rates at Advanced and Higher levels are strong



#### Careers at Carmel "A dream with a purpose is ambition"

# The Unifrog tools

Exploring pathways

Careers library

Subjects library

**Know-how library** 

MOOC

Searching for opportunities

**UK universities** 

**US universities** 

**European universities** 

Oxbridge

Apprenticeships

College/ Sixth Form

Canadian universities

Asian universities

**Special Opportunities** 

Recording what you've done

**Activities** 

Competencies

Interactions

Drafting application materials

**Personal Statement** 

CV / Resumé

Teacher References

Common App Essay

Making applications

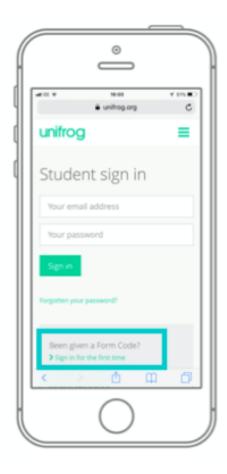
Post 16/18 Intentions

Locker

**Applications list** 



## Parents & guardians, get signed up!



You'll be asked for some details and a form code. This is what you need:

#### **CARCParents**

After signing up, log into Unifrog using your email address and password via the student sign-in page!



#### Next Steps - Advice

- Take every opportunity in Sixth Form.
- Invest in your future self, both academically and beyond the curriculum.
- Big Project, Gold Crest Award, Peru, SVP, Leadership groups, mentoring younger students, volunteering.....
- Get experiences that make your time rewarding and make your CV stand out.
- Work experience.
- Be ambitious and clear about your next steps.



#### Living life to the full at Carmel College

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### Next Steps - FAQ's

What do I do if......

- I am struggling to cope with my studies and meeting deadlines.....
- I am having a tough time and it is affecting me and my work.....
- I am struggling with the demands of a piece of work......
- I have no idea what I want to do in the future......
- I am thinking A Levels aren't for me......

