

SUPPORTING YOUR CHILD THROUGH GCSE
STEPS TO SUCCESS



Download more Graphics at www.psdgra

HELPING PARENTS...



WITHOUT TEACHING YOU HOW TO SUCK EGGS!

What would you like to know?

1. What qualifications will my child be awarded?
2. What does my child need to get into 6th form, college or an apprenticeship?
3. What are the key dates this year? When are the real exams?
4. How do I know how well my child is progressing? Is it too late?
5. Can you help me to get my child to revise at home?
6. English, maths and science are worth 5 GCSEs – do you have any tips?

What qualifications will my child be awarded?

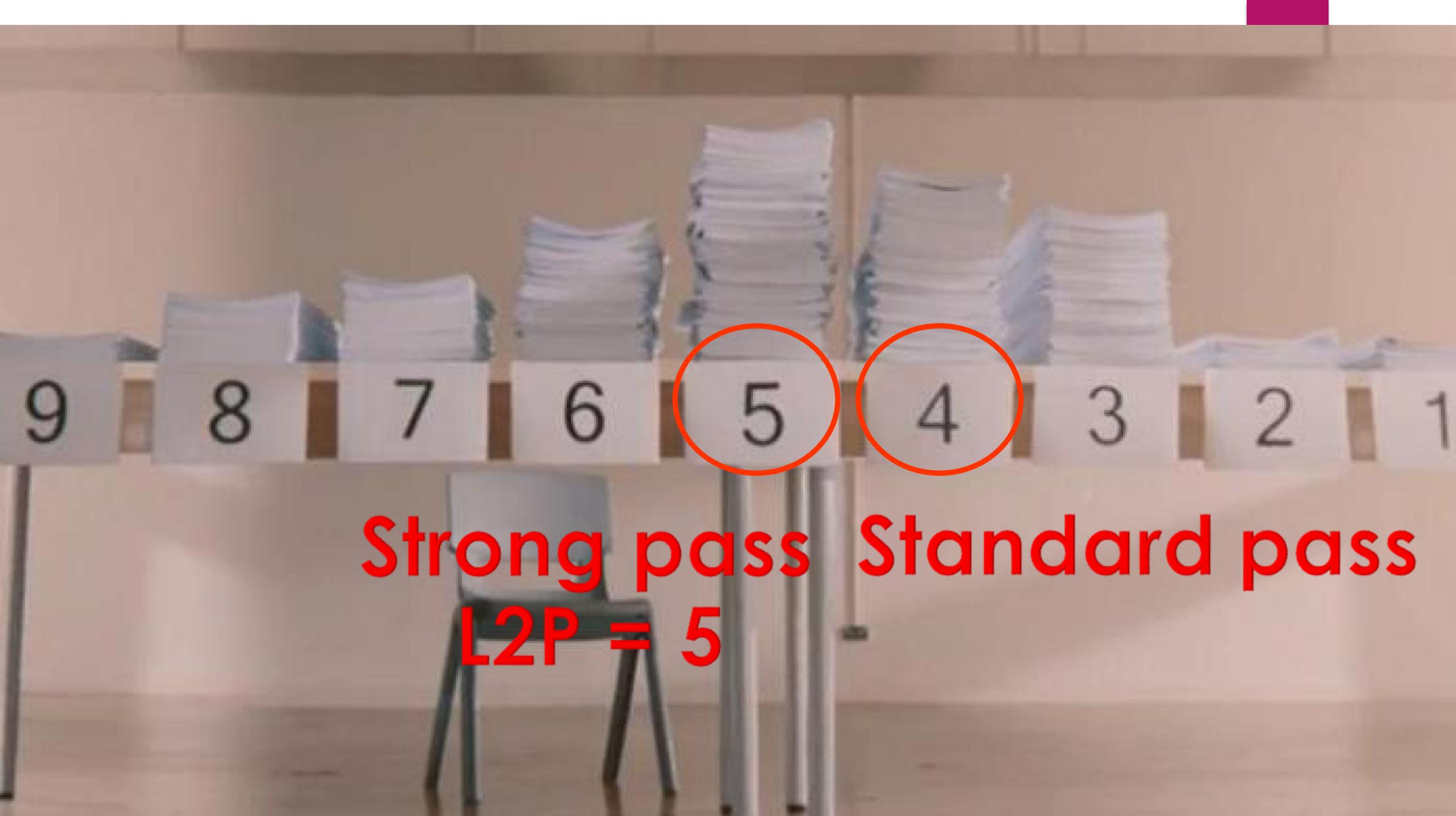
- ▶ **English Literature (already completed)** (1)
- ▶ **English Language** (1)
- ▶ **Mathematics** (1)
- ▶ **Combined Science** (2)
- ▶ **Religious Education** (1)
- ▶ **Geography, History, French, Spanish** (1)
- ▶ **Two option subjects** (2)

Total = 9 qualifications.

What is a 'Level 2' Qualification?

GCSE's and BTECs are Level 2

- ▶ GCSE's are traditional qualifications – most are 100% examination based.
- ▶ GCSE's are graded **9 - 1**
- ▶ BTEC's are more vocational in nature and have elements of coursework.
- ▶ BTEC's are graded as **L2P - pass, L2M – merit, L2D – distinction or even L2D*!**



9

8

7

6

5

4

3

2

1

Strong pass

Standard pass

L2P = 5

Sixth Form requirements:

- ▶ **Minimum five grade 4 passes for a vocational pathway.**
- ▶ **Minimum five grade 5 passes for an A-Level pathway.**
- ▶ **A-Levels require a higher grade in their subject.**
 - English A-Level = grade 6 GCSE English Literature
 - Maths A-Level = grade 7 GCSE Maths
 - Science A-level = grade 6/6 GCSE Combined Science

All courses require a grade 4 in English and Maths.



Attendance – data is stark

Overall attendance in Y11	Average GCSE Grade 2023
96% or more	6
90% - 95%	5
86% - 89%	4
85% or less	3

Important dates

Study day (INSET)

Autumn report

Careers Fair (in school)

Spring report

Y10 Parents Evening

Elevate workshop

Y10 EXAMS

Duke of Edinburgh 1

Work experience (one week)

Duke of Edinburgh 2

Summer Report

Monday 13th November

Wednesday 29th November

Wednesday 20th March

Wednesday 20th March

Wednesday 27th March

May

10th – 18th June

19-21st June

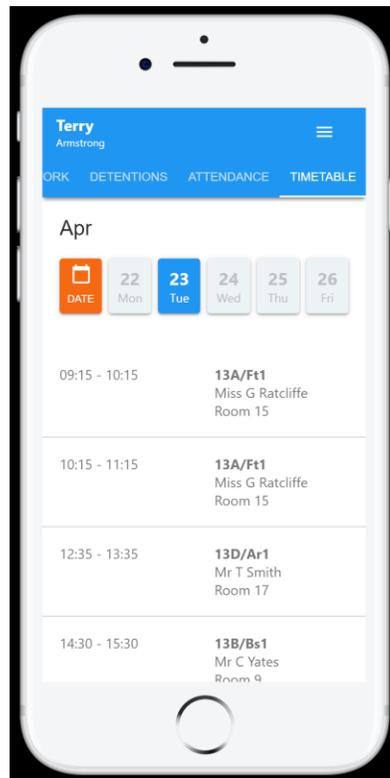
Monday 24th June

3rd-5th July

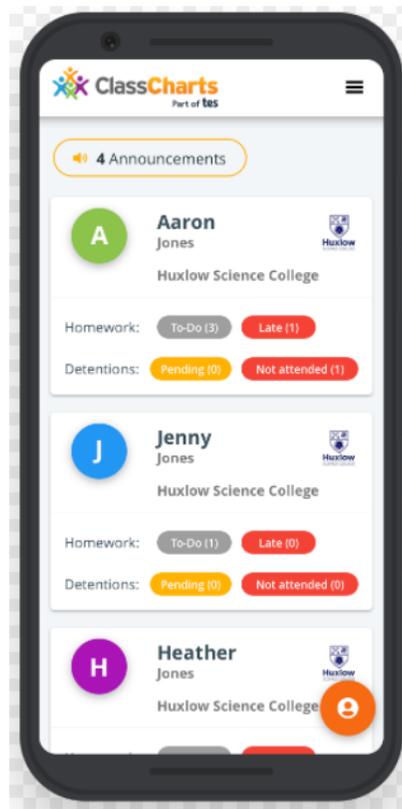
Wednesday 10th July

Class Charts – 3 essentials to keep informed.

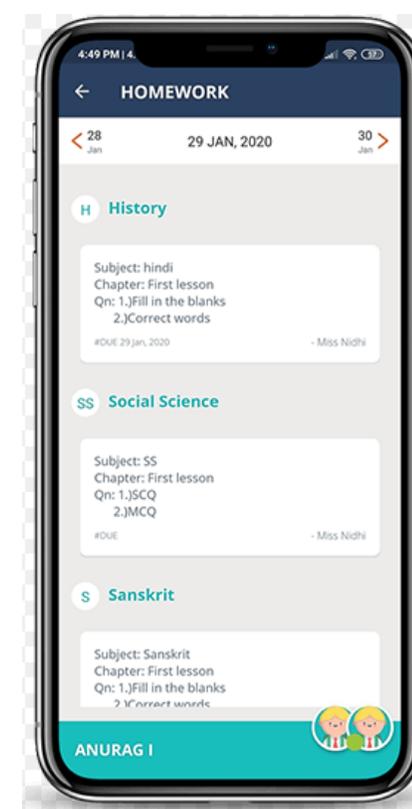
Timetable



Announcements



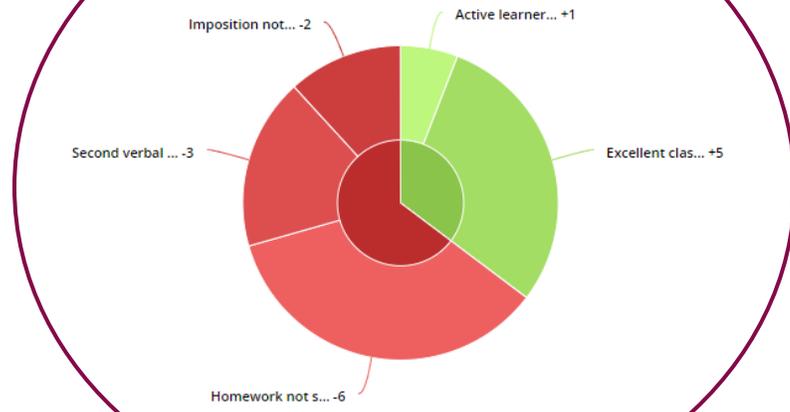
Homework



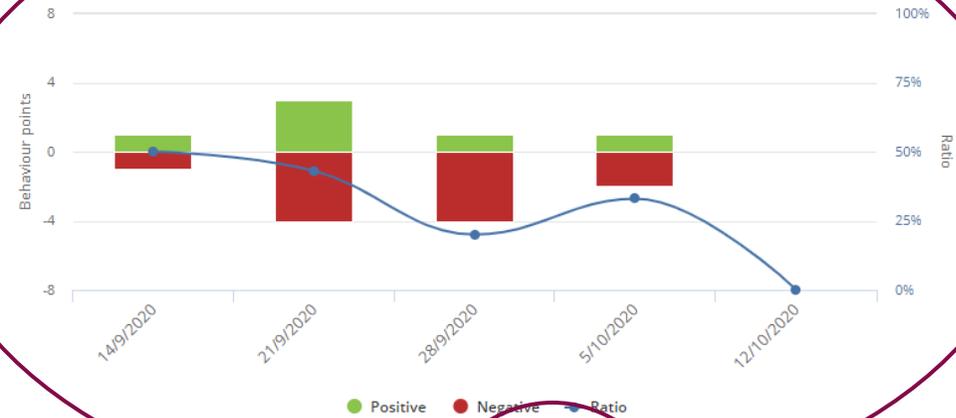
Learning behaviour and attitude information.

Behaviour

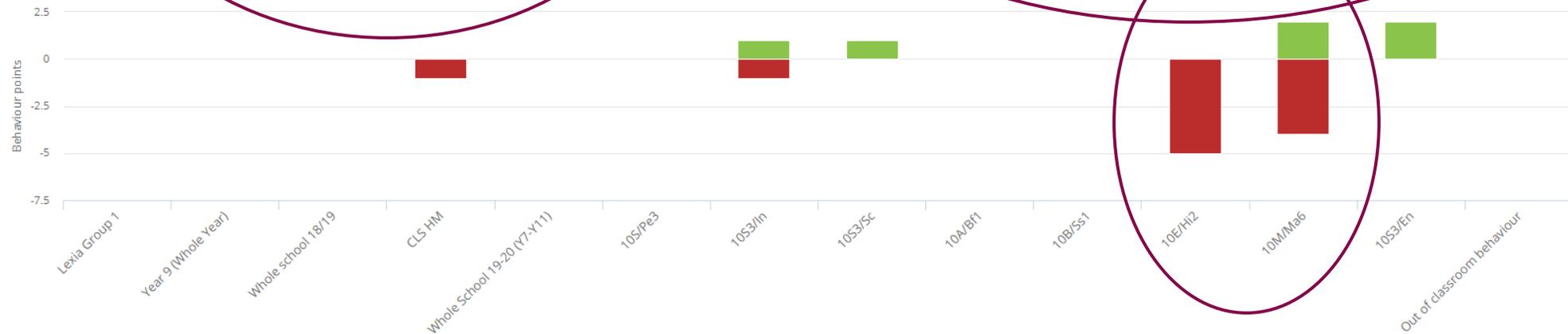
Behaviour score breakdown



Weekly Behaviour Breakdown



List of Classes



How to earn merits – over 600 awarded so far this year!

- ▶ Active learner, good group work, achievement in class, resilience when challenged, excellent classwork, excellent homework.
- ▶ Contribution to school life, extra-curricular achievement.
- ▶ Attending after-school or lunchtime intervention or revision sessions.
- ▶ Using GCSEPod (all subjects)
- ▶ Using Smart Revise (IT, computer science)
- ▶ Completing Seneca tasks (history, geography, RE)
- ▶ Using Tassomai (science) – the more you do the more you get!
- ▶ Completing extra tasks for particular subjects e.g. English, history, RE

How do I know how my child is progressing?

- ▶ Check Class Charts every week

Merits, demerits and detentions.

Announcements to alert you to issues.

- ▶ Look at feedback, comments and scores in books every week.
- ▶ Review the termly report.
- ▶ Parents evening
- ▶ Ask to see tests scores
- ▶ End of year exams

Contact Miss Harris or subject teachers with any questions.

How have I been doing this term?

Name:

Tasks I have done this term:

- Attended school everyday
- Arrived at school on time every day
- Logged into Class Charts
- Logged onto GCSEPod
- Completed all my homework
- Arrived to lessons on time
- Completed the PIXL maths tasks
- Attended afterschool intervention

The subject area I felt most confident in:

This is because:

The subject area I felt least confident in:

This is because:

I am on or above target in these subjects:

Looking through all my work, I can see that my targets to improve are...

I rate my concentration in class as/10

To improve this I will:

I rate my concentration at home as/10

To improve this I will:

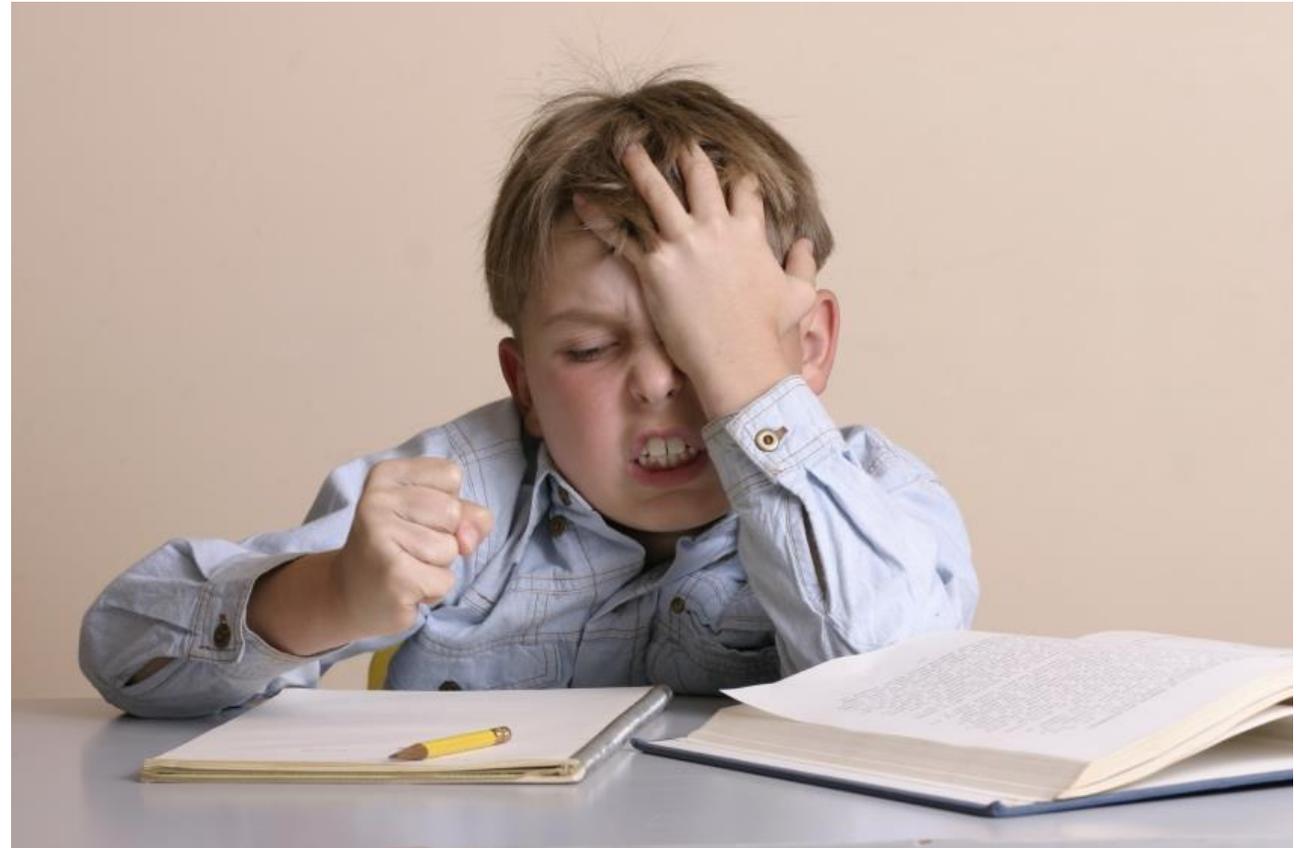
The subject areas I'll focus more revision on...

A large, smooth, rounded boulder sits on a hillside. In the background, a person in a purple shirt stands near some trees on the left, and another person in a blue plaid shirt is pushing against the boulder on the right. The sky is overcast.

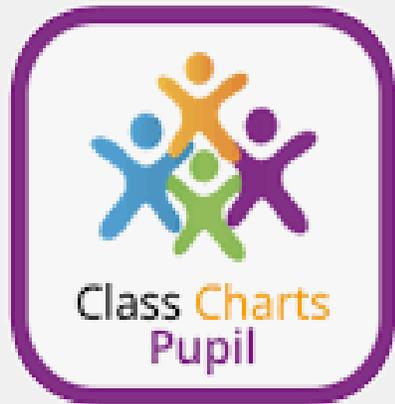
GETTING STARTED IS THE HARDEST PART
HELP TO BUILD MOMENTUM

How can I support my child to study at home?

- ▶ Revision is also known as **working hard**.
- ▶ Do not be put off by 'I don't know how to revise' or 'I don't know what I should be learning'.
- ▶ *Paper, pen and a book is all you need to start.*
- ▶ All students have been given an exam pack with the equipment they need and flash cards to use.



Essential Apps:



gcsepod
education on demand



Microsoft Teams



The Learning Program



MyMaths.co.uk



MathsWatch

WELL DONE GCSEPOD COMMUNITY!

Take a look at what our community of over 1,200 schools in 30+ countries has achieved in this academic year!



OVER 1,200 SCHOOLS

are now taking part in our GCSEPod community

63,000 ASSIGNMENTS



were set using our Question Bank



522 SCHOOLS JOINED THE POD GAMES

NEW FEATURES



Google Integration for 1 click login | Windows App for desktop | Password Recovery System | Classcharts Integration | Student/Teacher Messaging System



837 NEW PODS PUBLISHED

11 MILLION

A whopping 11,300,000 Pods have been streamed or downloaded in the last academic year.

That's a phenomenal 3,600,000 more than last academic year.



bett 2018 WINNER

We won the Bett 2018 award for the best secondary content

PIXL PARTNER

PiXL

Partners in excellence

We are proud to be working alongside PiXL to improve student outcomes.

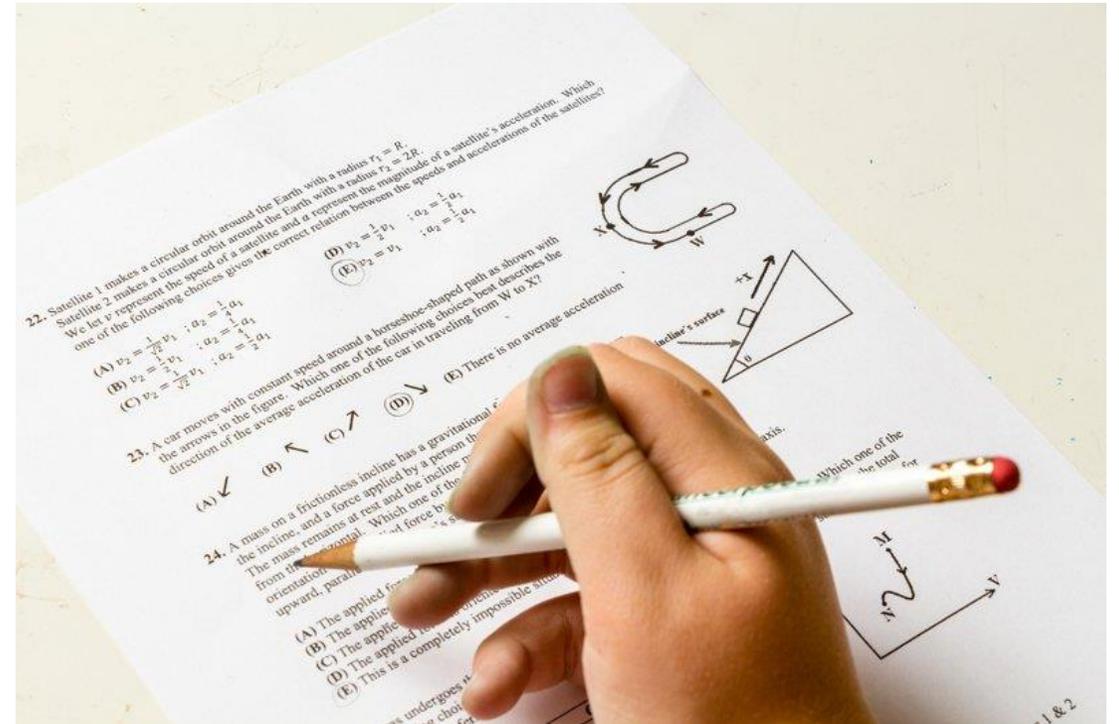
OUTSIDE OF SCHOOL



7,647,900 Pods were watched out of school, showing the power of GCSEPod as an independent learning tool.

Past Papers

- ▶ The most successful students' complete past paper questions.
- ▶ Do not leave this until near the exams – start now.
- ▶ YouTube and other websites are really useful.
- ▶ Support your child by helping them to see the value of this work.



Title: Cornell Notes

DATE

KEYWORDS

- Quick notes

- Abbreviations

QUESTIONS

- Key thoughts and takeaways
from lecture



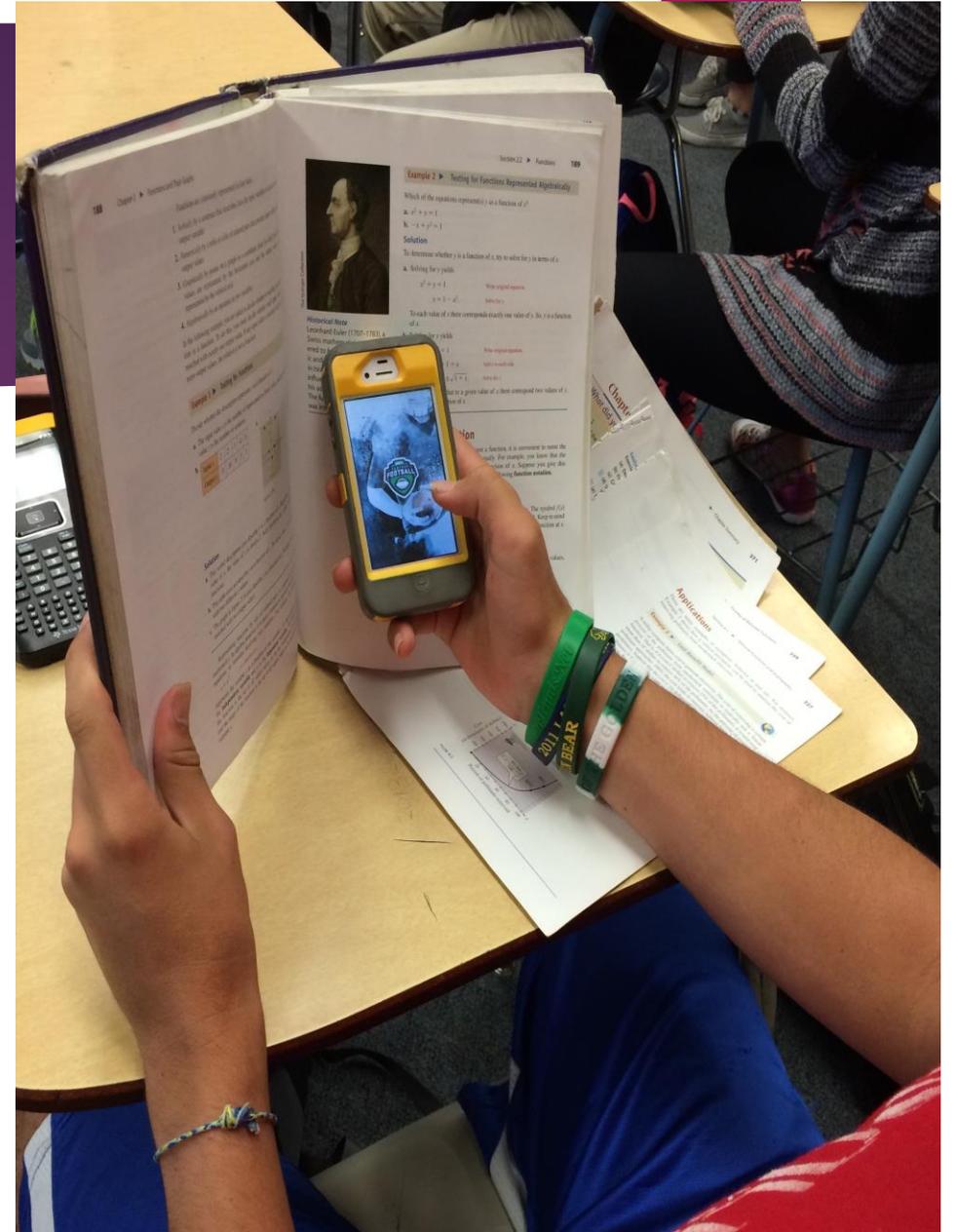
SUMMARY

Unplugging is vital

When our Year 11 students rated their own concentration while working at home they gave it 4/10 on average!

- ▶ Gaming is the biggest distraction (COD, Fortnite, Among Us, Halo).
- ▶ Tik Tok, Instagram and endless scrolling on a phone is the second biggest distraction.
- ▶ Netflix/TV is the third.

Please support your child by unplugging distractions.



How can I get my child off their device?

Our pick



Apple Screen Time

Best for iOS users

Apple's built-in controls let you set daily limits and give you more insight into and control over your kid's screen time than third-party apps.

Our pick



Google Family Link

For kids on Android who are under 13

With this free app, parents can set limits on daily phone use, plus schedule their kid's phone to be disabled at bedtime. But kids age out when they turn 13.

Our pick



Qustodio

Qustodio

For kids on Android who are over 13

The premium version of this app allows you to set time limits and multiple schedules, block calls, and view text messages and web searches.

There are free and paid APPs like:

- ▶ Apple Screen Time
- ▶ Goggle Family Link
- ▶ Qustodio
- ▶ Kasperspy
- ▶ Kidslox
- ▶ Netnanny
- ▶ uMobix

P6 – one-hour extra afterschool

- ▶ **Tuesday – Thursday in S10. 3.00pm until 4.15pm (Late bus runs and is free)**
- ▶ **This is a quiet space where students can complete school work, coursework, homework, and revision without any distractions.**
- ▶ **We have an experienced member of staff available to help and support students during this period (P6).**
- ▶ **Merits will be awarded for effort and attendance during P6.**

5 tips for English – Mrs Tamburro

The exam board is PEARSON

1. We study three important texts - Macbeth, An Inspector Calls, A Christmas Carol and poetry.
2. GCSEPod is great for English Literature – get the plot and characters off-by-heart.
3. The YouTube channels from Mr Salles and Mr Bruff are brilliant!
4. Past paper questions are vital to keep on developing skills
5. English Language has transactional writing – writing a formal letter, writing a speech etc.. Try and share examples as you see them.

5 tips for Maths – Mr Barlow

The exam board is EDEXCEL

1. Get a Casio calculator (Mr Barlow sells them for £10 each).
2. Maths Clinic runs every Tuesday after school.
3. Remember, the only way to learn maths is to do maths. Copying notes, etc, does not work!!!
4. Homework is set every week as a mix of MathsWatch or past paper questions. These are not optional!
5. All past papers / worked solutions / video solutions are available on the MathsGenie website: <https://www.mathsgenie.co.uk/papers.html> – this is a great way to get a feel for exam questions (and realise they're always pretty much the same).

5 tips for Science – Mr Horne

The exam board is AQA

1. Do Tassomai every school day – hit 5 Daily Goals per week.
2. Exam paper homework every week – hand in on TUESDAYS
3. After school intervention on Thursdays afterschool
4. Use www.freesciencelessons.com to revise – never fails!
5. Each subject has six required practicals – make sure you have revised them as they equal at least one grade!

Support network.

- ▶ **Miss Harris – Progress Leader**
- ▶ **Mrs Parker – Deputy Head**
- ▶ **Mrs McKean – Inclusion and student services**
- ▶ **Mrs Palmer- SENDCO**
- ▶ **Mrs Bradley - Attendance**
- ▶ **Careers advice**

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