

SUPPORTING YOUR CHILD THROUGH GCSE
STEPS TO SUCCESS



HELPING PARENTS...



WITHOUT TEACHING YOU HOW TO SUCK EGGS!

What would you like to know?

This presentation will be sent to you on Class Charts#

- 1. What qualifications will my child be awarded?**
- 2. What does my child need to get into 6th form, college or an apprenticeship?**
- 3. Why do you report attendance?**
- 4. What are key dates this year?**
- 5. How do I know how well my child is progressing?**
- 6. Can you help me to get my child to revise at home?**
- 7. English, maths and science are worth 5 GCSEs so how can I help?**

What qualifications will my child be awarded?

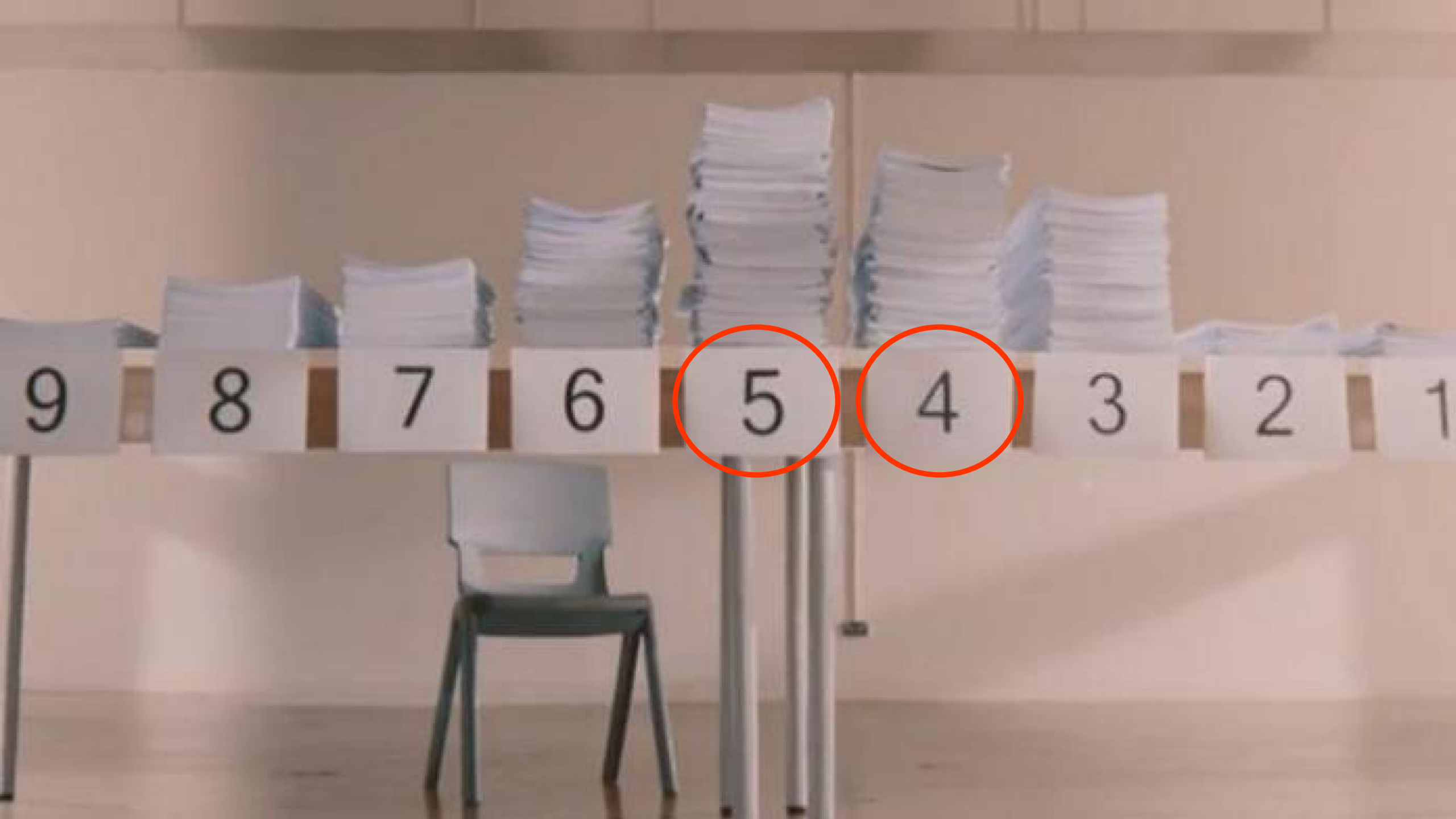
- ▶ **English Literature (2 exams) (1)**
- ▶ **English Language (2 exams) (1)**
- ▶ **Mathematics (3 exams) (1)**
- ▶ **Combined Science (6 exams) (2)**
- ▶ **Religious Education (3 exams) (1)**
- ▶ **Geography, History, French, Spanish (3 exams) (1)**
- ▶ **Two option subjects (2)**

Total = 9 qualifications.

'Level 2' Qualifications

GCSE's, BTECs and Tech Awards are Level 2

- ▶ GCSE's are traditional qualifications –100% examination based.
- ▶ GCSE's are graded **9 -1**
- ▶ BTEC's and Tech Awards are vocational and have 40% or more coursework.
- ▶ They are graded as **L2P - pass, L2M – merit, L2D – distinction or L2D* - distinction star**



9

8

7

6

5

4

3

2

1

Sixth Form or College requirements:

- ▶ 5 passes at grade 4+ for a vocational pathway.
 - ▶ 5 passes at grade 5+ for an A-Level pathway.
 - ▶ There will be a higher requirement to study A-Level in a subject
- e.g. English A-Level requires at least a grade 6 in English.*
- ▶ All courses require a grade 4 in English and Maths.



Attendance – our data is stark

Overall attendance in Y11	Average GCSE Grade 2024
96% or more	6
90% - 95%	5
86% - 89%	4
85% or less	3

Higher attendance means better progress.

Overall attendance in Y11	Progress 8
96% or more	+0.4
90% - 95%	+0.1
86% - 89%	-0.3
85% or less	-1.0

Important dates

End of year 9 Exams

Completed

Y10

Autumn tracking report

17 November 2024

Y10 Parents Evening

5 December 2024

Careers Fair (in school)

March 2026

End of Year 10 Exams

July 2025 (2-3 weeks)

Duke of Edinburgh Award

Straight after exams

Y11

Work experience (one week)

September 2025 (1 week)

MOCK EXAMS 1

December 2025 (2 weeks)

MOCK EXAMS 2

March 2026 (2 weeks)

GCSE EXAMS

May – June 2026

Year 11 Prom

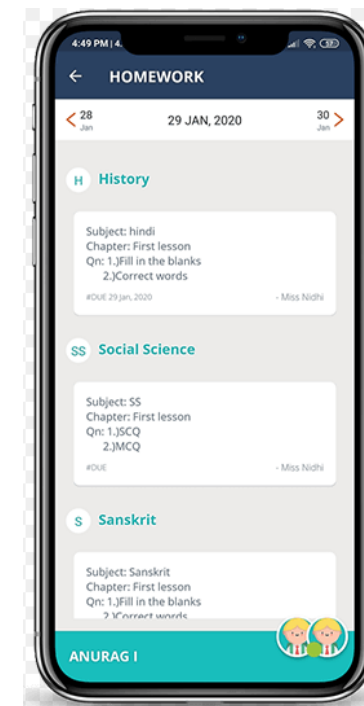
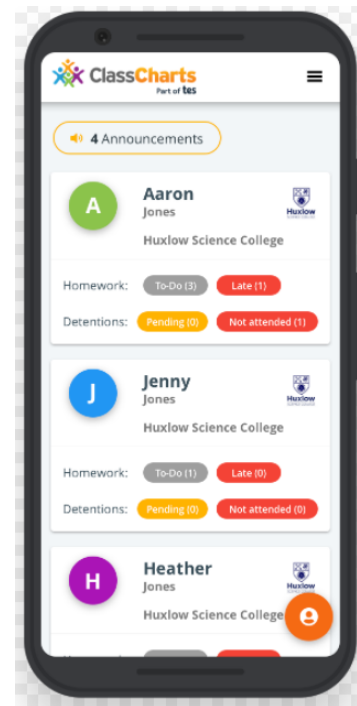
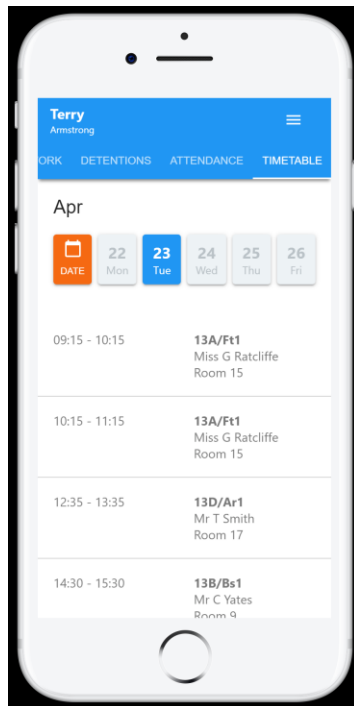
July 2026

GCSE Results Day

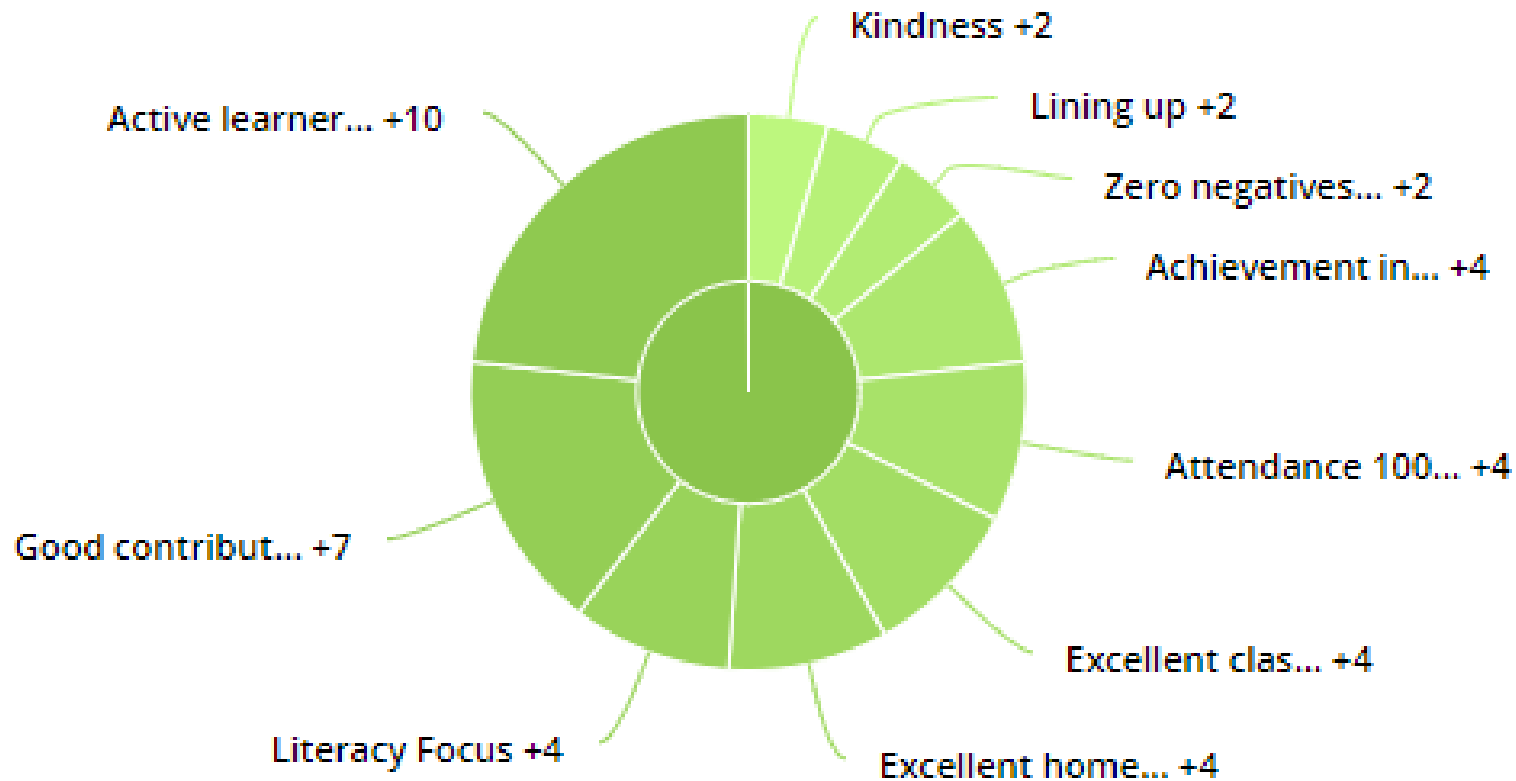
August 2026

How do I know how my child is progressing?

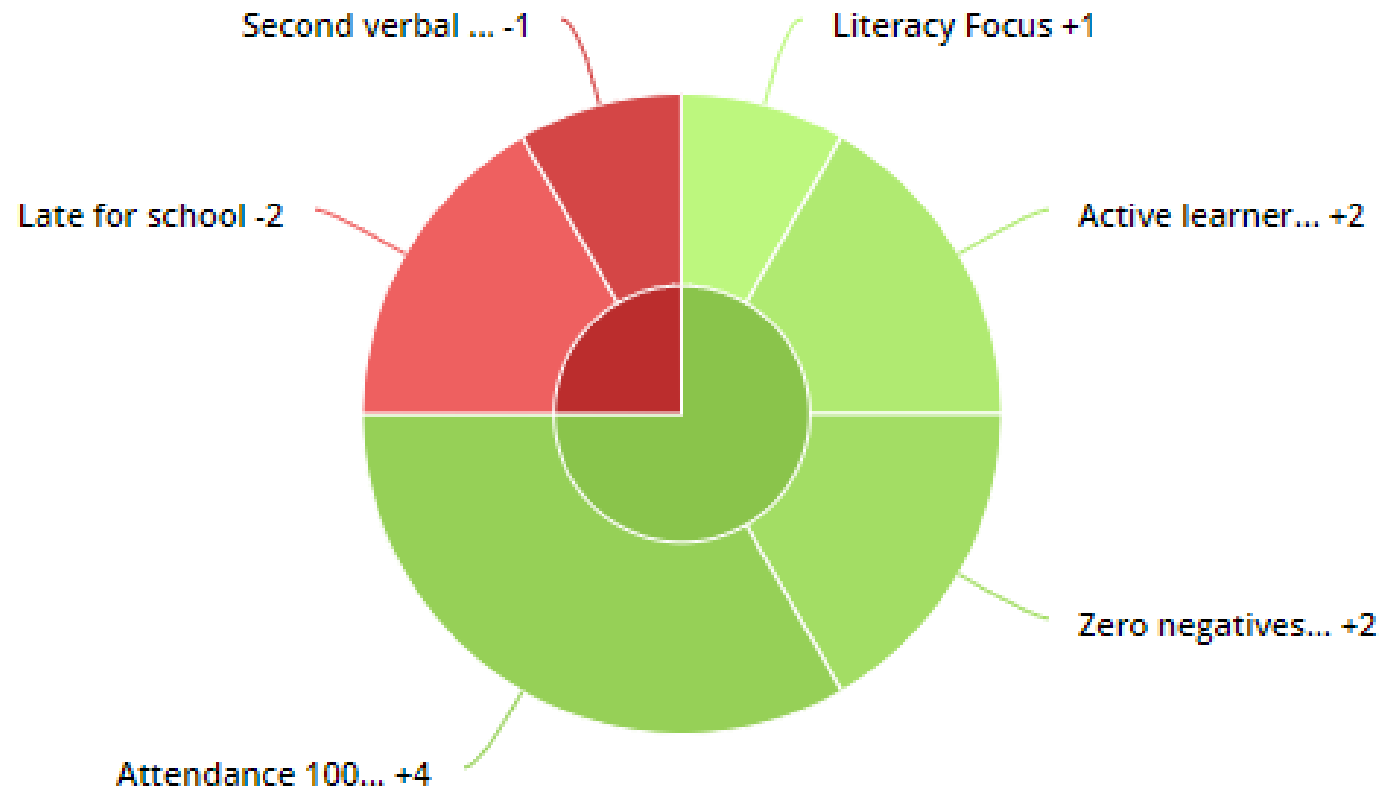
- ▶ **Class Charts** - Merits, demerits and detentions alert you to what may be happening in the classroom in terms of learning behaviours.



Class Charts – learning behaviours



Class Charts – learning behaviours



Learning behaviours – positive merits

- ▶ **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 or Tassomai**
- ▶ **Completing Seneca tasks (history, geography, RE)**



Holy Family Catholic High School Progress Monitoring Report – Summer 2024



Name		Attendance % *	93.4
Form	1	Lates to registration	3

*Good attendance is linked to better attainment and progress. Good attendance is considered to be 96% or higher.

Subject	Teacher	Pupil assessment %	Cohort average %	Attitude to learning	Effort and determination	Homework and study	Current grade	Target grade
English Literature	Miss A. Routledge	34	40	2	2	1	3	5
Maths	Miss P. Gardner	39	49	2	2	1	5	6
Combined Science	Mrs D. Coyne	20	34	2	2	2	43	55
History	Mr J. Flannigan	44	54	1	2	1	5	6
Engineering (Btec)	Mr G. Bradley	n/a	n/a	2	1	2	L2M	L2M
Computer Science	Mr O. Crawford	47	44	1	2	2	4	5
RE	Mrs C. McCarthy	61	49	2	2	2	5	6

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...

How do I know how my child is progressing?

- ▶ Class Charts
- ▶ Termly progress monitoring report
- ▶ Parents evening in December
- ▶ Mid-year and End of Year assessments
- ▶ Feedback, comments and scores in books.

Contact Mrs Holt or subject teachers with any questions.

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.

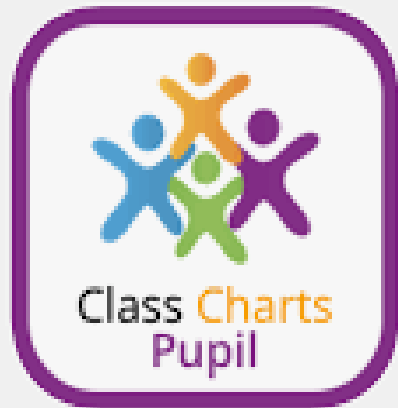
GETTING STARTED IS THE HARDEST PART
HELP TO BUILD MOMENTUM

How can I support my child to study at home?

- ▶ Independent study at home is a vital part of KS4.
- ▶ At KS3, we tried to get pupils into good habits with a 'little and often' approach.
- ▶ Parents, please do not be put off by '*I don't know how to revise*' or '*I don't know what I should be doing*'.
- ▶ *Paper, pen and a book is all you need to start.*



Essential Apps:



gcsepod
education on demand



Microsoft Teams



The Learning Program



MyMaths.co.uk



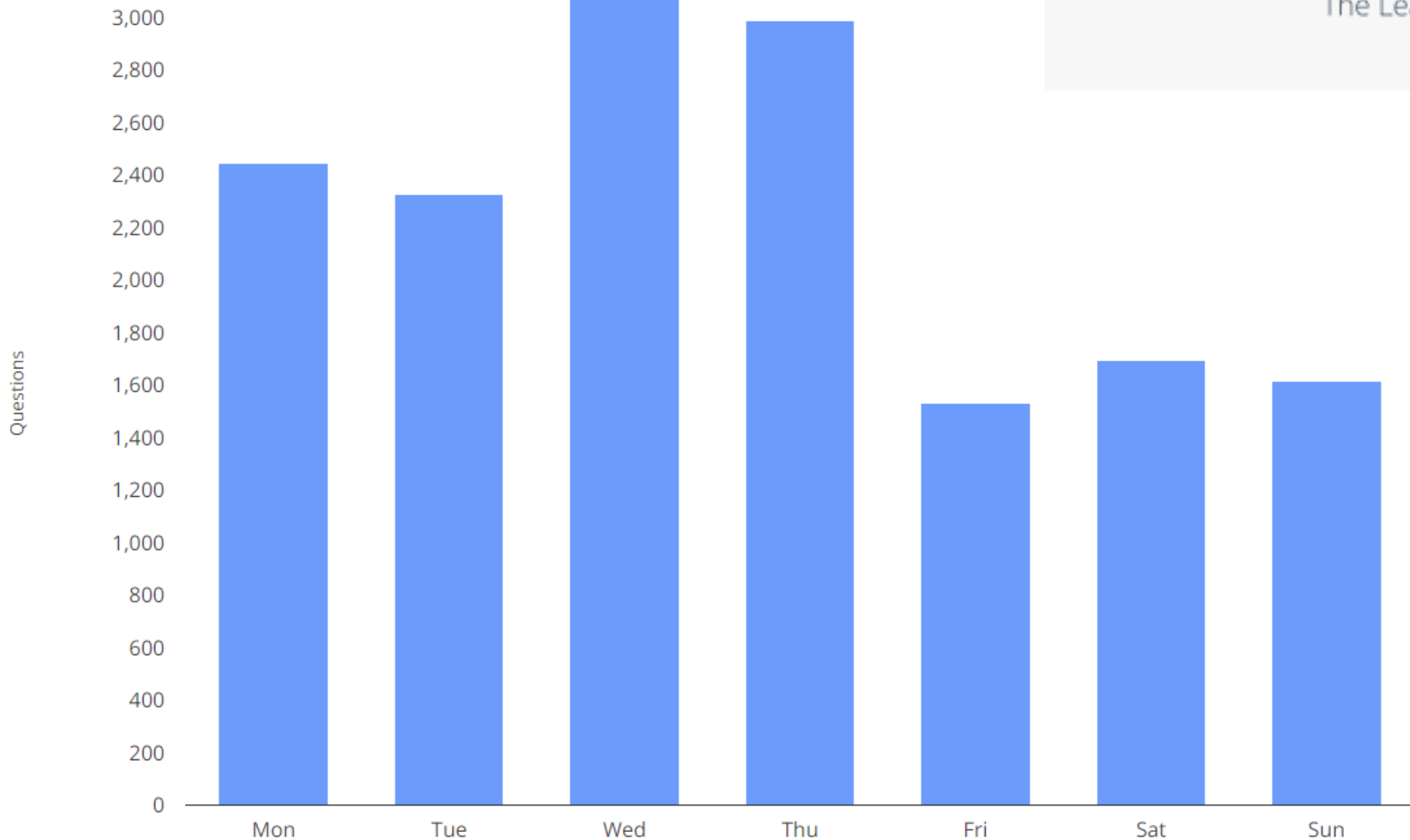
MathsWatch

Year 10 ▾

Questions completed last week



The Learning Program

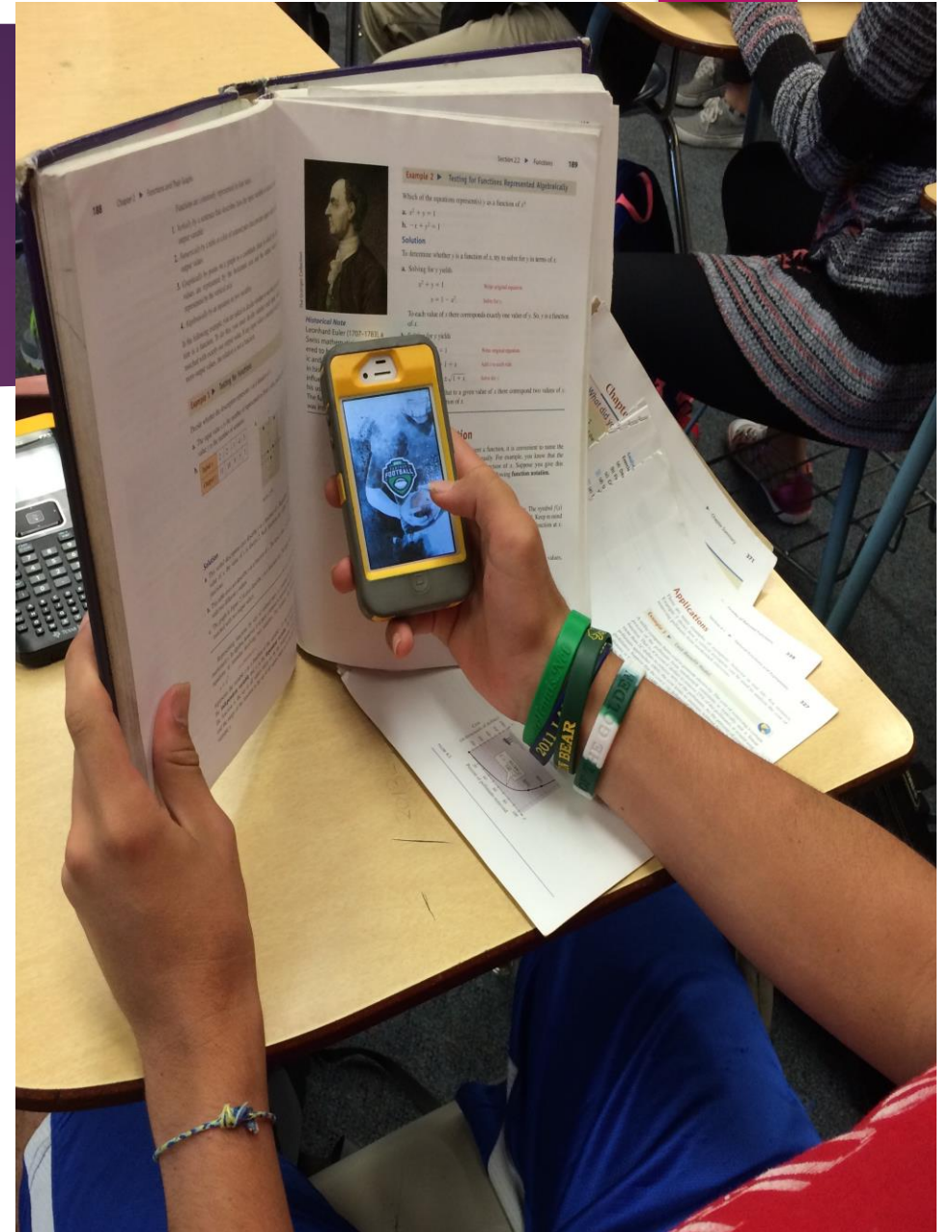


Unplugging is vital

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, Snapchat, Discord, Instagram and endless scrolling on a phone is the second biggest distraction.
- ▶ Netflix 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 for APPs like:

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

Afterschool Intervention

Year 10 Intervention Timetable

<u>Days</u>	<u>Year 10 Intervention – Week A</u> <u>3.15pm-4.15pm</u>	<u>Year 10 Intervention – Week B</u> <u>3.15pm-4.15pm</u>
Monday	Lunchtime - Art	Lunchtime - Art
Tuesday <small>Late Bus</small>	Food / ICT / CS / RE	Maths
Wednesday <small>Late Bus</small>	Geography / History / Drama / Languages / Technology	English
Thursday <small>Late Bus</small>	PE / H&S / Business / Dance / Music	Science
Friday		

5 tips for English – Mrs Tamburro

The exam board is PEARSON LIFT

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. Homework is set every week as a mix of MathsWatch or past paper questions. These are not optional!
4. 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 Combined Science Trilogy or AQA Biology/Chemistry/Physics

1. All Y10 pupils have a Tassomai homework each week due for Monday.
2. Science also sets homework every week to complete exam questions.
3. After school intervention on Thursdays afterschool
4. Use www.freesciencelessons.com to revise – never fails!
5. GCSE science have ‘required practical’s. Pupils who know how to carry out these practicals, write a method and describe results tend to get much higher grades.

Support network.

- ▶ **Mrs Holt – Progress Leader**
- ▶ **Mrs Parker – Deputy Head**
- ▶ **Mr Nutman –KS4 Senior Leader**
- ▶ **Mrs Palmer- SENDCO**
- ▶ **Mrs Powell - Attendance**
- ▶ **Careers advice**

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