

# Introduction to GCSE – Preparing for the Year 10 mocks



*A warm welcome to the GCSE class of  
2027 & their parents / carers!*

*Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> March 2026*

Mr Burnham - Headteacher  
Mr Rimmer – Deputy Head  
Mrs Joynson – Associate Assistant Head  
Mr Doyle – Assistant Head  
Mrs Wenham – Head of Year 10  
Mrs Wright – Assistant Head of Year 10

The Ofsted logo consists of three stylized human figures in orange and yellow above the word "Ofsted" in white. Below "Ofsted" is the text "Good Provider" in white.  
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Good  
Provider





# Introduction to GCSE Evening Welcome Class of 2026!



## Aims for this evening

- 1. Provide a brief overview of GCSE Qualifications*
- 2. What to expect from the forthcoming mock exam series*
- 3. Look at the techniques our school will be promoting for revision*
- 4. How school and parents can best support pupils during the mock exam series*

# GCSE Qualifications



- Since the 2017 changes, GCSE qualifications are more **demanding** than before.
- Lots to learn, know and remember for your GCSE exams.
- Preparation and practice is key!
- Facts, formulae, symbols, key words, concepts, dates, events, characters, quotations, grammar, vocabulary...
- Terminal exam is the assessment for most subjects
- Some subjects also have non-examined assessment (NEA)/coursework, some of which has already begun in Year 10.
- The journey through GCSE is already well underway!

# Tiers of Entry & GCSE Grades



- One tier of entry in the majority of GCSEs, except Maths, Science and Spanish.
- A grade 5 on the foundation tier is worth the same as a grade 5 on the higher tier.
- The school carefully considers and enters students on the tier where we believe they will achieve the highest grade, based on assessments, experience and subject expertise.
- We welcome discussion with parents along the way.

| New grading structure | Former grading structure |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|
| 9                     |                          |
| 8                     | A*                       |
| 7                     | A                        |
| 6                     | B                        |
| 5                     | C                        |
| 4                     |                          |
| 3                     | D                        |
| 2                     | E                        |
| 1                     | F                        |
|                       | G                        |
| U                     | U                        |

# The grades young people achieve can affect...



- The post-16 provider they attend
- The qualifications they are eligible to study next
- The level of apprenticeship they can access
- Their eligibility for a university course
- The universities they can apply to
- Their career prospects

## Choices!





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We have also prepared our website for you...

- <https://www.ormskirk.lancs.sch.uk/student-area/examination-information-and-revision/year-10-exam-information>



- Safeguarding >
- Online Safety >
- School Calendar >
- Year 6 to 7 Transition >
- Year 9 Options >
- Virtual Parents Evening >
- Most Able >
- Student Support >
- Reporting an Absence >
- Advice and Support >
- Examination Information and Revision >
  - Key Stage 3 Examination Information
  - Year 10 Exam Information**
  - Year 11 Exam Information
- Careers Education, Information, Advice and Guidance (CEIAG) >
- Support links for families >
- Extra Curricular Activities Timetable >
- School Gateway >

# Year 10 Exam Information

[Home](#) / [Student Area](#) / [Examination Information and Revision](#) / [Year 10 Exam Information](#)

## Revision Resources

English Language: AQA

English Literature: Eduqas

Geography

Chemistry

Biology

Maths

Food & Nutrition

Hospitality & Catering

PE

Music

Spanish

History



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## Revision Resources

### [English Language: AQA](#)

Students will complete AQA English Language Paper 1 and should focus on the following areas:

- Understanding and analysing fiction extracts.
- Identifying and explaining language and structural techniques.
- Writing creatively with a focus on descriptive and narrative techniques.
- Completing past paper questions under timed conditions.

 [Y10 English Language Revision Guidance](#)

135 KB



English Literature: Eduqas

Geography

Chemistry

Biology

Maths

Food & Nutrition

Health, PE & Physical Education



**ENDEAVOUR**  
LEARNING TRUST

# Access Arrangements for those with SEND



## Exemplar Access Arrangements

- Time adjustments
- Assistance
- Use of technology
- Environment
- Special consideration

### 1. What are 'access arrangements'?

- Access arrangements are a range of adjustments that can be put in place for exams for those students with a special educational need.

### 2. Use during mock exams

- It is essential that students use their access arrangement during all mock exams.
- If an arrangement is not used, it may be reviewed or removed. Mocks act as important evidence of "normal way of working."

### 3. If you think your child should have access arrangements

- If you believe your child has an unmet need or may require access arrangements, please contact Mr Mannion (SENDCo) as soon as possible.
- Early conversations help ensure nothing is missed ahead of deadlines for next year's GCSE exams.

# 2026 Key Dates: Year 10

- w/c 16<sup>th</sup> March – mock exam timetables published
- w/c 13<sup>th</sup> April 2026- Tutor Time dedicated to revision
- w/c 27<sup>th</sup> April 2026– Mock examination period
- w/c 11<sup>th</sup> May 2026 - Work Experience
- w/c 8<sup>th</sup> June 2025- Summer Term Report
- Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> June- Subject Parents' Evening



# Progress Report



Ormskirk School

**Year group**  
Year 11

**Head of Year**  
Mr G Flynn and Miss A Watts

**Form**  
11-ERA

**Form tutor**  
Mr E Ackers



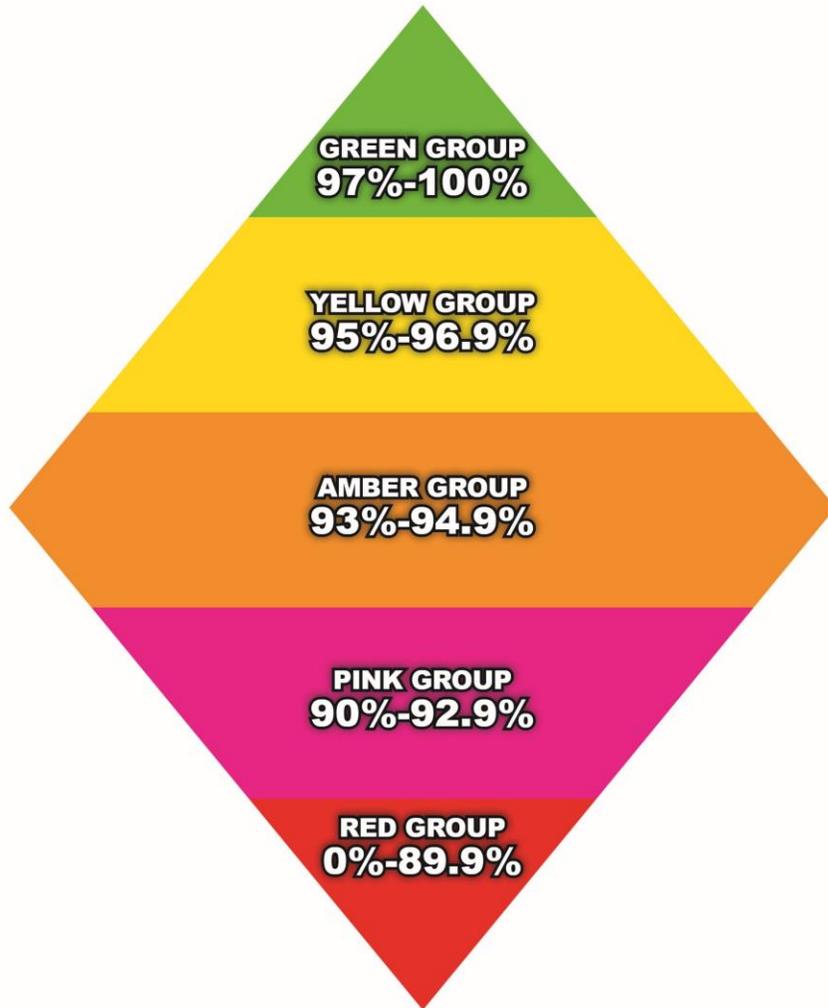
**Attendance\***  
100.0%

**Lates**  
2

**Report date**  
11 Dec 2024

| Course   | Predicted Grade | Preparation For Learning | Attitude to Learning | Homework |
|--|-----------------|--------------------------|----------------------|----------|
| English: KS4 English Language Predicted Grade            | 7               | A                        | A                    | A        |
| English: KS4 English Literature Predicted Grade          | 9               |                          |                      |          |
| Mathematics: KS4 Maths Predicted Grade                   | 9               | A                        | A                    | B        |
| Biology: KS4 Biology Predicted Grade                     | 7               | A                        | A                    | C        |
| Chemistry: KS4 Chemistry Predicted Grade                 | 8               | A                        | A                    | C        |
| Physics: KS4 Physics Predicted Grade                     | 9               | A                        | A                    | D        |
| Computer Science: KS4 Computer Science Predicted Grade   | 8               | A                        | A                    | A        |
| History: KS4 History Predicted Grade                     | 7               | A                        | A                    | A        |
| Physical Education / Sports: KS4 PE GCSE Predicted Grade | 8               | A                        | A                    | A        |

# Attendance matters



|               |   |
|---------------|---|
| <b>GREEN</b>  | <b>BEST CHANCE OF ACADEMIC SUCCESS</b>    |
| <b>YELLOW</b> | <b>RISK OF UNDERACHIEVEMENT</b>           |
| <b>AMBER</b>  | <b>SERIOUS RISK OF UNDERACHIEVEMENT</b>   |
| <b>PINK</b>   | <b>SEVERE RISK OF UNDERACHIEVEMENT</b>    |
| <b>RED</b>    | <b>EXTREME RISK - PERSISTENT ABSENTEE</b> |

# How can parents support in preparation for the mocks?

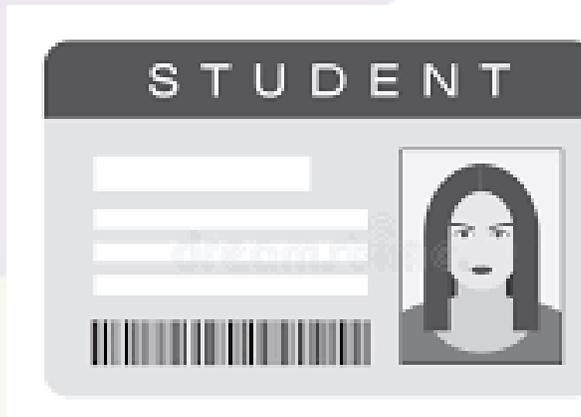
## Organisation

- *Clear Pencil Case*
- *Calculator*
- *Pens, Pencils etc*



## Exam ID Card

*As part of JCQ regulations, pupils must have their exam ID card visible on the desk. They will be distributed before the exam period – keep it safe.*



## Routines

- *Sleep*
- *Healthy diet*
- *Breakfast*
- *Punctuality to school*
- *Calm morning*



# The Testing Effect

As we go through revision techniques tonight, we invite parents/carers to think about how they can support good revision.

We recommend that parents/carers support by setting aside regular times for:

- quizzing from revision cards
- ask questions based on revision clocks
- ask questions based on revision guides

You don't need to be an expert in order to help your son/daughter with their revision.

## 6 REASONS THE TESTING EFFECT IS IMPORTANT

The power of tests, quizzes and retrieval

by @inner\_drive | [www.innerdrive.co.uk](http://www.innerdrive.co.uk)



Improved memory, retention and recall



Makes you a more confident learner



Reduces exam nerves



Enhanced memory during stressful situations



Helps you identify what you do and don't know



More effective revision



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- 1. Provide a brief overview of GCSE Qualifications*
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- 4. How to support students during mock exams*

# Weekly Revision Timetable

Week commencing:

Total hours of revision planned:



| Time | Monday             | Tuesday                                    | Wednesday                     | Thursday   | Friday | Time                  | Saturday                   | Sunday                            |  |
|------|--------------------|--|-------------------------------|--|--------|-----------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------------|--|
|      |                    |  |                               | <b>R<br/>E<br/>V<br/>I<br/>S<br/>I<br/>O<br/>N</b> |        |                       | <b>W<br/>O<br/>R<br/>K</b> | MATHS<br>MathsWatch<br>Past Paper |  |
|      |                    | ENGLISH<br>Macbeth<br>Quotes<br>Flashcards |                               |  |        | SCIENCE<br>Past Paper |                            |                                   | ROAST<br>DINNER                              |
|      | SCHOOL<br>PICK UP  |  | PE<br>Mind-map<br>Respiration |  |        |                       |                            |                                   |  |
|      | SCIENCE<br>EDUCAKE | MATHS<br>MathsWatch<br>Fractions           | RUGBY                         |  |        | OUT WITH<br>FRIENDS   |                            |                                   | History<br>Mind<br>Map/Seneca<br>Elizabethan |
|      |                    |  |                               |  |        |                       |                            |                                   |  |
|      |                    |  |                               |  |        |                       |                            |                                   |  |
|      |                    |  |                               |  |        |                       |                            |                                   |  |

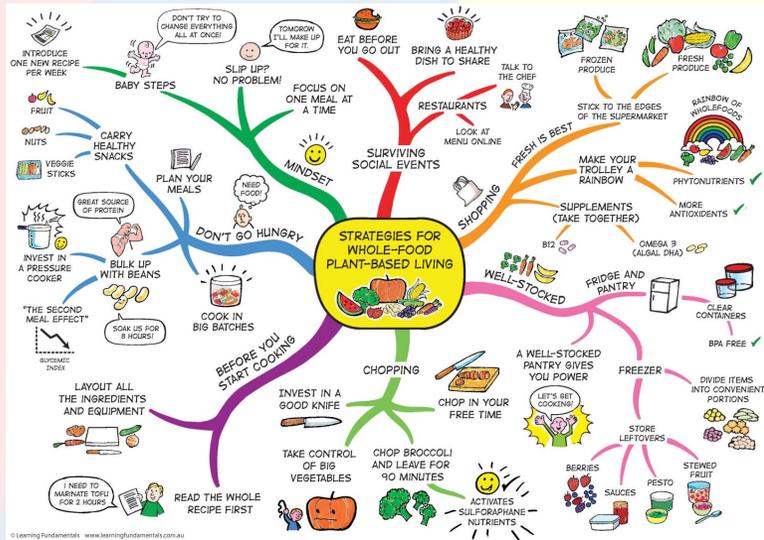
|   |                  |                |                       |
|---|------------------|----------------|-----------------------|
| Which of these are you planning to use? | Mind Map         | Flashcards     | Past Papers Questions |
| Subject Specific Website                | Timed Past Paper | Revision Video | Other                 |

**Positive Reflections**  
Write something you are proud of learning or achieving this week!



# Key Revision Strategies

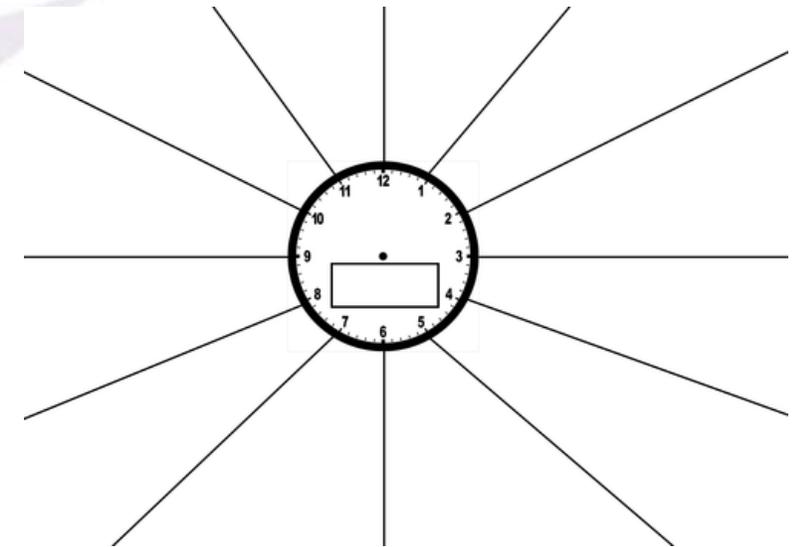
## 1) Mind Maps



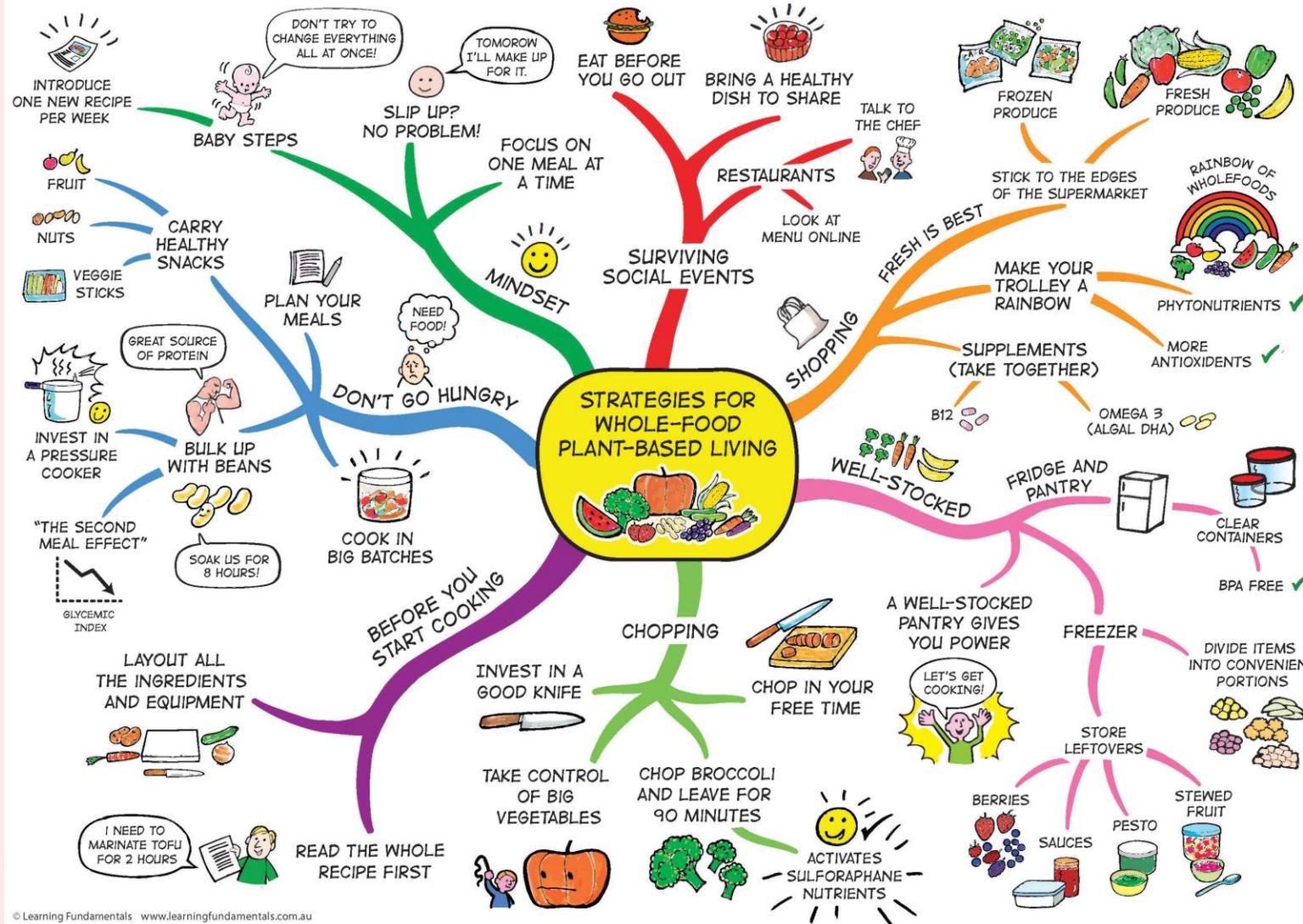
## 2) Flash Cards



## 3) Revision Clocks



# 1) Mind Maps



A very popular choice amongst pupils!



# 2) Flash Cards

A good revision card should;

1. Be homemade
2. Involve pictures **and** words
3. Test knowledge
4. Have a question on one side, answer on the other
5. Be easy to read
6. Have the correct information
7. Be used frequently but spaced out

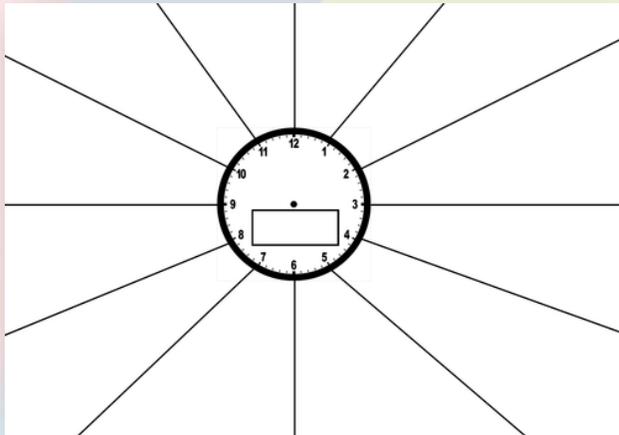




# Use the Library



- 1) Our School – *Open Break & Lunch*
- 2) Public Library - Ormskirk
- 3) Edge Hill - *Available to all members of the community free of charge*



## Revision Timetable

Create your own revision timetable. You could use colour to identify individual subjects. Remember to plan for sensible breaks, drink lots of water and have healthy snacks to hand.

|      | Mon | Tues | Wed | Thurs | Fri | Sat | Sun | Subject | Sessions per week |
|------|-----|------|-----|-------|-----|-----|-----|---------|-------------------|
| 9am  |     |      |     |       |     |     |     |         |                   |
| 10am |     |      |     |       |     |     |     |         |                   |
| 11am |     |      |     |       |     |     |     |         |                   |
| 12pm |     |      |     |       |     |     |     |         |                   |
| 1pm  |     |      |     |       |     |     |     |         |                   |
| 2pm  |     |      |     |       |     |     |     |         |                   |
| 3pm  |     |      |     |       |     |     |     |         |                   |
| 4pm  |     |      |     |       |     |     |     |         |                   |
| 5pm  |     |      |     |       |     |     |     |         |                   |
| 6pm  |     |      |     |       |     |     |     |         |                   |
| 7pm  |     |      |     |       |     |     |     |         |                   |
| 8pm  |     |      |     |       |     |     |     |         |                   |





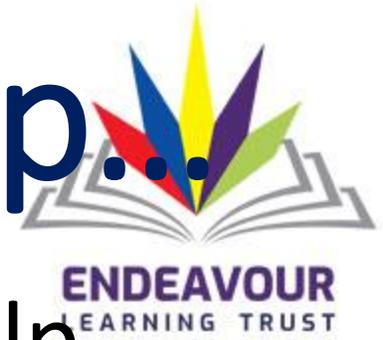
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# School is always here to help...



We actively encourage all students to ask for help

– *this may not be easy for some!*

- Year 10 Team

*Mrs Wenham & Mrs Wright*

- Form Tutor

*General concerns and advice*

- SEND issues

*Mr Mannion, SENDCo*

- Subject Teacher

*Be honest about any struggles*

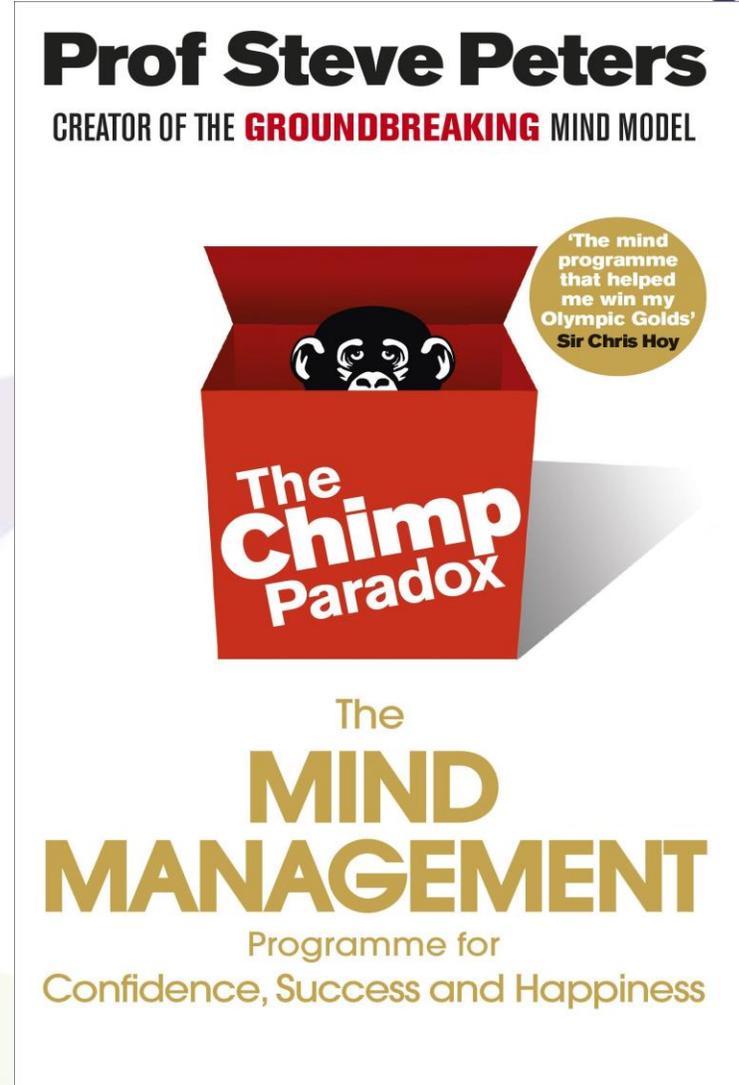
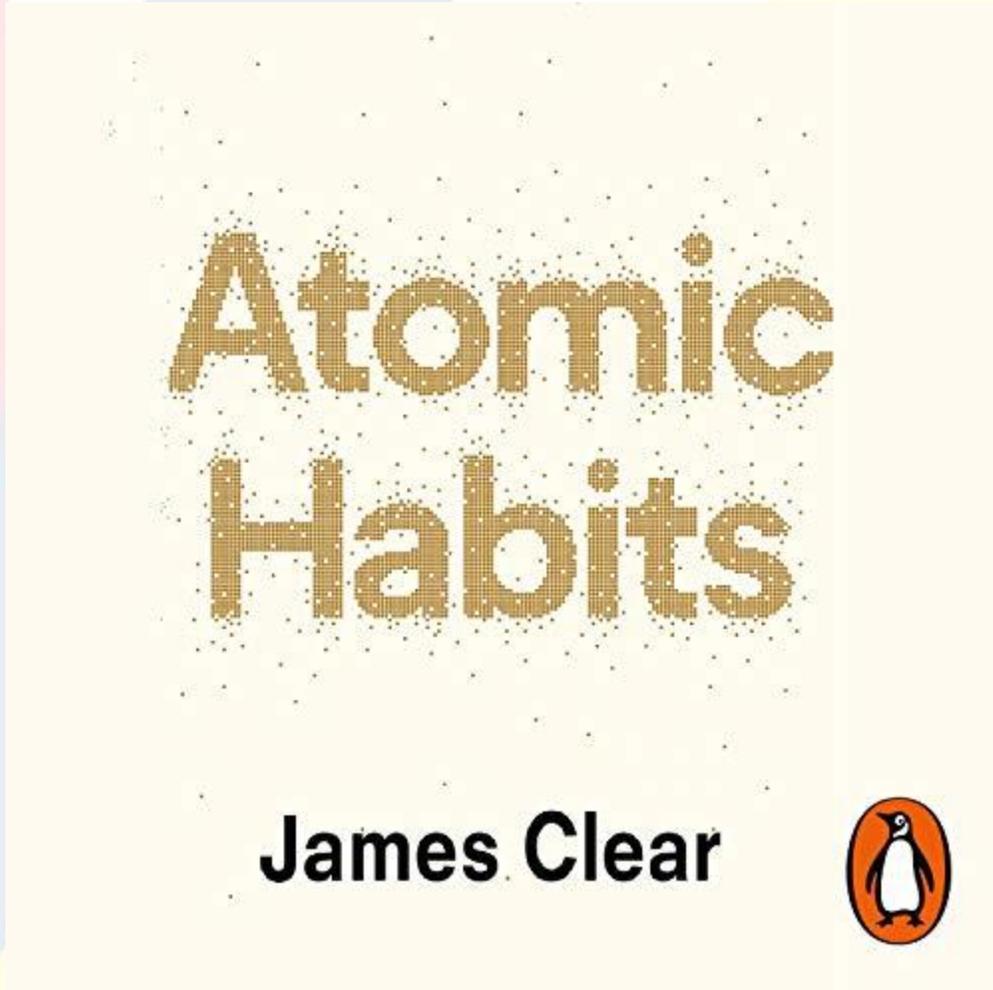


Don't be afraid to ask questions. Don't be afraid to ask for help when you need it. I do that every day. Asking for help isn't a sign of weakness, it's a sign of strength. It shows you have the courage to admit when you don't know something, and to learn something new.

— Barack Obama —

AZ QUOTES

# Two possible ways of supporting at home



# Atomic Habits

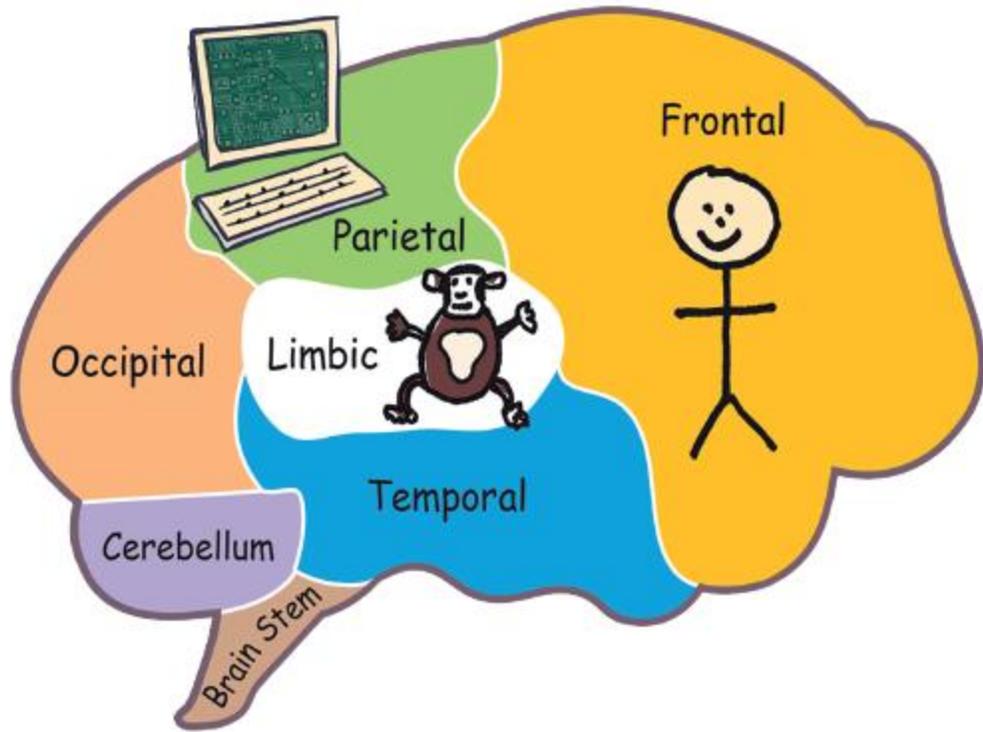


“It takes about two weeks to form a good habit”



"Making a choice that is 1 percent better or 1 percent worse seems insignificant in the moment, but over the span of moments that make up a lifetime these choices determine the difference between who you are and who you could be. Success is the product of daily habits—not once-in-a-lifetime transformations."

# The Chimp Paradox



BRAND

REBRAND



# Thank You

## Inspection of Ormskirk School

Wigan Road, Ormskirk, Lancashire L39 2AT

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|                           |                      |
|---------------------------|----------------------|
| Inspection dates:         | 7 and 8 January 2025 |
| The quality of education  | <b>Good</b>          |
| Behaviour and attitudes   | <b>Good</b>          |
| Personal development      | <b>Good</b>          |
| Leadership and management | <b>Good</b>          |
| Sixth-form provision      | <b>Good</b>          |

Pupils are happy and proud to belong to this school. They value the caring ethos and the kind way in which they are treated by staff. Strong relationships underpin the high levels of pastoral care that pupils receive.



# Questions?



*We are available outside the Hall now to answer any remaining questions you might have.*

*If questions arise after tonight, please do not hesitate to contact us by calling the school office on 01695 583 040, or by e-mail at [enquiries@ormskirk.lancs.sch.uk](mailto:enquiries@ormskirk.lancs.sch.uk)*

*Thank you!*

**Mr Burnham - Headteacher**  
**Mr Rimmer – Deputy Headteacher**  
**Mrs Joynson – Associate Assistant Headteacher**  
**Mr Doyle – Assistant Headteacher KS4**  
**Mrs Wenham – Head of Year 10**  
**Mrs Wright – Assistant Head of Year 10**