

S4 Parents' Information Evening



25th October 2018



Study Skills

A very warm welcome to all!

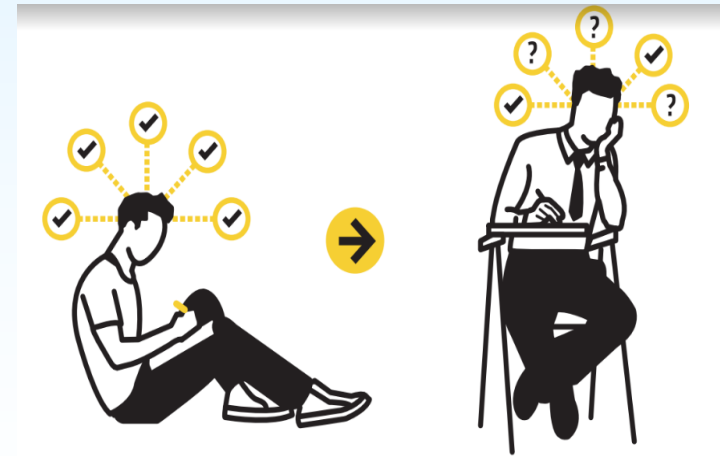
Our young people will fulfil their potential if provided with the right level of support, guidance and advice both at school and at home.

This workshop aims to equip parents and caregivers with the necessary information to allow them to oversee and support their child as they prepare to sit exams for the first time.



Overview

- Study Timetables
- 5 Habits of an Effective Learner
- Advice to Parents from Parents
- Advice to Parents from Students
- Learn to Learn
- Useful Links



Study Timetables

Planning ahead is extremely important. We recommend that pupils create and follow a study timetable in order to cover all the necessary work in a sensible and manageable way.



Week Commencing: _____

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
08.00	MATH TOPIC: 4+5	BIOLOGY PAST PAPER 1	BUSINESS TOPIC: FINANCIALS	ENGLISH CLOSE READING	HISTORY TOPIC: WW2		
09.00	MATH TOPIC 6+7	BIOLOGY PAST PAPER 2	BUSINESS PAST PAPER	ENGLISH REVISE POEMS	HISTORY PAST PAPER	BUSINESS MARKETING TOPIC	MATH TOPIC: 1-3
10.00	BREAK	BREAK	BREAK	BREAK	BREAK	BREAK	BREAK
11.00	ENGLISH: REVISE QUOTES FOR ESSAY	HISTORY TIMED ESSAY	BREAK	BIOLOGY: TOPIC: 6+7	ENGLISH: TIMED ESSAY	FRENCH REVISE VOCAB	ENGLISH CLOSE READING PRACTICE
12.00	ENGLISH: TIMED ESSAY	HISTORY TIMED ESSAY	BREAK	BIOLOGY: PAST PAPER	ENGLISH: TIMED ESSAY	BREAK	BREAK
13.00	BREAK	BREAK	FRENCH: VOCAB REVISION	BREAK	BREAK	HISTORY TOPIC: WW1	BIOLOGY LOID PAST PAPER
14.00	BREAK	BREAK	FRENCH: PRACTICE SPEAKING	BREAK	BREAK		
15.00	BREAK	BREAK	BREAK	MATH PAST PAPER	BREAK		
16.00	MATH TOPIC: 1-3	HISTORY HW Q1-4	SWIMMING CLUB	MATH TOPIC: 4+5	MATH TOPIC: 6+7		
17.00	ENGLISH CLOSE READING	FRENCH PRACTICE READING PAPER	MATH TOPIC: STANDARD REVISION	TENNIS CLUB	MATH PAST PAPER		
18.00	BIOLOGY TOPIC 1+2	BUSINESS TOPIC: FINANCE	HISTORY TOPIC: WW1	ENGLISH REVISE POEMS	BIOLOGY PAST PAPER 1		
19.00	ENGLISH REVISE QUOTES FOR ESSAY		ENGLISH REVISE POEMS	FRENCH PRACTICE SPEAKING	BIOLOGY PAST PAPER 2		
20.00							

5 Habits of an Effective Learner

The most important thing for us to understand is that there are numerous methods of study. What works for one individual won't necessarily work for someone else.

Being aware of different strategies, trying them out, and finding what works best for your child will maximise the quality of their study and revision.

Retrieval Practice

Questioning & Elaboration

Concrete Examples

Spaced Practice

Interleaving

Retrieval Practice

Two of the most common strategies used by students are reading over notes and highlighting key points. These are also two of the least effective strategies.

Retrieval practice means testing yourself to see what you can remember from a particular unit or chapter. Regular practice builds stronger memory of the material in the long term.

STEP
1 Make a list of all the important information you need to know from a particular unit or chapter.

STEP
2 Close the books and create a quiz using flashcards or app.

STEP
3 Try to retrieve everything you remember.

STEP
4 Go back and check all your answers.



Questioning and Elaboration

This method involves asking questions and making connections between ideas and concepts. This can be done independently in written form or collaboratively as a discussion.

Let's say you have learned some quotes from *Macbeth*:

“Is this a dagger I see before me, The handle toward my hand...”

You might then ask yourself the following questions:

- 1 Why does Shakespeare use this imagery here?
- 2 What does this reveal about Macbeth at this part of the play?
- 3 How does this connect with what we know with Macbeth at other stages in the play?



Concrete Examples

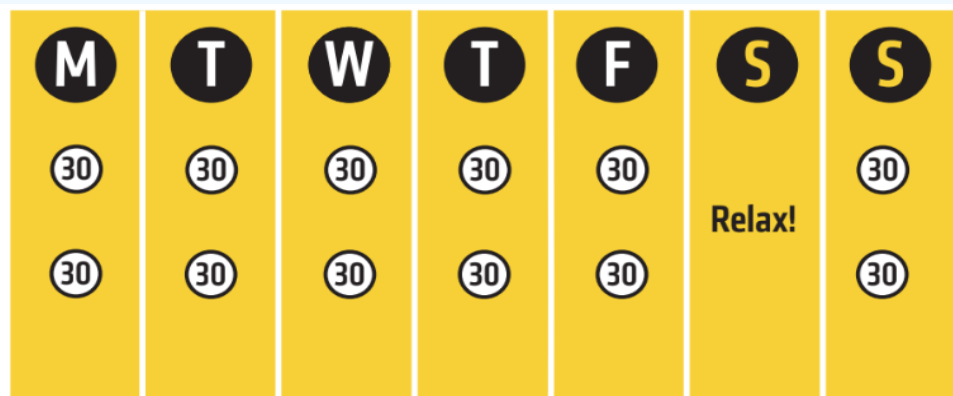
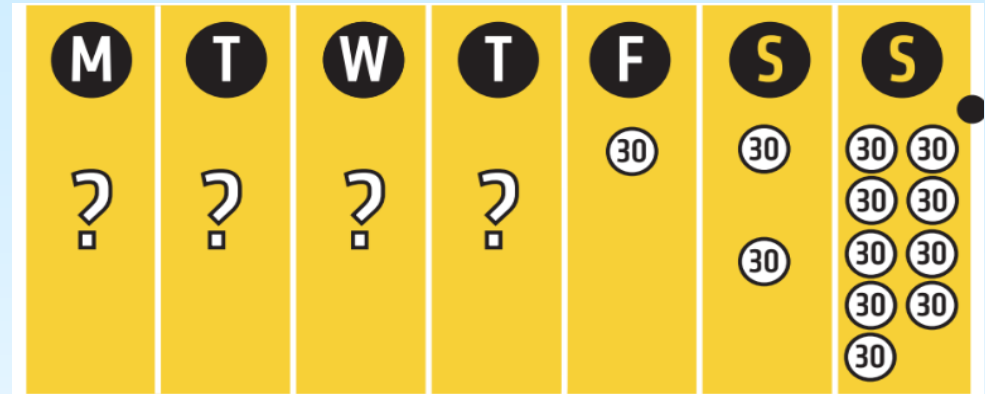
After learning the material, asking questions and establishing connections between ideas, one of the most effective things you can do is get **concrete examples** of abstract ideas you have learned in class.

Study the best possible example of the thing you are trying to do, such as writing an essay. By evaluating an “A” graded essay (or “reverse engineering” it) you will begin to learn how to recreate it. Ask yourself:

- 1 How have they structured the essay?
- 2 What particular phrases have they used to discuss their ideas?
- 3 What specific examples have they used as evidence to support their arguments?

Spaced Practice

This is what we might call “cramming”. The material is quickly forgotten and the method usually causes stress.



By breaking revision up into 30 minute chunks and spacing these out over a period of time, you will consolidate your learning and retain the material much more effectively.

Interleaving

This method encourages you to mix up the topics within a subject rather than concentrating on only one at a time.

M	T	W	T	F
MACBETH	AN INSPECTOR CALLS	CREATIVE WRITING	UNSEEN POETRY	JEKYLL AND HYDE
MACBETH	AN INSPECTOR CALLS	CREATIVE WRITING	UNSEEN POETRY	JEKYLL AND HYDE
MACBETH	AN INSPECTOR CALLS	CREATIVE WRITING	UNSEEN POETRY	JEKYLL AND HYDE

Instead of doing this...

...try this!

M	T	W	T	F
MACBETH	UNSEEN POETRY	AN INSPECTOR CALLS	JEKYLL AND HYDE	CREATIVE WRITING
AN INSPECTOR CALLS	JEKYLL AND HYDE	CREATIVE WRITING	MACBETH	UNSEEN POETRY
CREATIVE WRITING	MACBETH	UNSEEN POETRY	AN INSPECTOR CALLS	JEKYLL AND HYDE

By mixing up or “interleaving” what you revise and when, you will remember that material far more effectively simply because you will have to revisit that material multiple times with more gaps in between.

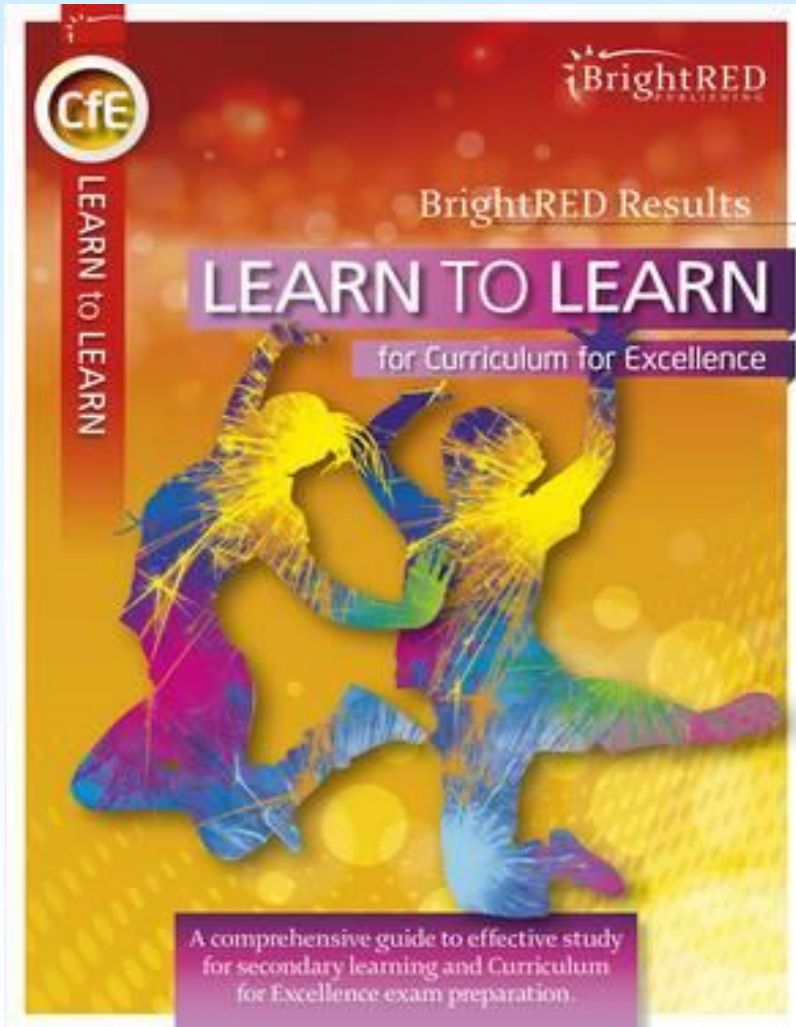
Advice to Parents from Students

Our S6 students are preparing for exams for the third time.

We hope you find their feedback insightful.



Learn to Learn



Each pupil in S4 has been provided with a copy of the textbook “Learn to Learn for Curriculum for Excellence”.

This textbook outlines a number of practical strategies for retrieval and recall, and takes into consideration the many different learning and thinking styles of our young people.

Please take the time to look over this with your child.

Dyslexia Masterclass for Parents



- Dyslexia - what to look for, how it may affect your child
- Homework - practical strategies and resources to use with your child at home
- Building self confidence
- Study skills - tips and tricks
- Beyond school - positive destinations

Tuesday 6 November, 7pm – 9pm

Mearns Castle High School,

Waterfoot Road, Newton Mearns G77 5GU

Everyone very welcome. No need to book a place.

Please email lena@dyslexiascotland.org.uk for more information

National Helpline: 0344 800 84 84

helpline@dyslexiascotland.org.uk

www.dyslexiascotland.org.uk



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Useful Links

- BBC Bitesize
- SQA Website
- Scholar
- Glow
- St. Ninian's High School website

