



# Y11 Information Evening

October 2020

# Presentation Aims



- To outline the importance for pupils to use their **time** effectively, to maximise **effort** in their studies and to seek **support** to help them prepare and excel in their GCSEs
- To share some strategies and tips to support pupils in achieving their best
- To signpost further information to help pupils prepare in advance of their GCSEs



# Time

Respect

Aspire

Believe

Achieve

# Time



Firstly, being in **school all the time and on time** – attendance to lessons is critical

- Missing time in school can lead to knowledge and skills gaps
- Research suggests that missing as few as 17 days can drop you a GCSE grade
- Regardless of where your lesson happens – in school or via Microsoft Teams, attendance is compulsory

# Time



Secondly, using **classroom time effectively**.

- Lessons are for learning and time should be spent listening, asking questions, working hard and practising
- Lesson time is like a rehearsal or sports practice – it's a place to make mistakes, fail, struggle, miss the ball, botch your lines – this is expected
- Exams are the final performance or championship match. It takes hours of practice and preparation – it takes time

# Time



Thirdly, is **planning your revision time**. This means starting now! Here are a few tips to help you revise.

- Reduce your notes: Step 1 “Start Big” (A3); Step 2 “Reduce” (A4); Step 3 “Key concepts” (Revision cards)
- Create memory aids such as mnemonics
- Create concept maps, flow charts or mindmaps
- Self-quiz, a lot!
- Practice under timed conditions

# Time



Next, is the importance of **this time of year with your mock exams** – they can:

- Help you and us to have a better understanding of your current progress
- Help you in knowing your areas of strength and areas to improve
- Allow us to tailor classroom teaching and intervention to your needs
- Support Centred Assessment Grade (CAGs) predictions for next year's GCSEs, if GCSE exams are modified or cancelled

# Time



Lastly, it's about taking **time for yourself**.

- Attending school, working hard in lessons and starting a programme of revision now will pay big dividends as the year goes on – it will give you a confidence boost
- Exams, however, are stressful so it is important that you set time aside for you
- Ditch the phone! Take a walk and relax.





# Effort

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# Effort



**Vince Lombardi**, a legendary American football coach, once said that  
*“The only place success comes before work is in the dictionary”*

- Learning is not easy
- Learning happens when you must think hard
- And it starts with putting effort into your studies

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# Effort



Firstly, its putting **maximum effort in your classwork** – be proactive!

- Ask questions to clarify or extend your understanding of the topic or concept
- Take part in class discussions and debates
- Work respectfully with your teachers and peers
- Make mistakes and learn from them
- Challenge yourself

# Effort



Secondly, it's putting **maximum effort into after school opportunities**

- Attend intervention lessons
- Take the time and effort to map out your revision – starting now
- Ask your teachers for additional support
- Attend booster sessions
- Do extra reading to widen your knowledge of a topic
- Seek out websites/apps like BBC Bitesize and Seneca that share information with you and quizzes you

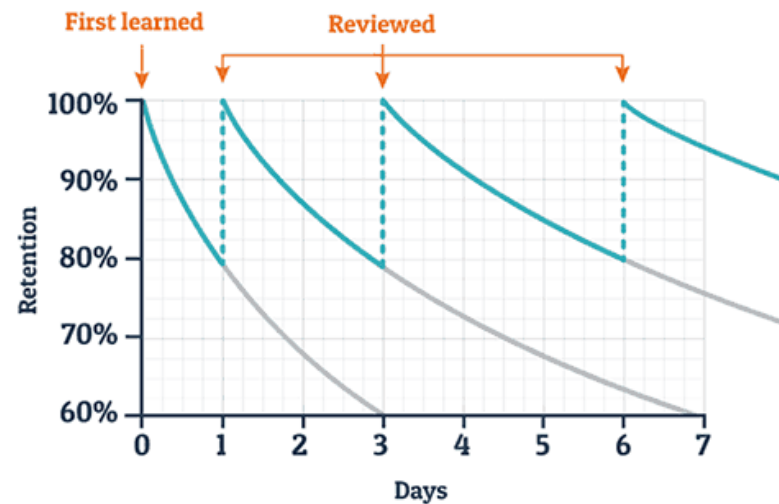
# Effort



Thirdly, it's about putting **maximum effort into revision now!**  
Cramming at the last minute does not help and its incredibly stressful.

- “Forgetting” can help improve long term memory – only if the effort is put in to regularly revise the learning over time.
- Spacing learning over time can also help you remember more

Typical Forgetting Curve for Newly Learned Information



# Effort



Next, it's about putting **maximum effort into your mock exams**. Preparing and approaching mock exams as real GCSEs have many benefits.

- Helps you and us to have a better understanding of your current progress
- Helps you in knowing your areas of strength and areas to improve
- Allows us to tailor classroom teaching and intervention to your needs
- Supports your Centred Assessment Grade (CAGs) predictions for next year's GCSEs, if GCSE exams are modified or cancelled

# Effort



Lastly, it's about putting **maximum effort into looking after yourself.**

- Get a good night's sleep – go to bed, turn off your phone, count sheep and sleep
- Eat healthy and exercise regularly
- Drinks lots of water – avoid energy drinks and other high sugary drinks
- Turn off your phones – you are not going to miss anything



# Support

Respect

Aspire

Believe

Achieve



# Support



Firstly, use the **support in your classroom**. Your teachers are knowledge superheroes and are there to help.

- Ask questions to clarify or extend your understanding of the topic or concepts
- Support yourself by looking for answers in your previous learning, notes or textbooks
- Ask your peers, help each other out

# Support



Secondly, **support each other as peers**. We are a Team. All of us want the best for you!

- Help each other with learning
- Find a study buddy
- Look after each other's wellbeing

Respect

Aspire

Believe

Achieve

# Support



Thirdly, use the **support offered by the school.**

- Interventions
- Booster sessions
- Homework clubs
- Saturday classes
- Corner a teacher on duty

# Support



Next, use the **support from your parents.**

- Parents want the best for you
- They too were pupils, so actually, they do understand
- Use their expertise to help you

# Support



**And parents,** here are some tips that you can use to support them.

- Providing resources such as revision guides, revision cards, equipment and a quiet place to work
- Emotional support – Lots of praise for effort. Exams are a stressful time for them (and you) so understanding when they need a confidence boost is important
- Social time – allowing your child some time and space to think, socialise and daydream
- Allow for failure

# Support



- Support effective revision and ensure that they do not just read over their notes
  - Help them set up a revision map and set times and goals to work toward
  - Different revision techniques: Reduce their notes from A3 to A4 to revision cards, create memory aids, create graphic organisers and mindmaps
  - And quiz them often

# Support



Lastly, is to **support yourself**.

- Be proactive and take charge of your learning
- Believe in yourself
- Don't shy away from challenge
- Asking for help is a strength, not a weakness

# Next steps



**Muhammad Ali** once said that *“It isn’t the mountain ahead to climb that wear you out; it’s the pebble in your shoe”*.

- Take on your GCSEs (the mountain) by using your time effectively, maximising your effort and seeking support.
- Don’t make excuses (the pebble)
- We will be with you all the way to help you exceed your goals!



# Next steps



## What you will find on the **website**?

- A copy of this presentation
- An email link to ask any questions you would like to ask. The leadership team will reply to them the following week via another online video.
- Exam board information
- Revision guides information
- Study tips guide
- And a new careers' webpage to help pupils start to map out their next steps