



Year 10 Parent Information Evening

Tuesday 6th December 2011



Aims of the Evening:

- Aspiring to achieve grade A/A*.
- Making the best of extra curricular opportunities
- Home study – Revising for Exams



Achieving A/A*

A Successful Problem Solver:

- Try to explore a range of learning strategies, adopting and refining those most suitable & understanding how these might be used in a wider context.
- Try to understand that research should be an ongoing process throughout a piece of work and it is prompted by your thinking.
- When you complete a task try to think how it fits into the bigger picture of your study of the subject and/or your learning in general.



Achieving A/A*

A Thorough Researcher:

- When you are conducting an investigation consider information from different contexts and perspectives.
- Show greater willingness to use a range of methods to plan & organise, suitable to the situation.
- Use the work of other people as a model & show insight by adapting and modifying their ideas to use within your work.
- When you complete a task always try to evaluate how you could improve your approach next time.



A/A*

An Effective Communicator:

- Try to sustain a critical line of argument & justify a point of view through an extended piece of writing.
- Aim to present coherent well researched arguments that consider a range of different opinions that have well sustained conclusions.
- In discussion aim to make thought provoking contributions.
- Spend time reflecting on your current actions and how these are shaping your future.



Controlled Assessments

- Controlled assessment is a form of assessment run by a subject teacher in school.
- Designed to measure subject skills that may not necessarily be tested by written examinations.
- Completed during timetabled lessons for each subject.
- The controlled assessment programme for all subjects has been co-ordinated to avoid overloading pupils at particular times.



Pupil Progress Files (PPFs)

A record of the progress that pupils make over time – building confidence and independence

Each pupil will have in their files an overview of units to be studied each term and an assessment calendar to help keep pupils informed of the ‘big picture’ of their learning.

- Subject Specific criteria and the Learning Talents criteria is also in the files and can be used by pupils to support the assessment process and target setting.
- Peer and Self Assessment
- The Target and Pupil Progress sheets
- Marked assessments, including homework, are usually stored at the back of the Pupil Progress File for reviewing and monitoring purpose



Why Extra Curricular?

- Rounded person
- University and job applications
- Health – mental and physical
- Interests beyond the curriculum
- Wider knowledge – research
- Further development of key skills
- Some courses offer credit
- Preparation for sixth form study



Student Views

I'm not going to worry about exams until the summer, I'll only get wound up if I do.

I've got too much to do to worry about exams at the moment. My controlled assessments are okay and I'm just doing that at the moment.

We'll do all the revision in class after the mocks, and the teachers will help us do it. I won't need to do much at home.

None of my friends are doing any revision yet.

I'm not going to revise for the mocks. I'll see how badly I do and then I'll know how much I'll have to do in the summer.



‘The truth about exams’

- Exams are not designed to catch you out.
- They provide an opportunity for you to demonstrate your abilities.
- Examiners like giving marks to people who do what is asked of them.
- Exams can be completed in the allotted time.
- Everyone’s memory is sufficient.

**Year 10 Mock Exams begin 20th
February**

Year 10 GCSE Exams begin in MAY!



Planning your work

Planning your work means you are more likely to revise all your subjects properly. Another bonus is that it reduces stress!

Try to:

- make a list of what you have to do
- write down any coursework deadlines still to be met
- ensure your exam timetable is in a safe place for reference
- plan/design/draw up a revision timetable – **Students have begun to do this during mentoring sessions**





Prepare your workplace

A place to work

Try to have...

- a tidy, undisturbed place to work
- a comfortable chair
- a table with enough room on it for all your materials
- all the books and materials you need (and a box or shelf to store them in)
- pens, pencils, paper, perhaps index cards





Active Revision

One academic argued that we remember:

20% of what we read

30% of what we hear

40% of what we see

50% of what we do

90% of what we read, hear, see, say and do.

By using memory aids to engage our senses we can learn and remember more.



Active learning

You can stimulate your mind and learn effectively by:

- highlighting or writing out important points (distilling)
- drawing diagrams or flow charts
- testing yourself by covering an original drawing, drawing it again and then checking it against the original
- reading out loud (warn your family!)
- making up word games or mnemonics
- getting someone to test you
- working through past exam papers





Key Dates for Year 10

| | |
|---|--|
| 2 nd -9 th December | Mentoring targets emailed home by mentors |
| 7 th December | Advent service at St Edward's Church (7pm) |
| 12 th December (all week) | Maths assessments in lessons |
| 13 th December | Mentoring Session 4 (Students only) |
| 22 nd December – 6 th January | Christmas holidays |
| 9 th – 20 th January | Work Experience (staff to complete placement visits during this time) |
| 24 th January | Parents Information Evening – Revision in the 21 st Century. Lead by MADE |
| 20 th February | Exams begin (all week) |



Contact Details

- fiona.nodwell@st-pauls.org.uk

Head of Year

- arianne.mcintyre@st-pauls.org.uk

Chaplaincy & Pastoral Assistant

- ruth.holmwood@st-pauls.org.uk

Assistant Head for Year 10

Or

- **Your child's mentor**
- **Your child's subject teachers**