



HUNTINGTON SCHOOL

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Headteacher: Mr M Smith

Learn and Succeed

Dear parents/ carers,

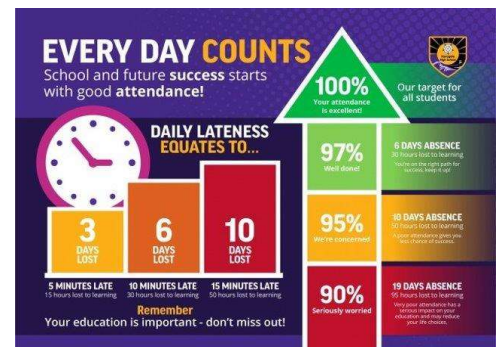
Thank you for attending our Learn and Succeed Evening; it was fantastic to meet so many of you. As promised, I enclose in this communication the key messages from the evening. The evening was centered around our vision; we are highly ambitious for our young people and want to support them to achieve their potential and to develop their confidence, resilience and independence.

This year is truly going to be a team effort, a partnership between students, teachers, parents and school leaders. The Learn and Succeed Evening was the first of a wide range of events, activities, and communications that we have in place for Year 11 and their parents. We thank you for your support with all of these:

17th October	Learn and Succeed Evening
18th-27th October	Target grades and student self-reflection
7th November	Huntington Post 16 Open Evening
14th November	Parents Evening
20th-24th November	Core mock examinations
December	Report 1
January	Revision Launch
19th - 29th February	Mock examinations
March	Mock results and report 2
9th May	GCSE examinations begin

Attendance

To make the most of the opportunities, excellent attendance is critical. Of course, if students are very poorly, it cannot be helped, but generally, they need to be in school every possible day. If you look at this graphic, this is what good attendance looks like. On a test or exam, 90% would be fantastic, but in terms of attendance, 90% would be a significant concern and would equate to a huge amount of lost learning.



Attendance groups

Above 95%	● +0.7
90.1 - 95%	+0.2
80.1 - 90%	-0.3
50.1 - 80%	● -0.5
0 - 50%	● -1.6

We know that attendance does directly impact the outcomes and grades that our young people achieve at the end of their time here. The column on the left shows attendance, and the column on the right shows how much progress students make, on average. What we can see is that those that attend school achieve positive progress and those that have poor attendance make significantly less progress than they are capable of.

Parents, you can support attendance by...

- Every lesson counts so if you must make a medical appointment, do it at the start or end of the day and send your child in for part of the day.
- Likewise, if they are feeling unwell at the start of the day but then perk up, they should come in.
- Attendance at registration is critical, there are lots of important messages that we will deliver through form tutors, so students must be there every day, on time.
- Checking that your child has caught up on missed work. The work that they miss through absence could still come up on an exam; all learning is critical at this stage of Year 11. We do appreciate that catching up missed work is challenging; please encourage your child to access the lunchtime and after school study clubs and P6 sessions. They can also speak to their tutor for support- some tutor time each week is dedicated to independent study.

Target Grades

Those of you that have had older children through the school recently will know that giving target grades is not something that we have done for a number of years. However, we have made the decision following our discussions with the students and from feedback from parents. We realised that many students didn't know their potential, and parents told us that they didn't always know if the grades that we were reporting to them were 'good' for their child.



These grades are calculated externally (and are used by the majority of schools).

They are based on KS2 SATS scores but are also sensitive to other data that we know can impact a child's outcomes such as postcode, reading age and school history. They are not an exact science but generally do a very good job of estimating likely future performance.

Students, we hope that seeing these grades will help you realise your potential and to know what you are working towards this year. They are ambitious- our vision states we hold high ambition at the heart of our culture. We know that with the expert teaching you receive, plus a lot of hard work and revision this year, you have the potential to achieve these grades. For some of you, you will surpass them- and your teachers will encourage you to do so. For some of you, it will be a challenge, but if you work hard and listen to your teachers, we can help you to get there.

On Thursday, students will receive their target grades and parents will receive them electronically, alongside some further information.

Revision

So, how do we start working towards those target grades? Revision is critical. You saw in the timeline earlier that there are three sets of exams to work towards this year- core mocks, full mocks and the GCSE examinations. This is deliberately planned to spread revision across the year. We are a Research School, and what we know from research is that revision must **start early** and has to be **repeated**. That is why we have built in three opportunities for this, in addition to the assessments that will continually happen in all subject areas. The key to success is to start now!

If you would like to learn more about spaced revision, watch these videos:

[Spaced Practice A Video for Students - YouTube](#)

[Retrieval Practice: A video for Students - YouTube](#)

We will be sharing more revision advice with students through GCSE subject lessons and through M3 lessons.

To enable revision to be effectively spaced, and for students to do effective retrieval practice, students need to dedicate time to planning and organisation. We have attached to this communication a blank example of the revision timetable that Mr Bruce talked through in the presentation. His completed version looked like this:

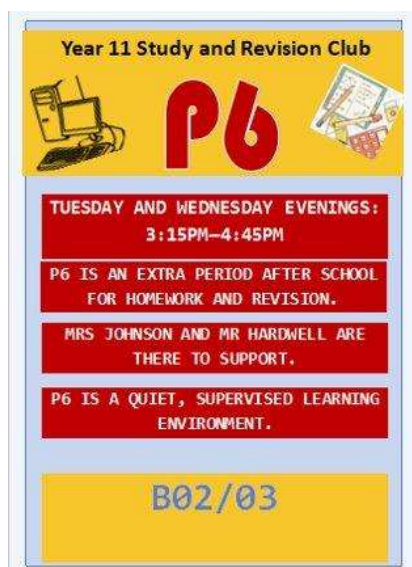
Parents, we hope that the blank version is a useful tool in helping you and your child prepare for the upcoming exams. Don't forget that planned time for rest and recreation is important!

24-4-23	Time slots	Periods of the day	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
	10-12	Morning				French Sp		Away	Away
	1-2.30	Afternoon 1						Away	Away
	3-4.30	Afternoon 2		Nak Astronomy				Away	Away
	7-9	Evening	Sports	Eng Li	French	History		Away	
1-5-23	Time slots	Periods of the day	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
	10-12	Morning						Eng Li	F Maths
	1-2.30	Afternoon 1	Physics						Grandpa
	3-4.30	Afternoon 2	Sports	Nak Astronomy	Eng Li	Biology		Biology	Grandpa
	7-9	Evening	Maths	Physics	F Maths	History	Chemistry	Maths	Grandpa
8-5-23	Time slots	Periods of the day	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
	10-12	Morning	History					Eng Li	Eng Li
	1-2.30	Afternoon 1	Chemistry					Maths	Biology
	3-4.30	Afternoon 2	Sports	Nak Astronomy	Eng Li	Physics	Chemistry	Sports	Sports
	7-9	Evening	Maths	Sports	Eng Li	Physics	Biology	History	History
15-5-23	Time slots	Periods of the day	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
	10-12	Morning		Biology P1	Eng Li P1	History P1	Maths P1	Eng Li	Chemistry
	1-2.30	Afternoon 1		Nak Astronomy	Sports P1			Physics	Physics
	3-4.30	Afternoon 2		Eng Li		Maths	Chemistry	Chemistry	Physics
	7-9	Evening	Biology	Sports	History	Maths	French	French	Chemistry
22-5-23	Time slots	Periods of the day	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
	10-12	Morning	Chemistry P1	French Li & Res	Eng Li P2	Physics P1		Physics	F Maths
	1-2.30	Afternoon 1		Nak Astronomy				Sports	Football
	3-4.30	Afternoon 2		Eng Li				Biology	Football
	7-9	Evening	French	Eng Li	Physics	F Maths	Biology	Maths	Football
29-5-23	Time slots	Periods of the day	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
	10-12	Morning	Maths	French	Sports	Physics	Chemistry		F Maths
	1-2.30	Afternoon 1	Nak Astronomy	Eng Lang	F Maths	Maths	Nak Astronomy	Biology	
	3-4.30	Afternoon 2	Chemistry	Chemistry	Physics	Biology	Sports	History	Eng Lang
	7-9	Evening	History		History	History	Maths	French	French

Homework

As explained above, revision needs to begin now, needs to be ongoing and must be repeated. The homework set by teachers this year is all part of this revision programme; it is vital that students complete all homework on time and to the best of their ability. We thank parents for encouraging and supporting the completion of high-quality homework. If students do not have any homework set (this will be rare and unusual) they should also be getting into the habit of independently completing consolidation and revision work.

P6



We are expecting all students to work hard this year, but we also know that working independently can be challenging for some. We offer a dedicated Year 11 study and revision space every Tuesday and Wednesday evening. This is supervised by our Progress Lead, Mrs Johnson and Mr Hardwell; both staff are experts in supporting young people with study and revision skills and can also offer advice to promote wellbeing and building resilience. Students don't need to come for support and advice, if they simply want a silent study space, they are welcome. We encourage all students to attend- we know that a space in school is more conducive to learning than their room at home which is full of potential distractions.

Exam Boards

It is useful for parents to know which exam boards each subject studies. This will enable you and your child to go online and find past papers and exam information.

Subject	Exam Board	Qualification Code
English Language	AQA	8700
English Literature	AQA	8702
Mathematics	Pearson (Edexcel)	1MA1
Combined Science Trilogy	AQA	8464
Biology	AQA	8461
Chemistry	AQA	8462
Physics	AQA	8463
Geography	AQA	8035
History	OCR	J411
Computer Science	OCR	J277
Languages		
French	AQA	8658
German	AQA	8668
Spanish	AQA	8698
Physical Education	AQA	8582

Design Technology	AQA	8552
Food prep. & Nutrition	AQA	8585
Textiles	WJEC	C653QS
Art	AQA	8202
Drama	OCR	J316
Religious Studies	AQA	8062BA
Music	AQA	8271
Business	Pearson (Edexcel)	1BS0
IMedia	Cambridge National OCR	J834
Media Studies	WJEC	C680QS
Health and Social Care	Cambridge National OCR	J835
Further Mathematics	AQA	8365

English and Maths

We have also attached to this document the information that Heads of English and Maths shared at the Learn and Succeed Evening.

Pastoral Care

This year will be challenging at times, as it is for all young people in their examination years. Feeling anxious about exams or workload is very normal; we thank parents for reinforcing this message. The advice that we give to all students is to come to school, and work hard every lesson, every homework, every day.

Where students do need some additional support, our expert pastoral team is on hand to support them. Please do get in touch if there is anything that you or your child needs support with.

Pastoral Support



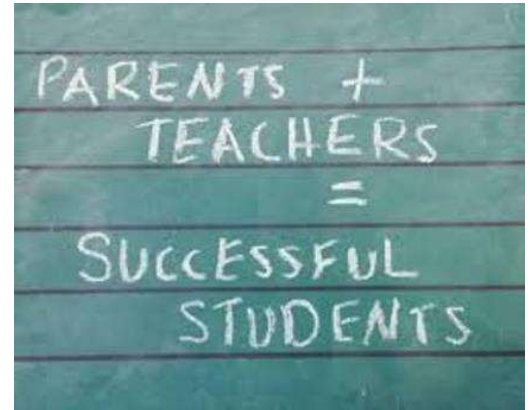
Post 16

Alongside preparing for their examinations, we are also supporting Year 11 with their next steps. This term all Year 11 students will have a 1:1 careers interview with our expert team, led by Mr Daniel.

A reminder that all of the careers and aspirations information you might need can be found on our website. The section most relevant for Year 11 parents and students can be accessed here: [Huntington School - Year 11 Aspirations Information](#) . If you have any questions that cannot be answered via the website, or you or your child requires additional advice and support, please contact Mr Daniel directly: s.daniel@huntington-ed.org.uk

How Parents Can Support Their Child

- Help find a quiet and organised environment for them to work. This might be at home or could be at P6.
- Ensure that students are not listening to music or watching tv when they are revising and working; it is difficult to concentrate and work with noise or distractions.
- Ask about and check their homework.
- Talk to them about school, their subjects and their revision.
- Normalise thorough revision planning and preparation; help them produce a revision timetable and reinforce the messages about good revision.
- Helping them plan social time and downtime into their revision schedule- it is important to exercise, see friends and family and do things they enjoy. Happy and healthy people can revise and work more effectively.
- Support us. When we make decisions about detentions, compulsory support or the curriculum and subjects that students' study, we are doing it with the students' best interests at heart. Like you, we care deeply about them and their success.
- Expect them to be doing schoolwork on an evening; they should never have nothing to do.
- Help them build their resilience. This year will be difficult at times and experiencing some anxiety about exams is completely normal. Taking on board all of the advice above will help students stay on top of their work- this in turn will reduce anxiety. Preparing well and working hard is in everyone's control, what comes up on the exam isn't - encourage them to worry about what they can do and try not to worry about things out of their control. Students need to work hard, and know they tried their best.
- Parents can access more advice to help their child with exam anxiety here: [Exam Time & Exam Stress | Parents Guide To Support | YoungMinds](#)
- Ensure they are sleeping well and eating healthily; this will help them learn more effectively, but also support their physical health and their wellbeing.



Thank you for all your support.

K. Hunter

Katie Hunter
Deputy Headteacher- Curriculum