

# Welcome

ACADEMY@



**WORDEN**  
*A school to be proud of*

## GCSE and revision Information Evening



# GCSE Information Evening

**New style GCSEs  
2017 onwards  
Revision is key!**



**Supporting your child  
with revision**

**SUPPORT  
HELP  
ADVICE**

**SCHOOL**

**PARENT**

**STUDENT**



# New measure of progress

**Progress 8 or P8 measures the progress made by each individual pupil based on their ability on entry to Worden (Their KS2 score)**

**2019 – Best ever and up 0.23 on  
2018**

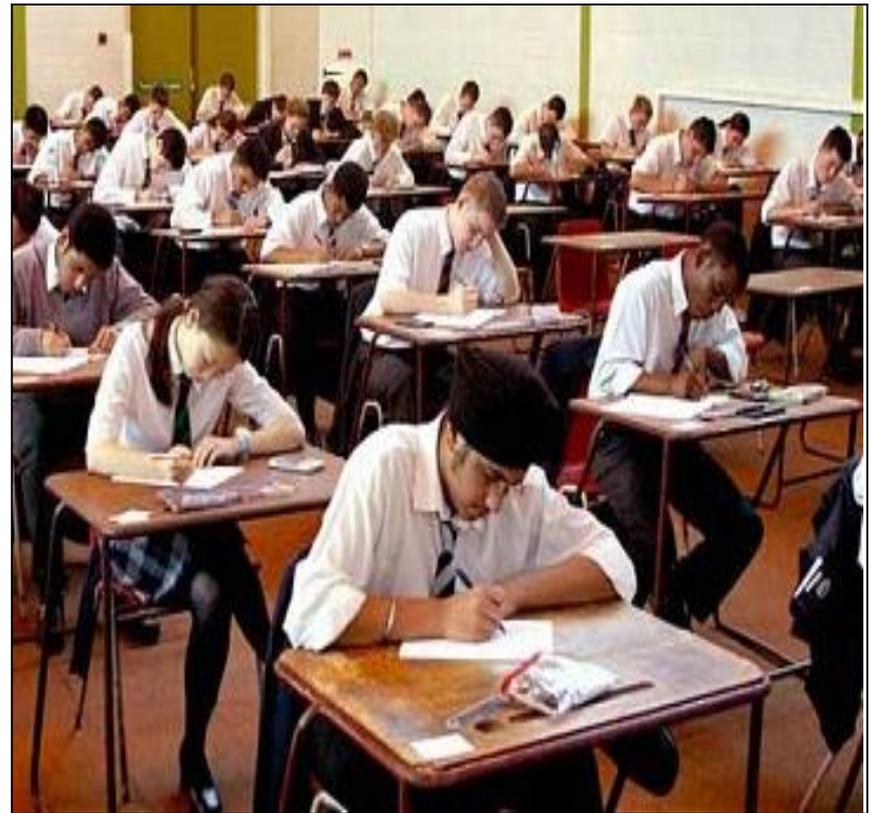
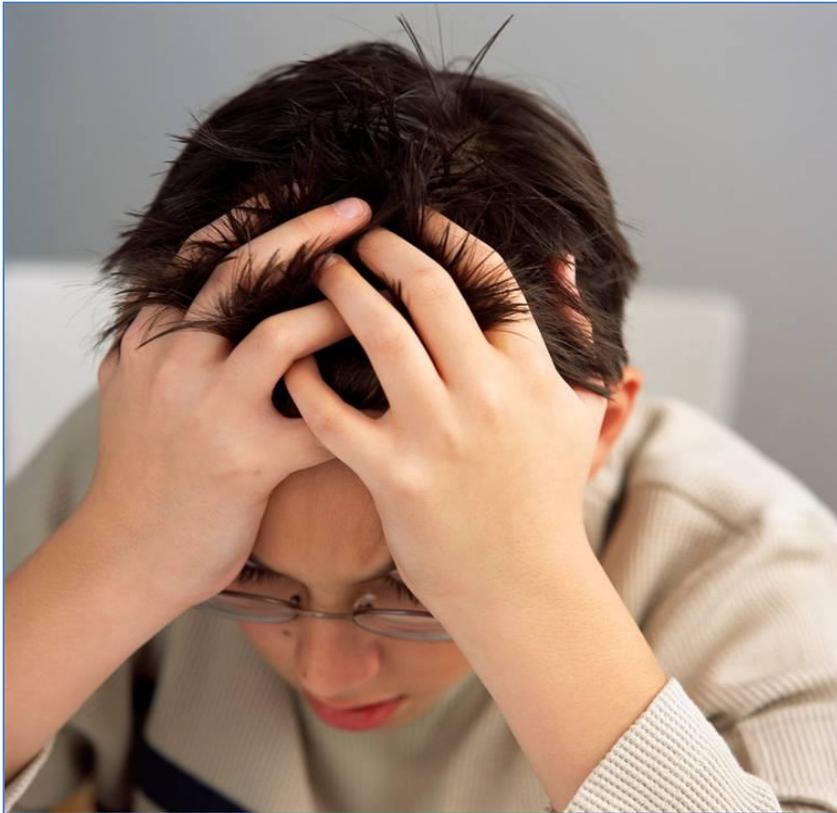
# How did the pupils do it?

- **Responding to our drive to create Independent Learners**
- **Literacy Learn-it Challenge**
- **More regular testing using GCSE type questions**
- **Mock GCSE type exams in the hall**

# How did the pupils do it?

- **TRAFFIC assessment/exams**
- **Exam technique (Eg 6 mark questions, ... give a reason for your answer)**
- **Exam revision techniques**
- **Intervention (AIP, BIP and HIP)**
- **Mentoring if necessary**

# Exams are coming





**... Chance**

**... Opportunity**



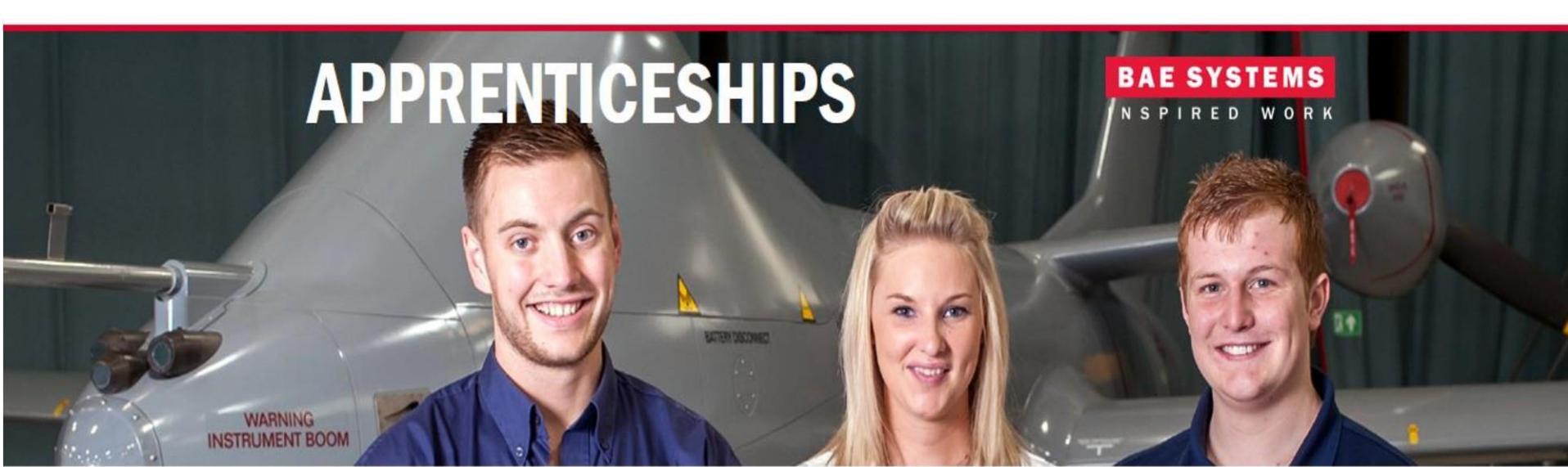


# PR COLLEGE



# APPRENTICESHIPS

**BAE SYSTEMS**  
INSPIRED WORK



## Apprenticeships



# GCSE Information Evening

# Changes to GCSEs

## Why and how are GCSEs changing?

What OFQUAL say:

GCSEs in England have been reformed, to match the best systems in the world and keep pace with universities' and employers' demands.

- GCSE content is more challenging but still suitable for all abilities.
- GCSEs is graded on a new scale of 9 to 1 rather than A\* to G as now, with 9 the highest grade, to distinguish clearly between the reformed and unreformed qualifications.

# The main changes

The main features of the new GCSEs are:

- A new grading scale of 9 to 1 will be used, with 9 being the top grade. This will allow greater differentiation between students and will help distinguish the new GCSEs from previous versions.
- Assessment will be mainly by exam, with other types of assessment used only where they are needed to test essential skills
- There will be new, more demanding content, which has been developed by government and the exam boards
- Courses will be designed for two years of study - they will no longer be divided into different modules and students will take all their exams in one period at the end of their course

# Reformed GCSEs

# New GCSE grading structure

Ofqual  
Grading new GCSEs from 2017

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

**GOOD PASS (DfE)**  
5 and above = top of C and above

**AWARDING**  
4 and above = bottom of C and above

In the first year, the same proportion of students will achieve a grade 7 and above

achieve a grade 4 and above

achieve a grade 1 and above

as currently get A and above

as currently get C and above

as currently get G and above

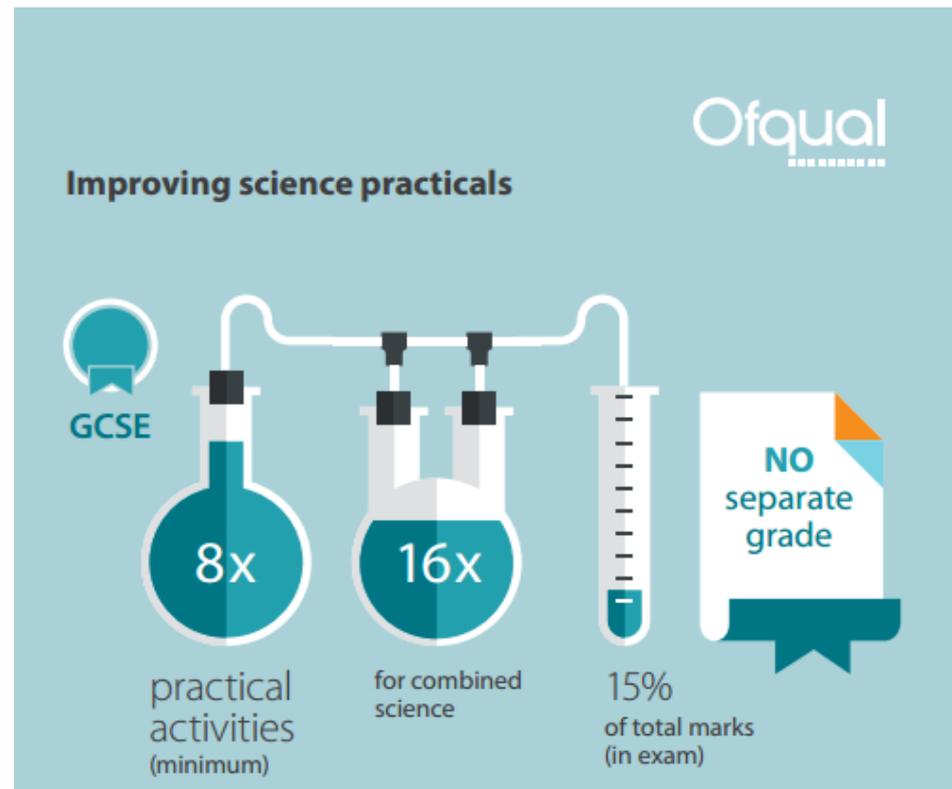
## What does the GCSE 'good pass' mean?

- For the reformed GCSEs, the Government's definition of 'Strong pass' will be set at grade 5.
- Grade 5 will be awarded to around the top third of pupils gaining the equivalent of a grade C and bottom third of a grade B. This means that there will be fewer pupils achieving a 'good pass' than in previous years.
- Grade 4 will continue to be a level 2 achievement (equivalent to a low grade C now). We would not expect employers, colleges and universities to raise the bar to a grade 5 if, for example, a grade 4 would meet their requirements.

# Changes to Practical Science

## Practical Science Assessment

- Students do at least 8 practical activities (16 for combined science) covering specific techniques
- Written questions about practical work will make up at least 15% of the total marks for the qualification
- There will be no separate grade for practical skills
- Students studying combined science will receive one of 17 grades from 9-9 (highest) to 1-1 (lowest)



## Possible science grades

■ 9-9

■ 5-5

■ 9-8

■ 5-4

■ 8-8

■ 4-4

■ 8-7

■ 4-3

■ 7-7

■ 3-3

■ 7-6

■ 3-2

■ 6-6

■ 2-2

■ 6-5

■ 2-1

■ 1-1

Biology – 9-1

Chemistry – 9-1

Physics – 9-1

17 possible  
Science grades  
for Combined  
Science

# Changes to exam papers

## Reformed GCSEs

- **Content** New and more challenging content  
Remembering more content
- **Structure** All exams at the end of the course
- **Assessment** Mainly by examination  
Non-exam assessment only where necessary
- **Tiering** Foundation and higher tier permitted only in maths, science and modern foreign languages
- **Grading** New numbered scale (9 to 1 plus U), 9 is the highest  
New Government 'strong pass' set at grade 5

# GCSE Information Evening

# Key Dates



- **4<sup>th</sup> November 2019- Y11 Mock exams begin (2 weeks duration)**
- 19<sup>th</sup> November 2019 – Y11 careers day
- **17<sup>th</sup> December 2019 – Y11 parents evening**
- 19<sup>th</sup> December 2019 – College applications deadline

- **22<sup>nd</sup> January 2020 – Y11 Runshaw College Interviews**
- **3<sup>rd</sup> February 2020 – Y11 exam week (2 week duration)**
- **31<sup>st</sup> March 2020 – Art controlled exam (10 hrs)**
- **27<sup>th</sup> April 2020 – GCSE Spanish FINAL speaking exam**
- **11<sup>th</sup> May 2020 – GCSE exams start**
- **20<sup>th</sup> August 2020 - GCSE results day**

# Exams are coming

- Approximately 100 school days until the GCSEs start in 2020.
- For Y11 the mock exam week begins November 4<sup>th</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> February.
- From this point onwards, it is extremely important that all students take responsibility for maximising their own learning in the classroom, their homework, revision and exam preparation. It will make a huge difference to their GCSE results.

# Support in school

- The revision hub
- Revision Materials
- Help to create revision timetables
- After-School Sessions
- Mentoring
- Half term sessions



	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
23-Sep	SCIENCE	MATHS	OPTION C	OPTION A	ENGLISH
30-Sep	SCIENCE	MATHS	OPTION B	OPTION C	ENGLISH
07-Oct	SCIENCE	MATHS	OPTION A	OPTION B	ENGLISH
14-Oct	SCIENCE	MATHS	OPTION C	OPTION A	ENGLISH
HALF TERM					
28-Oct	SCIENCE	MATHS	OPTION A	OPTION B	ENGLISH
04-Nov	SCIENCE	MATHS	OPTION C	OPTION A	ENGLISH
11-Nov	SCIENCE	MATHS	OPTION B	OPTION C	ENGLISH
18-Nov	SCIENCE	MATHS	OPTION A	OPTION B	ENGLISH
25-Nov	SCIENCE	MATHS	OPTION C	OPTION A	ENGLISH
02-Dec	SCIENCE	MATHS	OPTION B	OPTION C	ENGLISH
09-Dec	SCIENCE	MATHS	OPTION A	OPTION B	ENGLISH
16-Dec	SCIENCE	MATHS	OPTION C	OPTION B	ENGLISH

# Most common frustrations for parents

“I didn’t even do GCSEs – how can I help?”

“He always leaves everything to the last minute – one moment he has all the time in the world, the next it’s all stress and stropping because it has to be in tomorrow.”

“She’s always panicked in exams – when I try to help her it always ends in a slanging match – it always seems to end in me making her more stressed.”

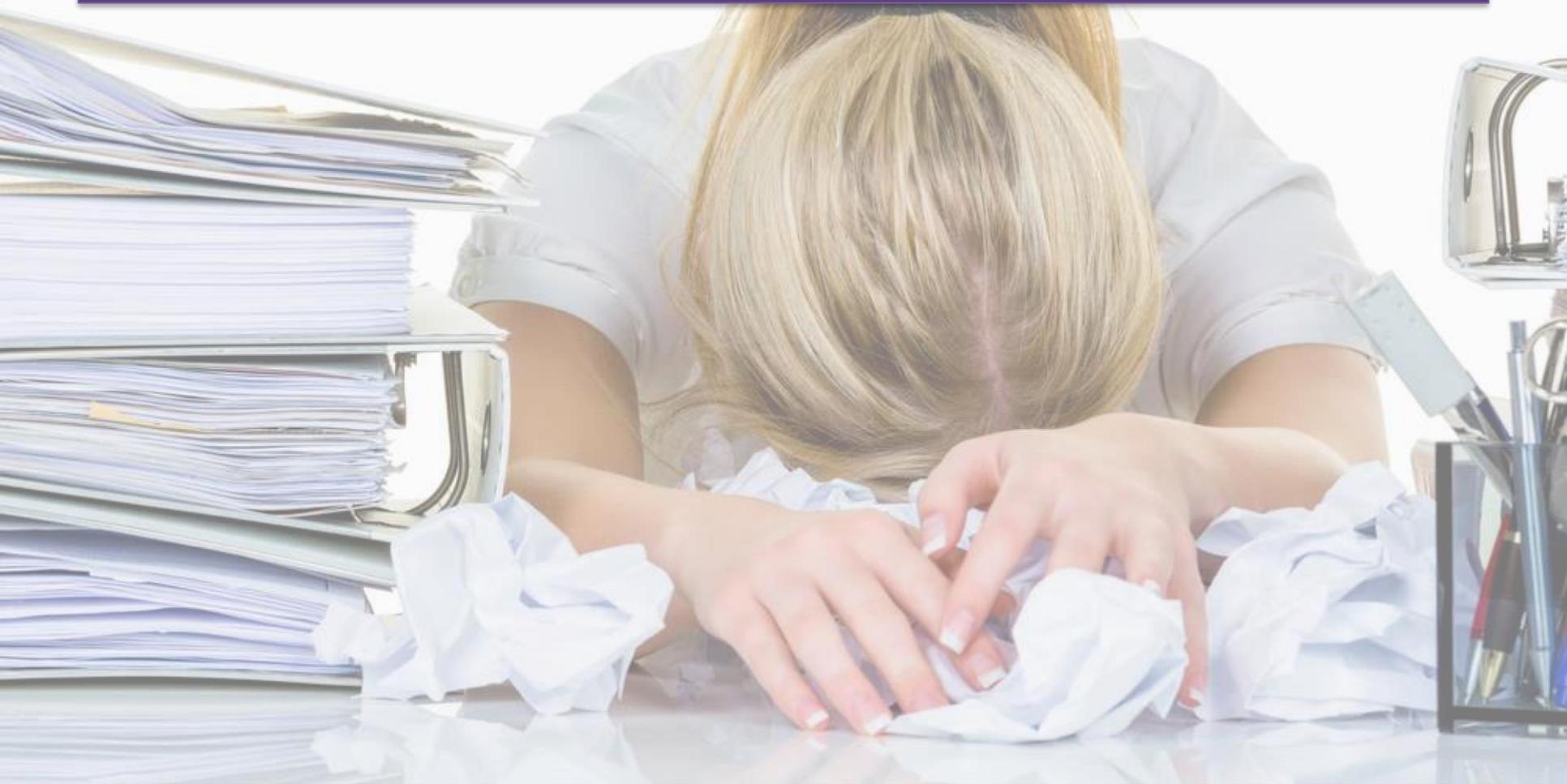
“There’s a million websites to help but how do you know which are any good?”

“It’s completely different from when I was at school.”

# For your child to be successful they should...

- Start early – preparation is essential.
- Make sure that they know what each exam requires. Learn subject content and practise exam questions.
- Ensure that you have all the revision materials you need and keep them organised.
- Create a revision plan/timetable and try to stick to it.
- Revise in short bursts, on a regular basis.
- Make sure they have a clear a space to revise.

# Exams are stressful



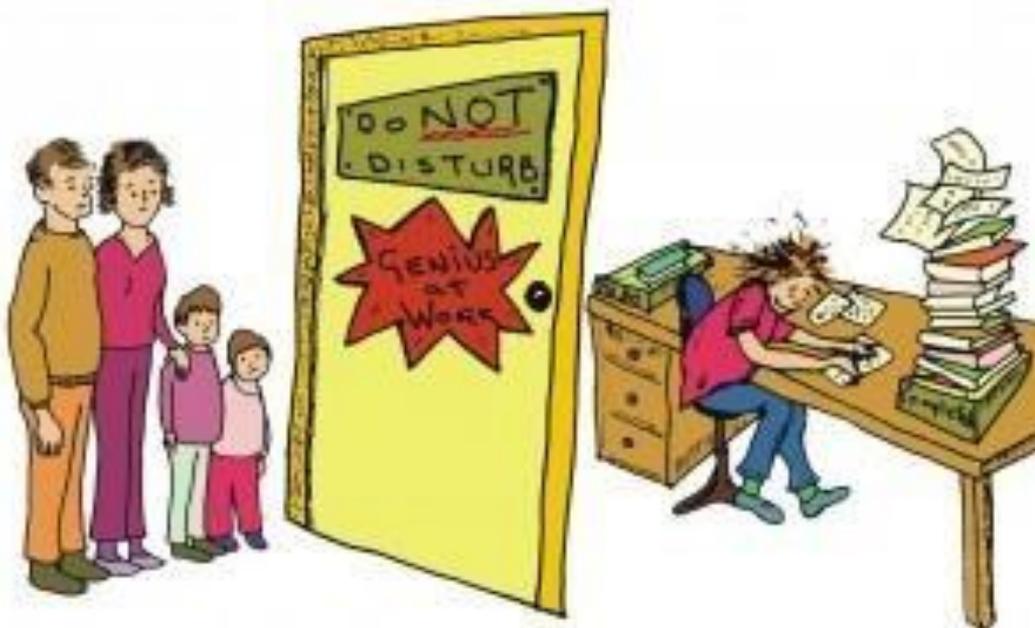
# Parental Support

*Parental support is **eight times** more important in determining a child's academic success than social class, according to a new study. The Campaign for Learning found that parental involvement in a child's education can mean the difference between an A and an 'also-ran' at GCSE.*

*(Times Educational Supplement)*

# How can you support them?

- Year 11 is stressful, being a bit stressed is good!!
- But...
- Recognise that this is a stressful time for your child and don't be surprised if their behaviour changes
- Reduce the external demands on your child
- Provide some treats and be supportive
- Be prepared to intervene if necessary



Create a positive,  
quiet and  
purposeful space  
for them to revise  
in



Providing a 'revision toolkit' creates a positive mind-set



Week beginning: 23rd March 2015

REVISION TIMETABLE

TIME	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
EARLY MORNING	headers and sub-headers	Atmosphere chemistry	genetics	cell structure		
LATE MORNING	covalent bonds	Plant reproduction	coastal erosion	cell structure		
EARLY AFTERNOON	Metosis + mitosis	Flood prevention	Waste and Recycle essays	Paints		
LATE AFTERNOON	oils/fats practice essays	Prote and Protease enzymes	Organic chemistry	Monday poems / verses		
EVENING	headers / sub-headers	Revisit chem	Revisit genetics	Revisit cell structure		

Biology     Geography      
 Chemistry     English Lit   

Ensure a healthy diet. Buy in healthy snacks for revision sessions. Encourage a less 'sugar-centric' diet.

Help to create a revision timetable. Ensure a balance of work, rest and fun. Discuss which topics are being studied (and ask them to teach you what they've learned).



Mark exam dates and times onto a calendar on your fridge – or your wardrobe/wall. A simple but effective strategy to help with organisation of study!



# Create a calming environment

- The best way to support your child during the stress of revision and exams is to make home life as calm and pleasant as possible.

# Encourage revision that works

## Revise

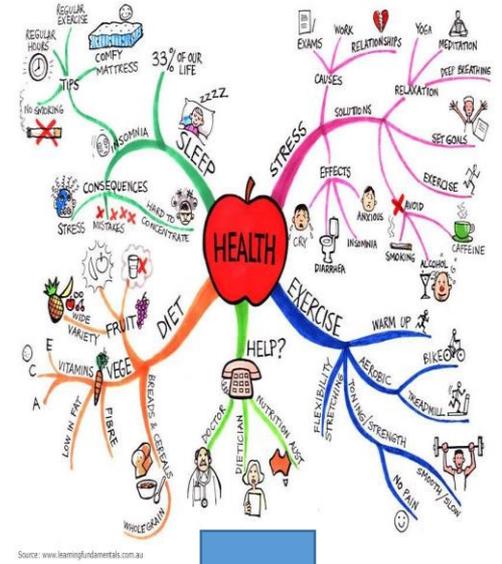
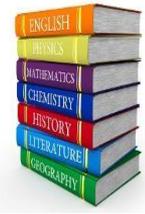
Study the topic using a range of materials

## Reduce

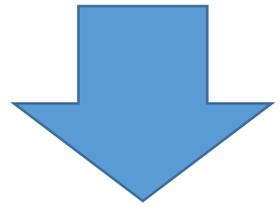
Create brief notes, flash cards and mind maps using key points

## Transform

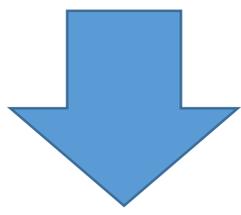
Create a mind map, list or answer questions from memory



Quizlet



Revise

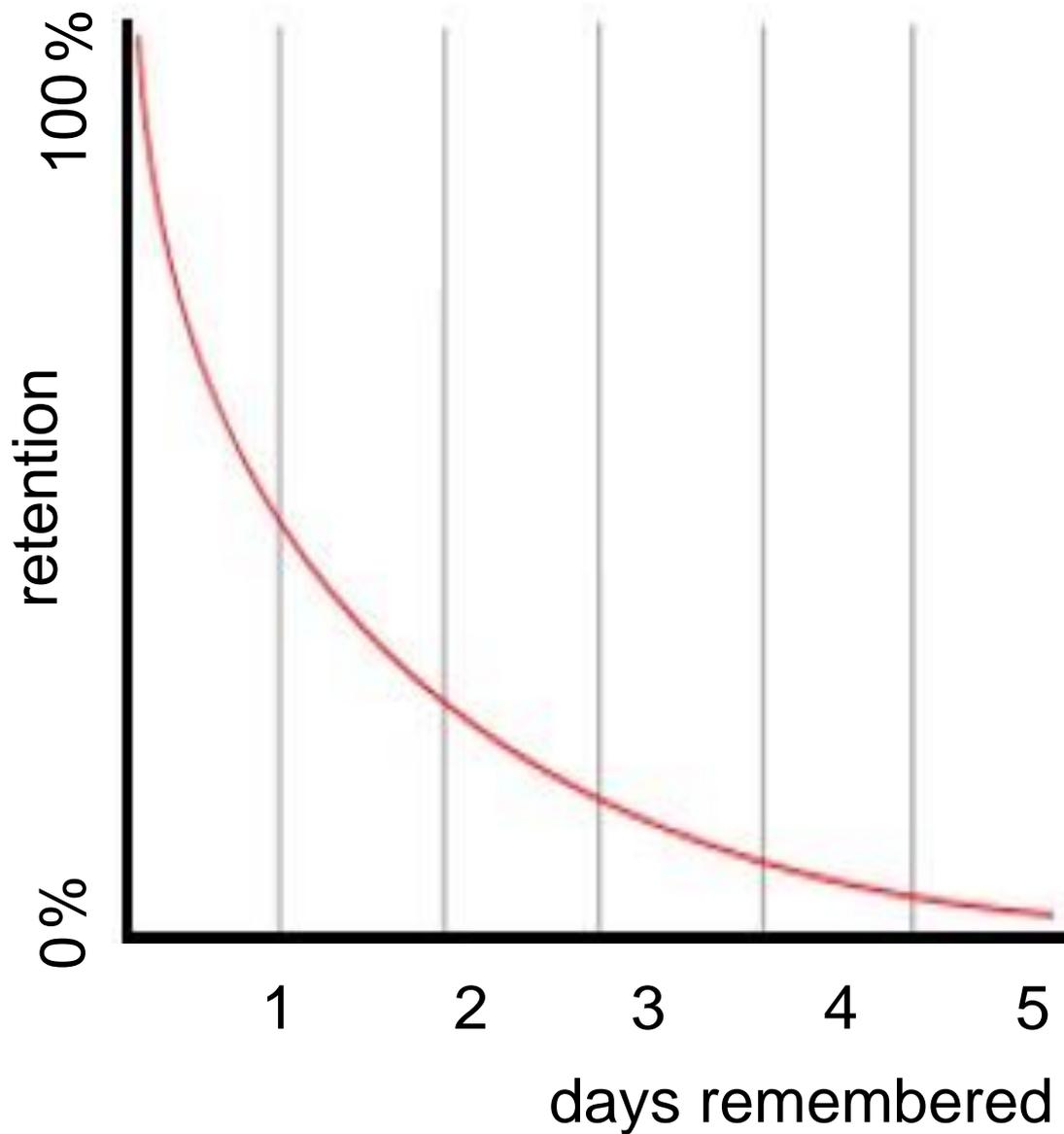


Reduce



Transform

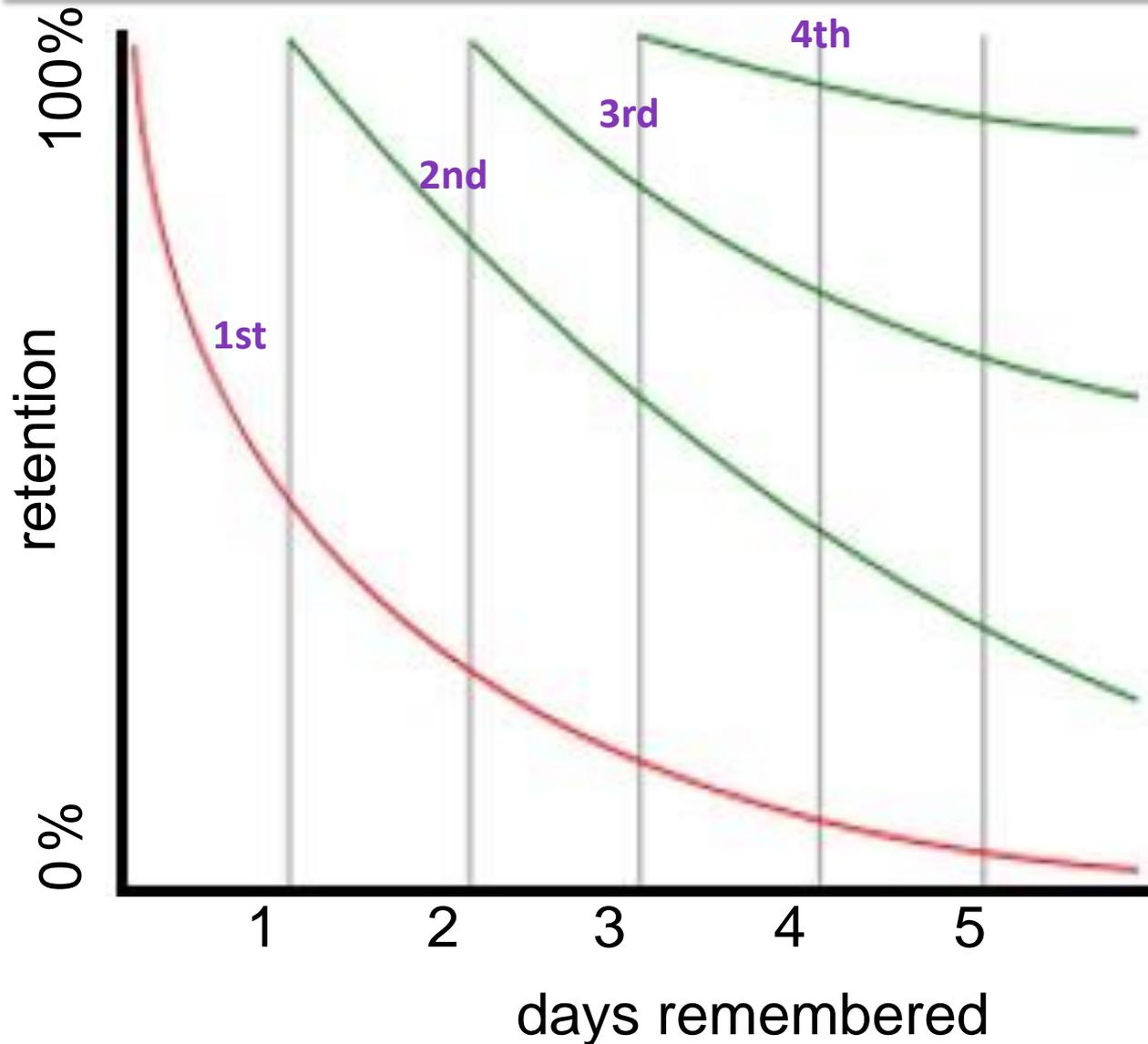
# Encourage your child to work smart, not just hard!



Revision places information in short term memory.

Regular, repeated, shorter revision sessions make information far more likely to be remembered in the longer term.

# The importance of revisiting and reviewing learning

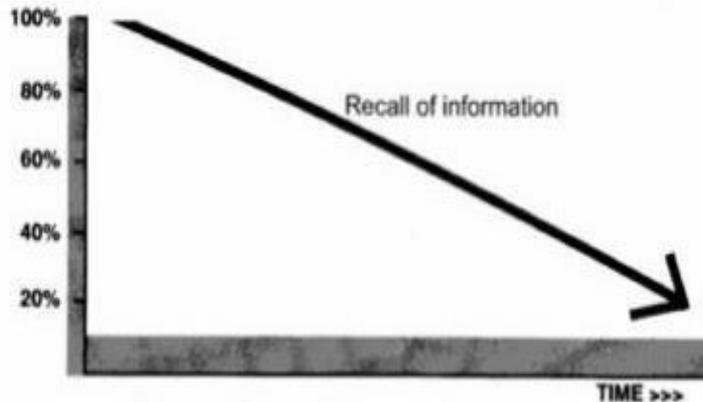


Encourage your child to recap topics studied the previous day by doing short exercises (e.g. studying flash cards or testing from memory (retrieval).

Plan this into their revision schedule.

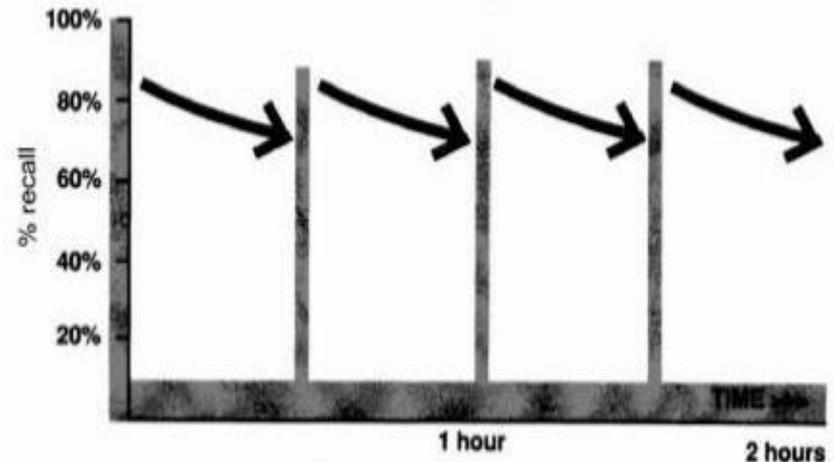
# Encourage regular short breaks

The effects of not taking a break



*Your capacity to recall things memorised decreases as you progress through a memorising session.*

The effects of taking a break



## The 'Timer Technique' helps to break up study

1. Choose a task

3. Work on task until timer rings

5. Take a short break. Move around a bit. Go back to 1.

2. Set 25 min timer

4. Put a mark on a piece of paper

6. When you have completed four cycles, take a longer break and let your brain rest.



# Revision notes should be based on a range of good quality resources



showbie



GetRevising  
learn together



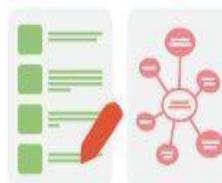
Find



Organise



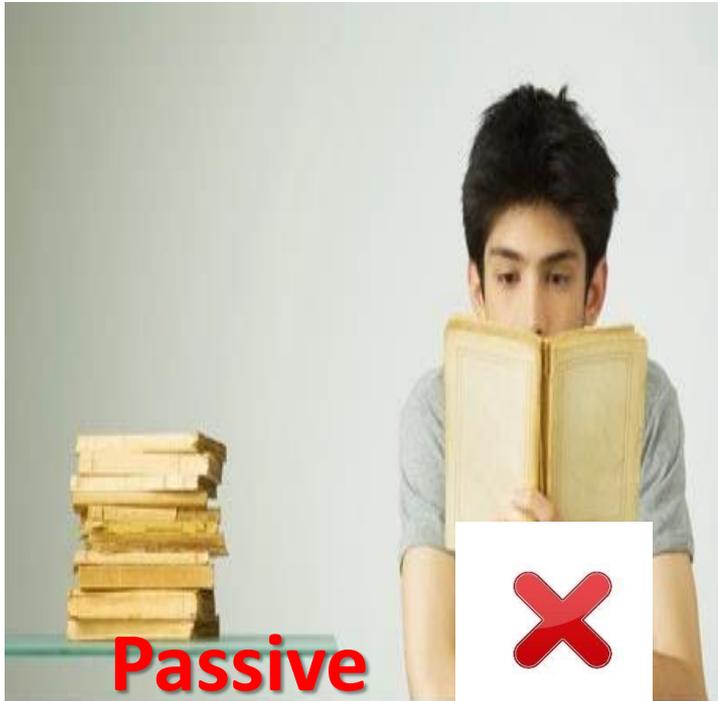
Create



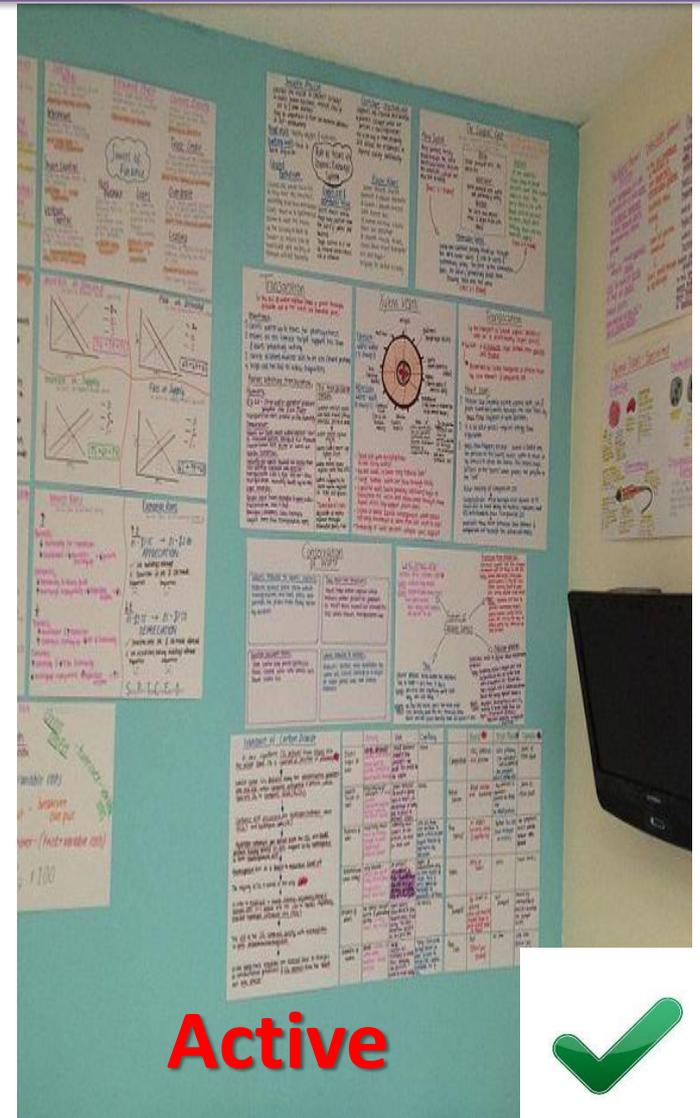
goconqr

Create. Discover. Share. Learn.

# And should be active!



**Passive**



**Active**

# Recommended revision resources

The logo for Quizlet, featuring the word "Quizlet" in a white, sans-serif font on a blue rectangular background.

- Create and share interactive flash cards
- Create quizzes and tests in a few clicks
- Highly engaging and motivational
- Free app and website



- Subject knowledge wrapped up in 3-5 minute chunks of audio-visual learning. Exam board specific.
- Every pupil in the school has access.
- Can be accessed in school at lunchtime via the Revision Hub.
- At home through a PC, phone or tablet (iOS or Android).



# Revision

## Ineffective Revision:

- Ad hoc and unstructured
- Ignores key weaknesses
- Passive and repetitive
- Does not involve 'transformation'
- Long periods without a break (or not enough time to engage fully)
- Does not involve any 'retrieval' or 'recall' of knowledge

## Effective revision:

- Carefully planned and structured
- Focused on areas of weakness
- Starts well in advance of exams
- Active and varied
- Reduces info to key points
- Frequent but 'chunked'
- Tests what you know from memory, once notes are made.

# You may not be an expert, but you can...

- Work out a revision timetable for each subject.
- Break revision time into small chunks – 30 minute long sessions with short breaks at the end.
- Make sure your child has all the essential books and materials.
- Buy new stationery, highlighters and pens to make revision more interesting.
- Go through school notes with your child, asking them questions about them or listen while they revise a topic.
- Time your child's attempts at practice papers.

# If you are an expert

- That's great...but it is your child that needs to know it!

# During the exam season: What could go wrong?

- Not knowing schedule
- Lack of sleep
- Lack of equipment
- Arriving late
- Loss of confidence
- Stress and anxiety

# Anxiety and stress

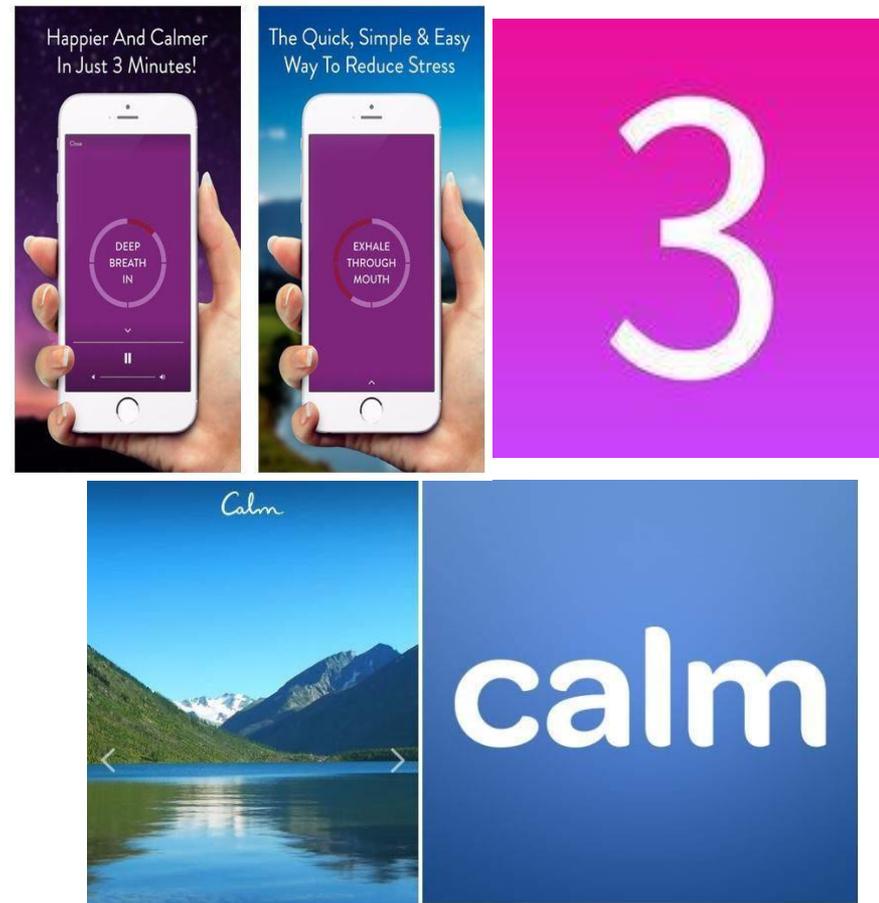
- A real concern – more prevalent in girls but affects boys too

- Balance hard work with relaxation; reassure with perspective

- ‘Mindfulness’ can help

- Exercise is important

There are a number of excellent mindfulness apps that are worth investigating:



# Keeping it positive

- Focus on positive reinforcement rather than reminders of negative consequences of failure
- Share the burden
- Revision is “short term pain for long term gain”
- Ensure appropriate rest and relaxation
- Help with organisation of revision and preparation
- Work with the school
- ...do what you can, but they're their exams!

# Rewards

- Encourage your child to do well for his or her own sake rather than for money or to please you.
- Explain that exams aren't an end in themselves but a gateway to the next stage of life
- Good results are themselves the best reward for hard work
- Make sure your child knows you're interested in their work and that you'll be proud if they do well.
- Although bribery isn't advisable, it's fine to provide small treats. Try and make these timely and realistic, not something too far in the future.
- Consider rewarding the quality of the revision rather than the result.

# You can help make the difference!

- YOUR support, ENCOURAGEMENT and INTEREST can make a SPECTACULAR DIFFERENCE
- YOU CARE THE MOST
- YOU LOVE THEM and will be PROUD of them whatever happens

# Thank you

- All the information from tonight will be posted on the website.
- Pupils have class notes and in-house revision materials. However, additional revision guides can be purchased at a significantly reduced cost.
- Any questions?