

Preparing for A Levels and Beyond...



Supporting students in the run up to summer 'examinations'
and building life skills.

Where are we now?

“Young people have shown incredible resilience over the last year, continuing with their learning ... while the country battles with this pandemic. Those efforts deserve to be fairly rewarded.

That’s why we are providing the fairest possible system for those students, asking those who know them best – their teachers – to determine their grades, with our sole aim to make sure all young people can progress to the next stage of their education or career.”

Gavin Williamson



Year 11 and 13 summer 2021 grades

Teacher assessed grades will be used again for Year 11 and 13 grades this summer

- We have been anticipating this and have had plans in place for this throughout this year, with a robust tracking system and assessment.
- We have completed at least 2 sets of mocks already
- We will be running more 'progress checks' after Easter
 - Year 11 – 19th - 30th April
 - Year 13 4th - 14th May
- On returning to college, there will be ongoing work this term on revision, preparation and technique in these progress checks, as well as completing coursework etc.
- Subject teachers will speak to students and direct them to revision materials etc. or even better ... give it to them!

How should students be assessed?

“... Using a range of evidence to draw together a teacher assessed grade”

- **Mock exams, coursework, or other work completed as part of a student’s course, such as essays or in-class tests.** This is a GREAT range of work.
- *Exam boards will provide optional assessment materials* to schools by Easter. Teachers will be able to pick from a range of subject-specific questions. The materials do not have to be used in timed conditions, unlike exams.
- Schools will have until June 18 to submit their grades to the exam boards. *The checking process, will reduce this by a couple of weeks.*
- Exam boards will provide more detail before Easter about what they need schools to submit.



Understand the challenge

- Reformed A Levels and Level 3 courses are very demanding
 - most courses 100% exam
 - more content to revise
 - longer exams
 - undergraduate-level content
- Students will have to be disciplined and resilient. They will only do well if they work hard and revise effectively.
- Reinforce why they have to revise, explain the rewards of doing well. Encourage them to see the benefits of a positive bigger picture.
- Lockdown and online learning will have affected students in different ways.



The Iceberg Illusion

Success is an iceberg

SUCCESS!

WHAT PEOPLE SEE

Persistence



Failure



Sacrifice



Disappointment



WHAT PEOPLE DON'T SEE

Dedication



Hard work



Good habits



@sylviaaduckworth



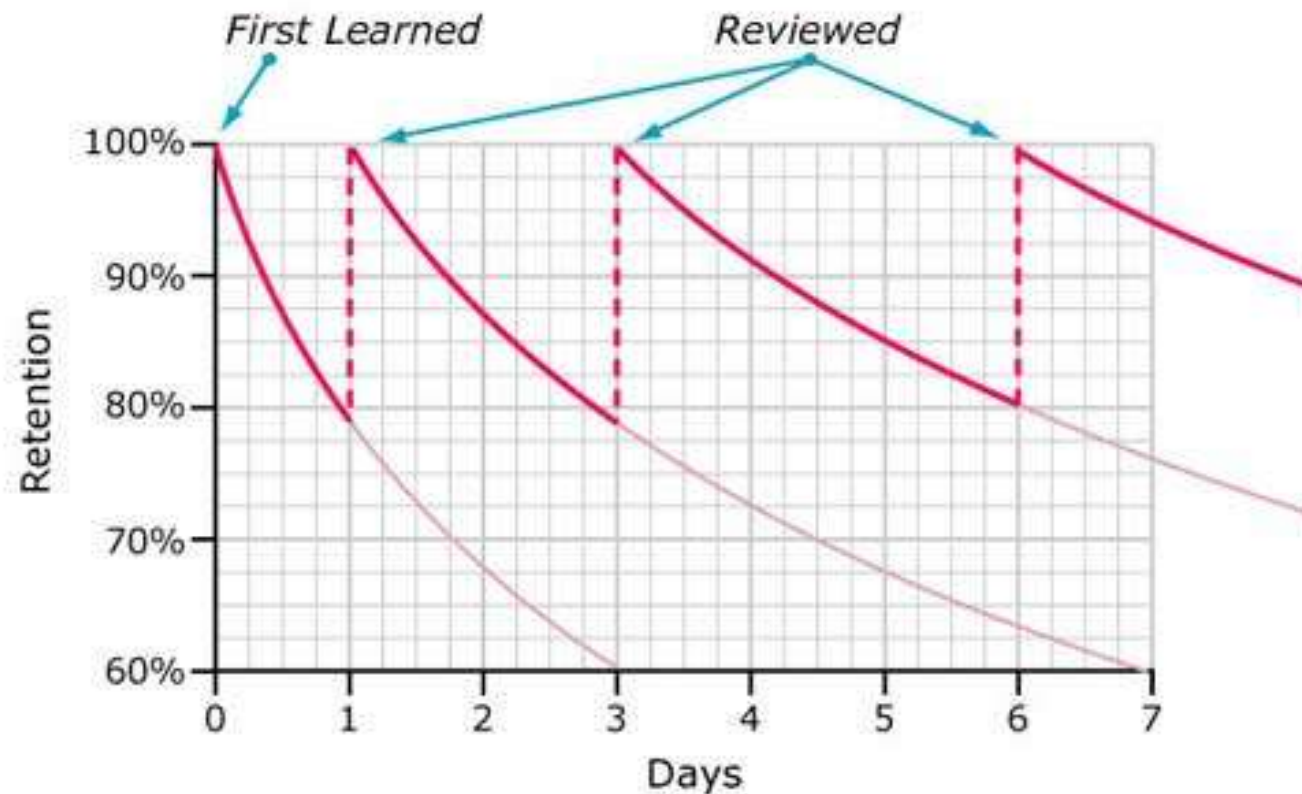
Help them to get organised

- Have they got the right equipment and environment they need to revise?
- Have they got access to the right revision guides?
- Do they understand the exam timetable?
 - When/where exams are
 - What is examined on different papers
 - Timings and weightings for each paper
 - Which assessment objectives are relevant for each paper



The 'Forgetting Curve' (Ebbinghaus)

Typical Forgetting Curve for Newly Learned Information





Hints for an Ideal Revision Area

providing some of these will go a long way to helping your child...





A Level Revision Essentials

- Syllabus
- Past papers
- Sample answers
- Mark schemes
- Class notes
- Text books
- Previous mock exams/assessments/exercise books with targets
- Stationery
- Other students on the course

A Level/Level 3 Online Revision Tools

- getrevising.co.uk
- Seneca
- Exam board websites
- Examiner's reports
- thestudentroom.co.uk
- mytomatoes.com
- headspace.com

	Mon 20th	Tue 21st	Wed 22nd	Thu 23rd	Fri 24th	Sat 25th	Sun 26th
09:00 - 10:00	GCSE Law	AS Mathematics	AS Psychology	AS Biology	AS Psychology	Lie in	Lie in
10:00 - 11:00	AS Mathematics			add activity	add activity	Badminton	AS Psychology
11:00 - 12:00	AS English Literature (POA)	Free time	AS Biology	GCSE Law	AS English Literature		add activity
12:00 - 13:00	AS Mathematics (Edexcel)	add activity	add activity	AS English Literature (ADA)	add activity	AS Biology	AS Mathematics (Edexcel)
13:00 - 14:00	Extra Maths revision	AS English Literature	add activity	AS Biology	Lunch with Izzy	AS Biology	add activity
14:00 - 15:00	AS Biology	Free time	GCSE Law	AS Psychology	add activity	AS Psychology	add activity
15:00 - 16:00	Individual help	Free time	AS Psychology	AS Mathematics	AS Biology	AS Psychology	
16:00 - 17:00			AS Psychology	add activity	add activity	AS Mathematics (Edexcel)	Sarah's birthday
17:00 - 18:00	add activity	add activity	add activity	add activity	add activity	GCSE Law	
18:00 - 19:00	Play rehearsal		GCSE Law	Play rehearsal			
	Dinner	Dinner	Dinner	Dinner	Dinner	Dinner	Dinner



25 min

mytomatoes.com





An example of a long term revision timetable

Week commencing	Subjects and topics	Day to revise them	Time to revise them
	e.g. English – Short Stories	Monday	8-9pm



A week in my life

Eat...sleep...socialise...relax...work...play

	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat	Sun
Day time (`till 5)							
5-8							
8-11							



Barriers to Success

- Procrastination
- Mobile phones and social media
- Not working smart
- Poor sleep/diet/exercise routines
- Not leaving time to relax
- Not applying knowledge
- Unconditional university offers
- Part-time work
- Last minute cramming
- Not varying revision tasks





Additional Support

- <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/how-qualifications-will-be-awarded-in-2021>
- Additional study lessons on timetable
- 1:1 meetings with tutors for academic mentoring
- Revision sessions in departments/twilight sessions

Please do email or call me if you have any questions:

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