

Year 11 Steps for Success...



**Supporting Your Child
Through Their Final Year
and onto Post-16**

Mrs Crawford: Headteacher

Respect

Resilience

Excellence

Care & Consideration

Honesty

Welcome to Today's Presentation:

1. **Academic Expectations:** Understanding the core subjects, elective options, and key milestones.
 2. **Effective Study Habits:** Tips and techniques to enhance learning and retention.
 3. **Mental Wellbeing:** Importance of maintaining mental health during this demanding year.
 4. **Parental Support:** How you can play an active role in your child's academic success.
 5. **Preparing for Examinations:** Strategies for effective revision and dealing with exam stress.
 6. **Post-16 Options:** Exploring further education, apprenticeships, and career pathways.
- ▶ Presentation from Doncaster UTC, part of the Brighter Futures Learning Partnership Trust

The Vision...

World class education coupled with outstanding pastoral care so that barriers to future success and happiness are removed and doors to exciting opportunities are opened.



Academic expectations and support

Core Academic Focus:

- ▶ > Mastery in Maths, English, and Science
- ▶ > Explore elective subjects
- ▶ > Importance of consistent performance against individual target grades

Key Milestones and Dates:

- ▶ > High Stakes 1 mock examinations w/b 14th/21st October 2024
- ▶ > High Stakes 2 mock examinations begin 10th/24th February 2025
- ▶ > **Subject Parents Evenings:** Following each assessment window, you will receive a report updating you of your child's progress. Following receipt of this, there will be an opportunity for to meet with your child's subject teachers to discuss their performance and identify what needs to be done to support your child to succeed.
- ▶ Thursday 28 November 2024 - 4pm - 7pm
- ▶ Thursday 17 April 2025 - 4pm - 7pm
- ▶ > Final exams begin 5th May and end 20th June 2025 (provisional dates)

Effective study habits

- ▶ > Prioritise Key Assignments
- ▶ > Focus on upcoming exams and projects first.
- ▶ > **Create a Study Schedule**
- ▶ > Allocate specific times for each subject.
- ▶ > **Designate a Study Space**
- ▶ > Ensure the area is quiet and free from distractions.
- ▶ > **Incorporate Regular Breaks**
- ▶ > Take short breaks to improve focus and retention.

How can you as parents help maintain this schedule at home?

Mental health and wellbeing

▶ **Why Mental Health Matters**

- Mental health significantly impacts learning and behaviour. Stress and anxiety can reduce cognitive functions, affecting a student's ability to perform academically.

▶ **Supporting Your Child's Mental Wellness**

- Encourage open discussions about feelings and challenges.
- Promote balance: ensure time for study, rest, and activities they enjoy.
- Recognise signs of stress: changes in behaviour, sleep patterns, or appetite.

▶ **Resources Available**

- School pastoral support, careers advisor and counselling services.
- External mental health professionals and helplines.

Parental Support

▶ **Open Communication**

Encourage regular discussions about school life, acknowledging achievements and addressing any concerns. This fosters an environment where students feel supported both academically and emotionally.

▶ **Supportive Home Environment**

Create a study-friendly area at home to help your child focus and be productive. Ensure this space is quiet, organised, and free from distractions.

▶ **Active Involvement**

Participate in school events and meetings to stay informed about your child's education and to build a relationship with educators. Your engagement can greatly influence your child's attitude towards school.

▶ **Encouragement and Motivation**

Recognise the effort your child is putting into their studies, not just their achievements. Celebrate small victories to keep them motivated.

Preparing for examinations!

- ▶ Attend interventions, extra revision sessions and workshops - mostly period 6
- ▶ Create a realistic revision timetable
- ▶ Use a variety of revision methods
- ▶ Practise with past exam papers and mark schemes
- ▶ Review topics regularly
- ▶ Familiarise yourself with question styles
- ▶ Develop a healthy pre-exam routine
- ▶ Learn relaxation and breathing techniques
- ▶ Maintain a balanced diet and sleep schedule
- ▶ Encourage open discussions about anxieties
- ▶ Availability of counselling and guidance
- ▶ Access to study materials and spaces
- ▶ Contact subject teachers for further support



Home Learning

Home learning is set by teachers every 2-5 lessons and all home learning tasks are set through Class Charts.

Examples of the kinds of home learning happening around school include:

- ▶ **GCSE Pod** - Prompt videos and quizzes ensuring students are continuously revisiting content covered in class.
- ▶ **Seneca** - A complete learning platform where students revisit key areas then test their understanding with a quiz.
- ▶ **Exampro** - With exampro students have access to a vast array of past exam questions and mark schemes that are marked for them automatically.
- ▶ **Sparx** - An all-in-one home learning platform for Maths where students practise the maths covered in class.
- ▶ **Microsoft forms quizzes** - These are designed to get students to continuously revisit content.
- ▶ **Extended writing tasks** - These are used to help students consolidate what they have covered in class and helps to improve their writing skill level.
- ▶ **Paper-based tasks** - In some subjects, paper-based tasks are given to students to encourage them to continuously revisit content and enhance understanding.

Conclusion and next steps...

- ▶ **Comprehensive Preparation:** We've covered essential strategies for Year 11 success, including study habits, exam preparation, and stress management.
- ▶ **Exploring Future Pathways:** Understanding the various post-Year 11 options will help in making informed decisions about further education or apprenticeships.
- ▶ **Any Questions?** Feel free to ask about any details from today's presentation or specific concerns about your child's progress and plans. Our subject representatives are also available to speak with tonight for specific subject support.
- ▶ **Seeking Further Help:** Our doors are always open. Please contact our school carers advisor, subject teachers or Head of Year for personalised guidance and support.
- ▶ **Reflect on Today's Insights:** Consider how the strategies discussed can be tailored to support your child's unique journey.
- ▶ **Stay Engaged and Proactive:** Regularly communicate with your child and their teachers to monitor progress and adjust plans as needed.
- ▶ **Thank You for Participating:** Your involvement is crucial to your child's success. Together, we can make Year 11 a triumphant step toward a bright future. Let's keep the conversation going for the success of our wonderful students!

Post-16 pathways

- ▶ Now is the time to consider the various pathways available. This stage marks a significant transition from school to post-16, offering multiple opportunities that can shape future careers and education.
 - ▶ ▶ Explore A-levels, BTECs, and T-Levels
 - ▶ ▶ Consider subjects that align with career interests
 - ▶ ▶ Earn while learning with hands-on training
 - ▶ ▶ Available in industries like engineering, IT, and healthcare
 - ▶ ▶ Entry-level jobs for direct work experience
 - ▶ ▶ Volunteering or part-time roles to develop skills

Lots to explore in the examinations hall!



Thank you!

**Welcome to Doncaster
UTC**