

Preparing for Year 11: The class of 2027



Miss Pearse

Acting Headteacher



Parental engagement in education is one of the largest factors in student achievement.

Thank you for being here today.





Mr Furnell

Assistant Headteacher

Key Parent Events

1. **Preparing for Year 11 Evening: 17th September**
   - Overview of Year 11
   - Subject Q & A

2. **Parents Evening: 10th December**
   - Mock Exam 1 results
   - Appointments with subject teachers

3. **Parent and Student Workshop and Meal: 28th January**
   - Revision workshop
   - Plus free meal

4. **RAP (Raising Achievement Plan) Meeting: 20th April**
   - Mock Exam 2 results
   - Appointment with tutors



129

School days until the start of exams

THE IMPORTANCE OF SMALL STEPS

SOMEONE WHO TRIES



Takes small steps every day.
Keeps going. GETS CLOSER.

SOMEONE WHO DOESN'T TRY



Doesn't take the first step.
Stays stuck. NEVER GETS THERE.

SMALL STEPS TODAY, BIG CHANGES TOMORROW.

The Teenage Brain

The brain doesn't fully develop until the age of 25.



The Teenage Brain

This means that during exam periods:

- Small worries can feel much bigger.
- Stress can feel overwhelming.

It can be harder to think clearly when anxious.



National Challenges for Teens

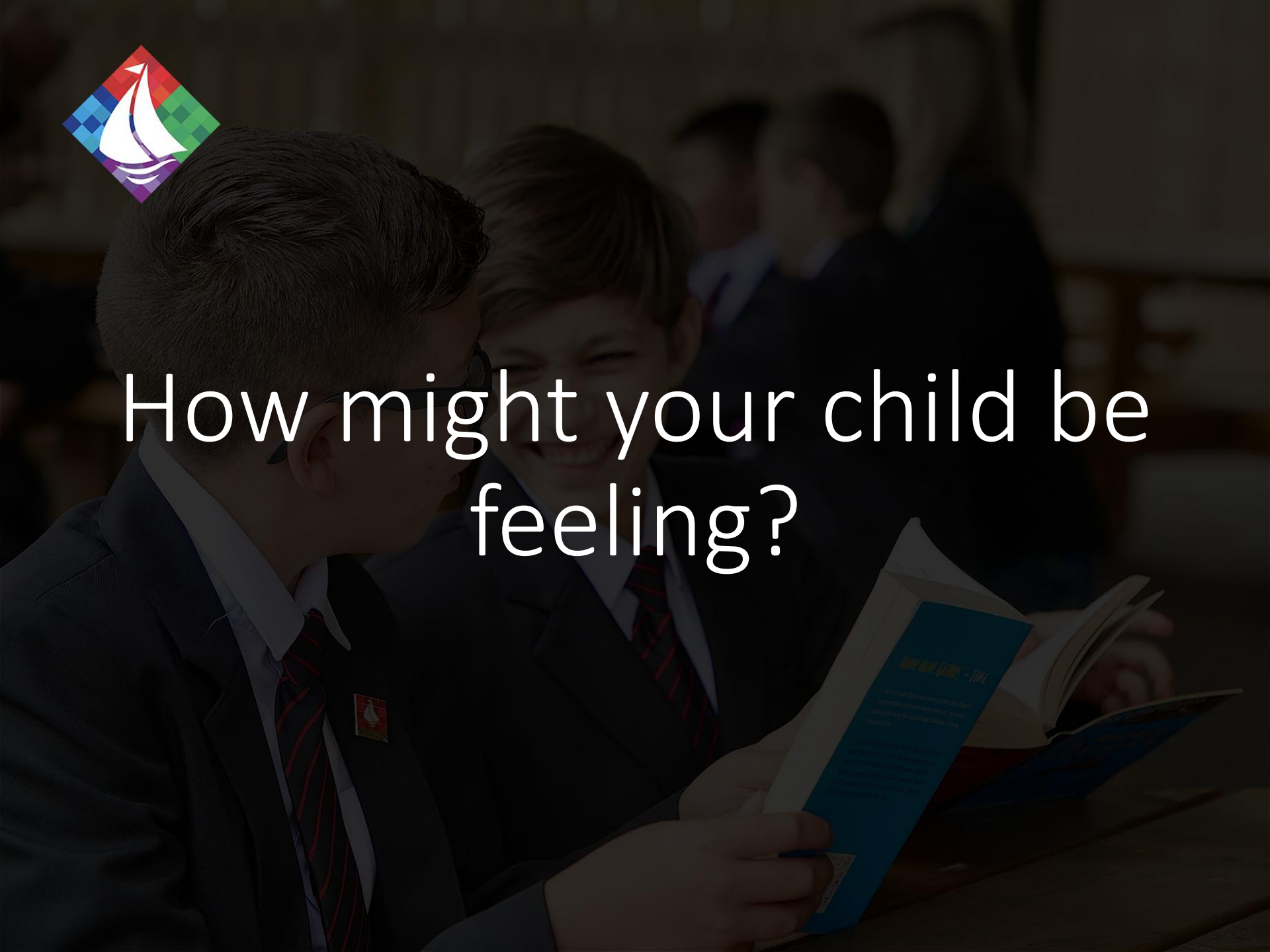
- Mental health
- Self-esteem & body image
- Peer pressure
- Bullying
- Cyber addiction
- Depression
- Drinking and drugs
- Eating disorders



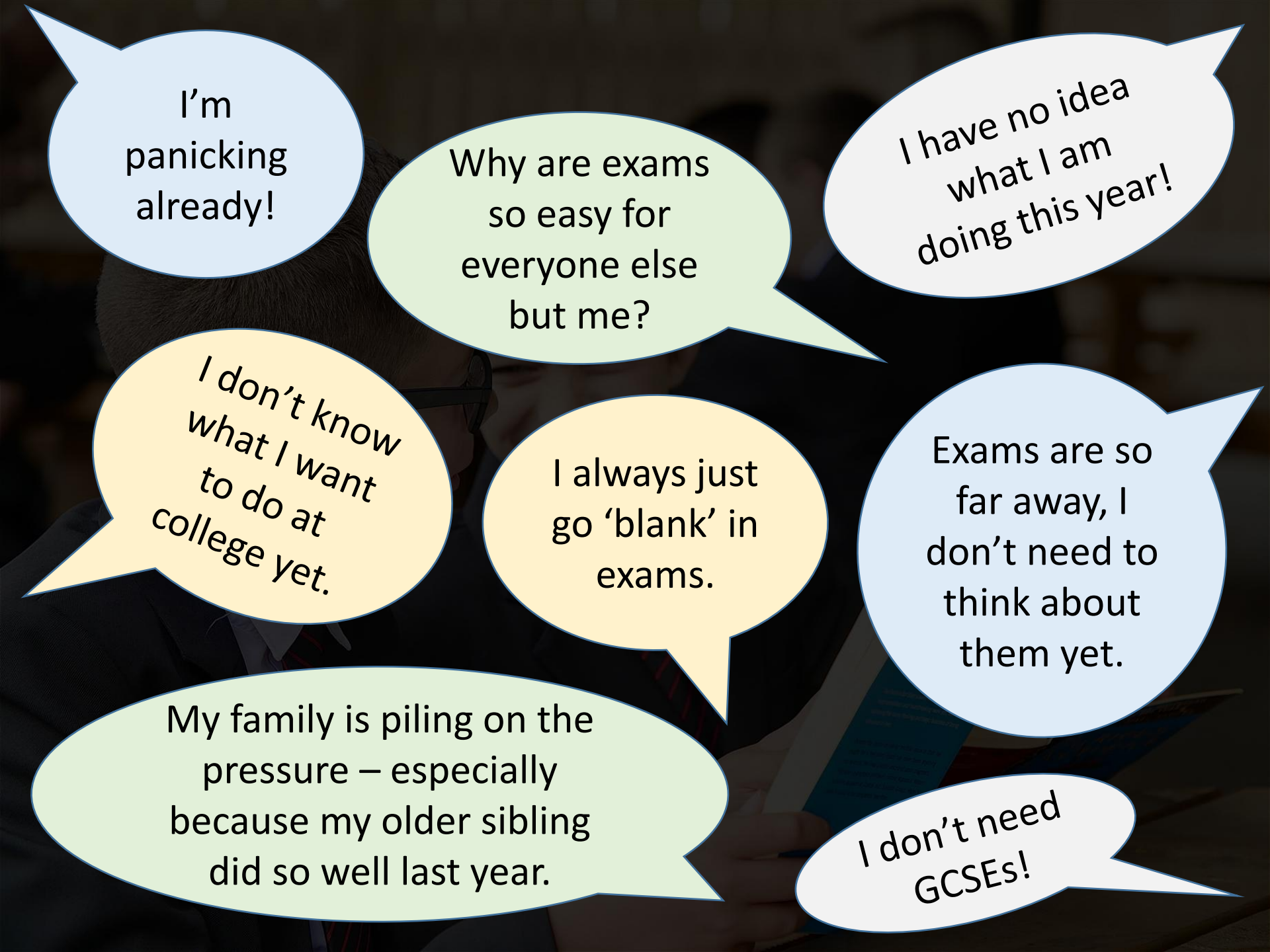


Then, add Year 11 Exams …





How might your child be feeling?


I'm panicking already!
Why are exams so easy for everyone else but me?
I have no idea what I am doing this year!
I don't know what I want to do at college yet.
I always just go 'blank' in exams.
Exams are so far away, I don't need to think about them yet.
My family is piling on the pressure – especially because my older sibling did so well last year.
I don't need GCSEs!

Parent Survey

You wanted to know more about:

1. **What support is offered to your child?**
2. **What will be examined in each subject?**
3. **How can you help your child revise at home?**
4. **How to make college application and what support is offered to your child.**



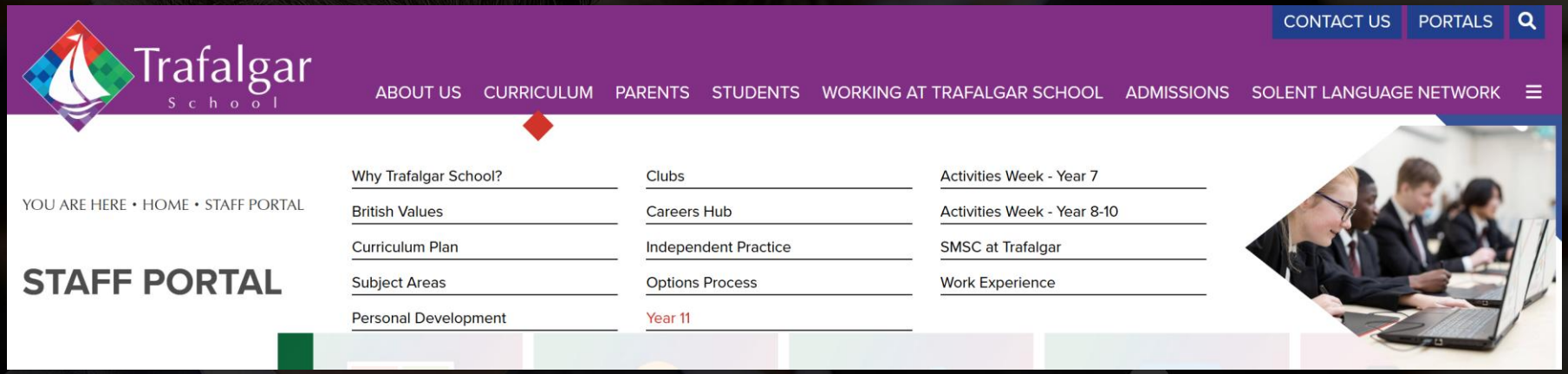
1. What support is offered to your child?

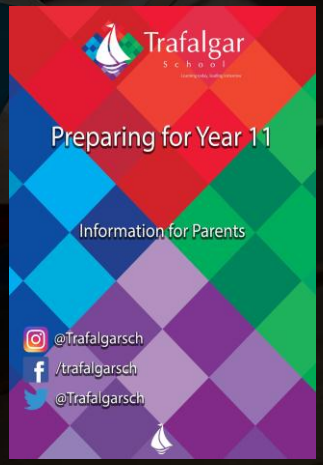
Bespoke Year 11 Support

Term One	Term Two	Term Three
Mock Exams 1: November Support: ➢ **Preparing for Yr11 Evening** ➢ Intervention timetable ➢ Elevate Conference ➢ PD Day 1: Key to Success ➢ **Parents Evening**	**Mock Exams 2**: March Support: ➢ **Parent and Child Workshop and meal** ➢ PD Day 2: Acing Exams ➢ February Half-Term: Coursework Catch Up ➢ **RAP Meetings** ➢ Easter Holidays: Boosters	**GCSE Exams:** May-June Support: ➢ Aim Higher Conference ➢ Warm-up and Booster Timetable ➢ May half-term: final Boosters ✓ **Leavers BBQ** ✓ **Prom!**

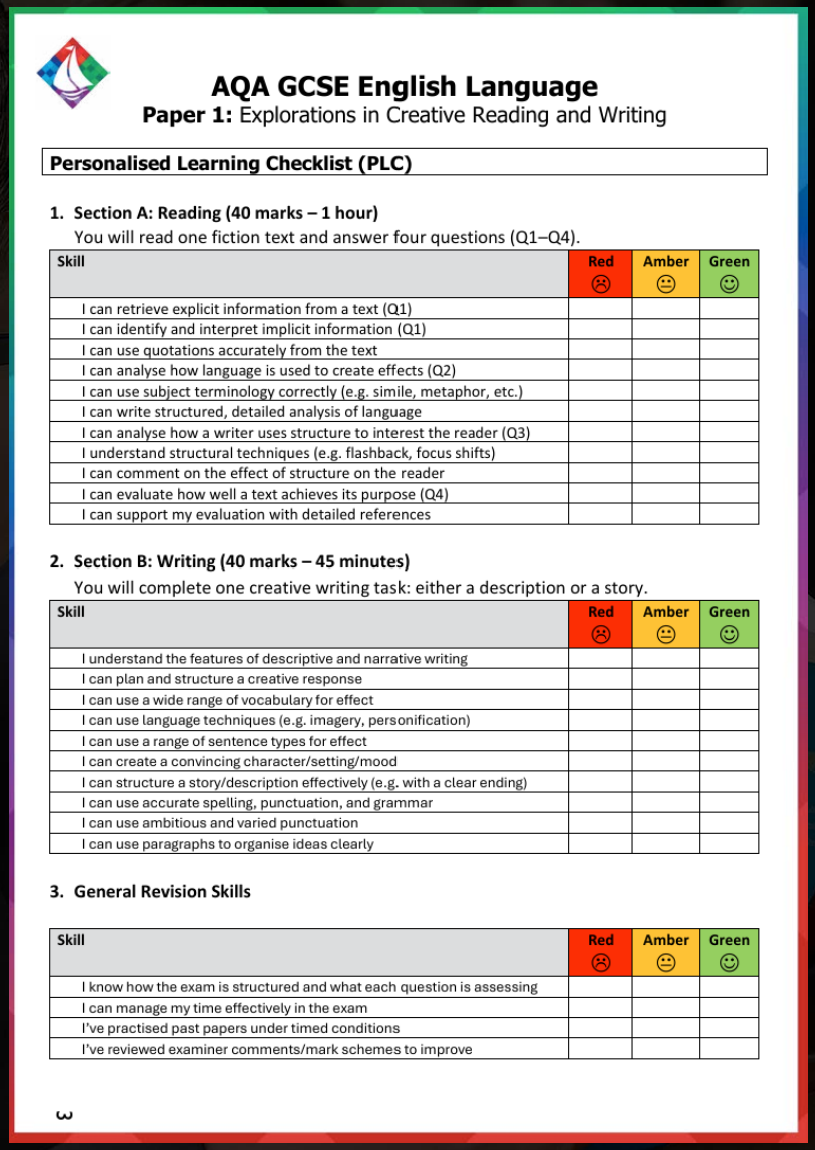
Plus: targeted intervention, revision guides, college events, etc

Bespoke Year 11 Support





Personal Learning Checklist's



AQA GCSE English Language

Paper 1: Explorations in Creative Reading and Writing

Personalised Learning Checklist (PLC)

1. **Section A: Reading (40 marks – 1 hour)**

   You will read one fiction text and answer four questions (Q1–Q4).

Skill	Red ☹	Amber 😐	Green ☺
I can retrieve explicit information from a text (Q1)			
I can identify and interpret implicit information (Q1)			
I can use quotations accurately from the text			
I can analyse how language is used to create effects (Q2)			
I can use subject terminology correctly (e.g. simile, metaphor, etc.)			
I can write structured, detailed analysis of language			
I can analyse how a writer uses structure to interest the reader (Q3)			
I understand structural techniques (e.g. flashback, focus shifts)			
I can comment on the effect of structure on the reader			
I can evaluate how well a text achieves its purpose (Q4)			
I can support my evaluation with detailed references			

2. **Section B: Writing (40 marks – 45 minutes)**

   You will complete one creative writing task: either a description or a story.

Skill	Red ☹	Amber 😐	Green ☺
I understand the features of descriptive and narrative writing			
I can plan and structure a creative response			
I can use a wide range of vocabulary for effect			
I can use language techniques (e.g. imagery, personification)			
I can use a range of sentence types for effect			
I can create a convincing character/setting/mood			
I can structure a story/description effectively (e.g. with a clear ending)			
I can use accurate spelling, punctuation, and grammar			
I can use ambitious and varied punctuation			
I can use paragraphs to organise ideas clearly			

3. **General Revision Skills**

Skill	Red ☹	Amber 😐	Green ☺
I know how the exam is structured and what each question is assessing			
I can manage my time effectively in the exam			
I've practised past papers under timed conditions			
I've reviewed examiner comments/mark schemes to improve			



What can we learn from last year?



Attendance **really** does matter!

Join our 96%+ Club!

Attendance	Average Grade
100%	5a
95-99%	4a
90-94%	3a
80-89%	3b
<80%	2c

Vocational Subjects

Mrs. Dring has a draft copy of the GCSE examinations timetable

However…

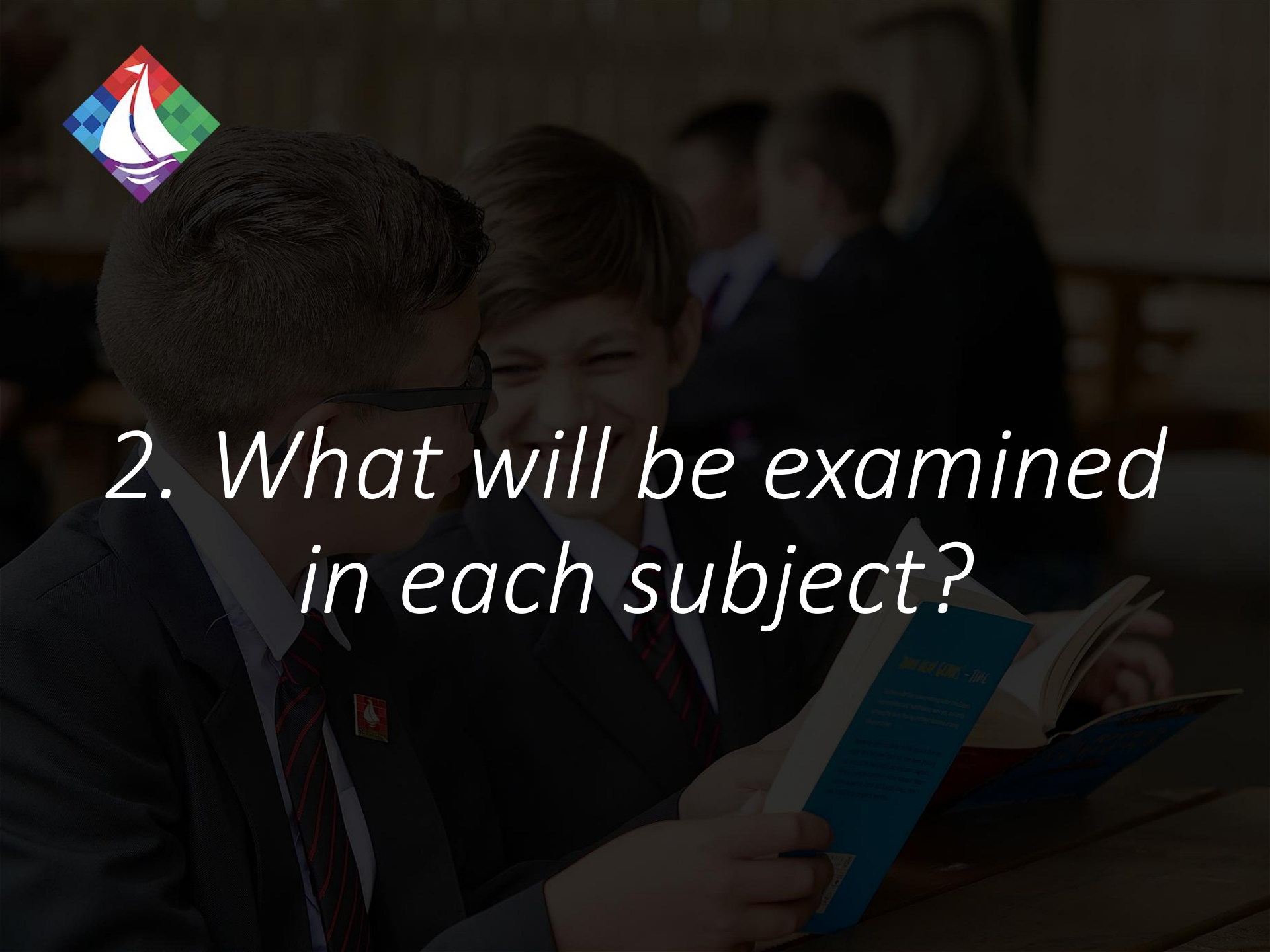
Please be aware if your child takes a vocational subject that includes coursework or practical elements, as these have independent deadlines that are separate from the GCSE exam timetable.

These subject teachers will be in contact with you, as deadlines approach.

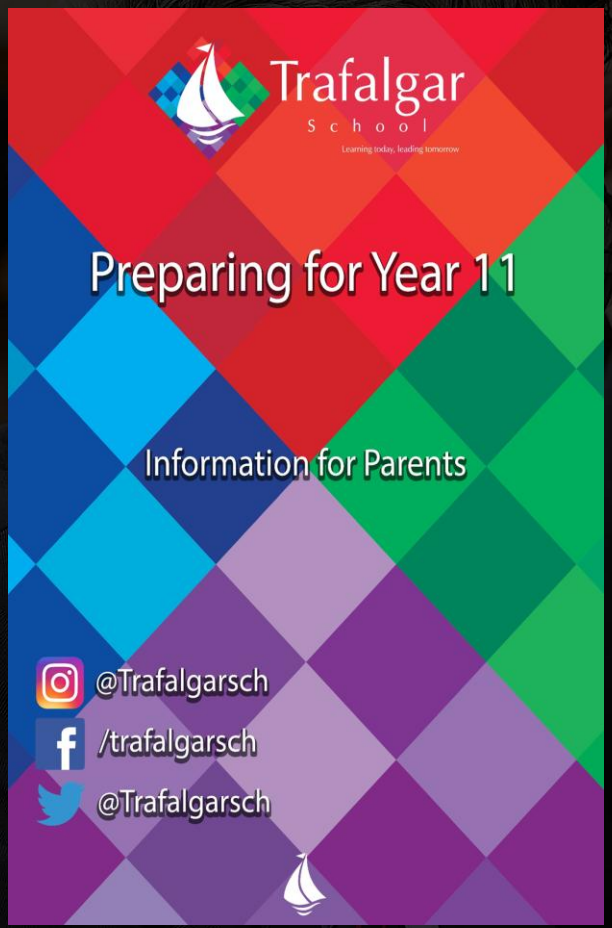


Miss Clark

Assistant Headteacher



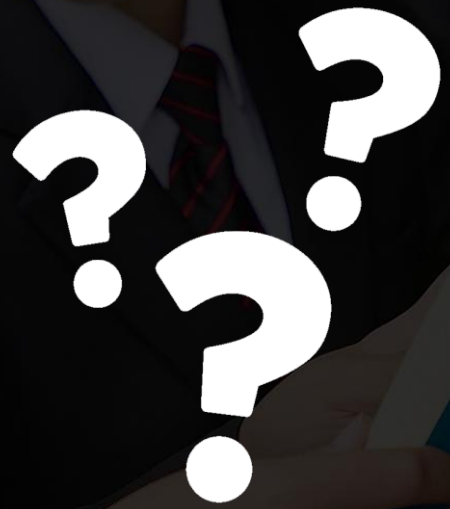
2. What will be examined in each subject?



This booklet provides:

- Key information about exam content for each subject
- A QR code to order revision guides
- Conversation starters to support discussions about learning and revision at home.

How many extra marks do you think you need per GCSE paper to go from a Grade 4 to a Grade 5?



Subject	Board	Grade 4 boundary	Grade 5 boundary	Difference	Average difference per paper/component*
English Language	AQA	75	84	9	4.5
English Literature	AQA	66	81	15	7.5
Mathematics (Foundation)	Edexcel	151	181	30	10.0
Combined Science (Foundation)	Edexcel	4–4: 194	5–5: 231	37	6.2
Geography	AQA	112	130	18	6.0
History	Eduqas	79	92	13	4.3
Business	OCR	70	82	12	6.0
Physical Education	Edexcel	214	237	23	11.5
French (Foundation)	AQA	134	146	12	3.0
Food Preparation & Nutrition	OCR	135	155	20	10.0


STRIVE FOR 5
We are pushing all students to
aim for a Grade 5
as a minimum on their GCSE results.
FOCUS
WORK HARD
BE POSITIVE
ACHIEVE
YOUR FUTURE
Higher grades.
Brighter futures.



Mrs Parsons

Director of Mathematics, Business and Computing

Maths

- 2 tiers – Higher and Foundation
  - Higher – grades 3 – 9
  - Foundation – grades 1 – 5
- 3 papers – 90 minutes each
  - Paper 1 – calculator
  - Paper 2 – non calculator
  - Paper 3 – calculator
- Mock 1 – full set of all 3 papers
  - Content can be anything from the whole specification

Maths

- Revision
  - The content that has been covered so far.
  - Areas identified from the student's QLAs from their summer landmark assessment – students can get additional copies of this from their teachers.
  - Class focused, targeted interventions will take place in the build up to the exams.
  - A list of useful revision websites can be collected from the Maths stall in the Drama Studio.

Maths

- Independent Practice
  - A combination of online practice and past papers set weekly by class teachers.
  - Online practice will be set via the MathsWatch platform and students will be receiving their log-in details from their teachers next week.

- Be prepared for all lessons
  - Students need to have their ***own calculators***



Mrs Martin

Director of Science

Science

- 6 papers: 2x Biology 2x Chemistry 2x Physics – counts for two GCSE grades. *(Topic overview for each paper available at the Science stall).*

- Mock 1 = Paper 2 content.

- **Sparx** is aligned to content for the first mock exam.

- Feature to revise students own topics as extra.

- Personalised flashcards are generated for revision.

- Targeted intervention for key topics will run in preparation for mock exams.



Mrs Watts

Director of English

English Language

Paper 1: 1hour 45 minutes- ***Explorations in Creative Reading and Writing*** **(50%)**

(Section A- Reading) Exploring creative writing (analysing a literature fiction text- extract)
(Section B- Writing) Descriptive or narrative writing

Paper 2: 1 hour 45 minutes- ***Writers' Viewpoints and Perspectives*** **(50%)**

(Section A- Reading) x1 non-fiction text and x1 literary non-fiction comparison.
(Section B- Writing) Writing to Present a Viewpoint (argue or persuade)

English Literature

Paper 1: 1 hour 45 minutes- ***Shakespeare and the 19th Century Novel (40%)***
Shakespeare (*Romeo & Juliet*)
19th Century Text- (*A Christmas Carol*)

Paper 2: 2 hours 15 minutes - ***Modern texts and Poetry (60%)***
Poetry (comparative conflict poems) 15 poems to study
X2 unseen poems
An Inspector Calls (J.B Priestley)

English

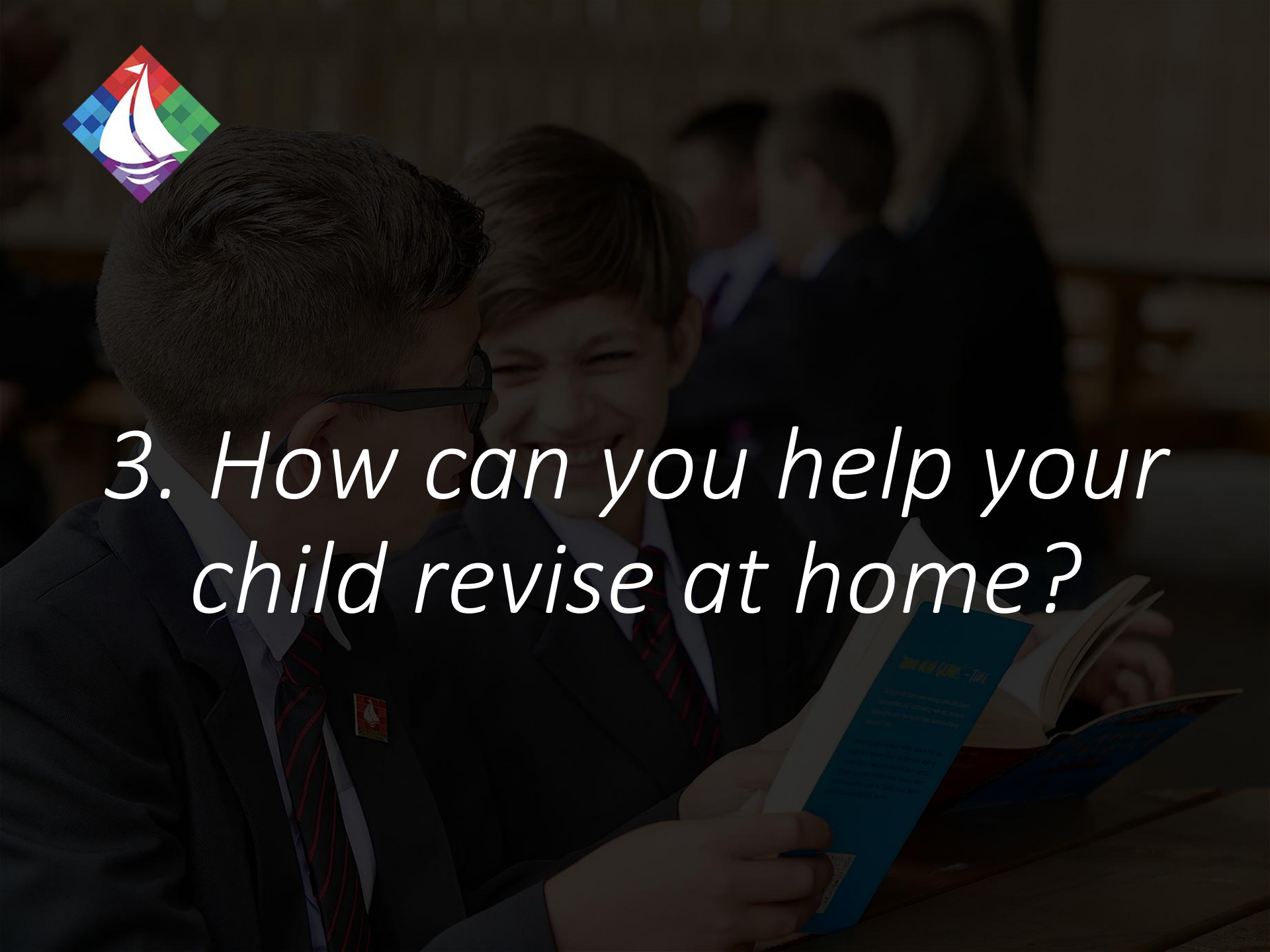
- **Mock 1 =**

English Language: Language Paper 1 only

English Literature: Literature Paper 2 (Section A and C only- *An Inspector Calls* & Unseen Poetry)

- **Independent practice: SENECA** is aligned to content for the first mock exam (combination of SENECA & written tasks set by teachers/ revision resources etc.)

- Targeted intervention for key topics will run in preparation for mock exams.



3. How can you help your child revise at home?

What Can Parents Do?

1) Listen to your child – show an interest, ask supportive questions, make time

2) Reward effort rather than results – praise the small things, discuss small rewards eg. favourite meal or film night

3) Supportive approach – think about language choices when discussing revision e.g. ‘what can we do at home to support you?’

4) Recognise when they are really struggling and identify what help is available

5) Keep them motivated - ask them about college and apprenticeships, inspire them

What Can Students Do?

✓Attend school every day

✓Attend lessons on time

✓Communicate when / if they need help

✓Engage in learning

✓Believe in themselves

Create a Revision Timetable



Designated Study Space



We can help provide a quiet space in school if required.

Remove Distractions



Get Enough Rest

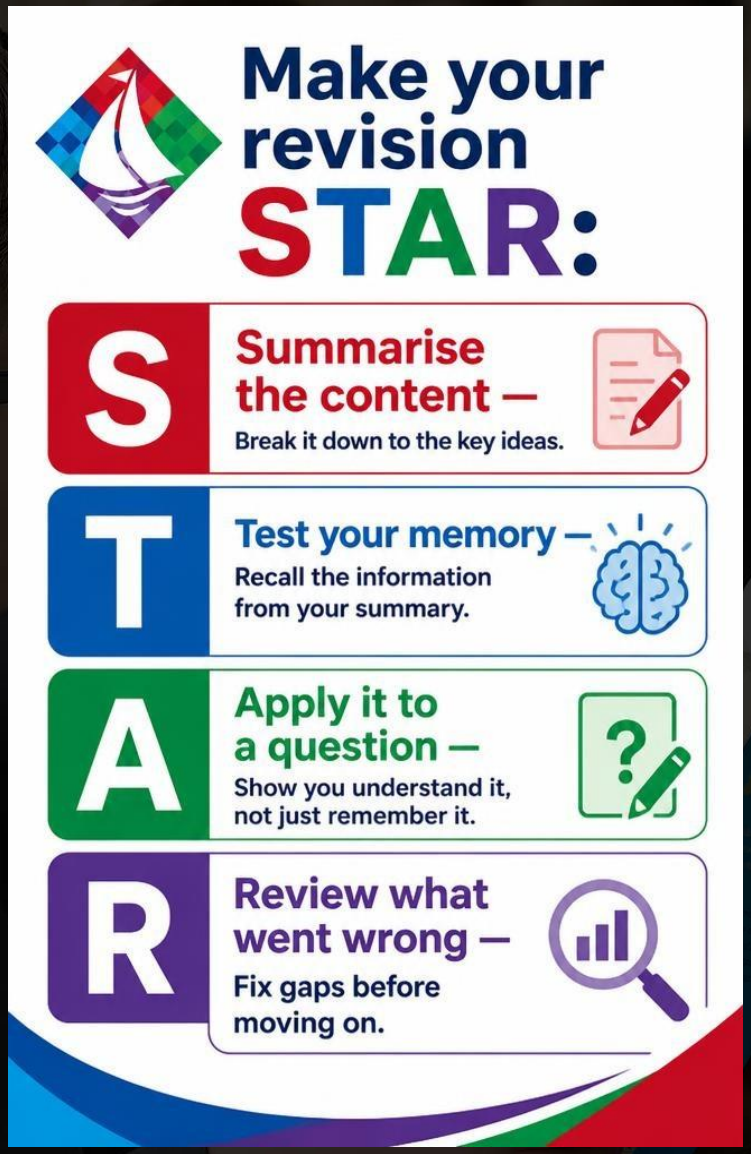


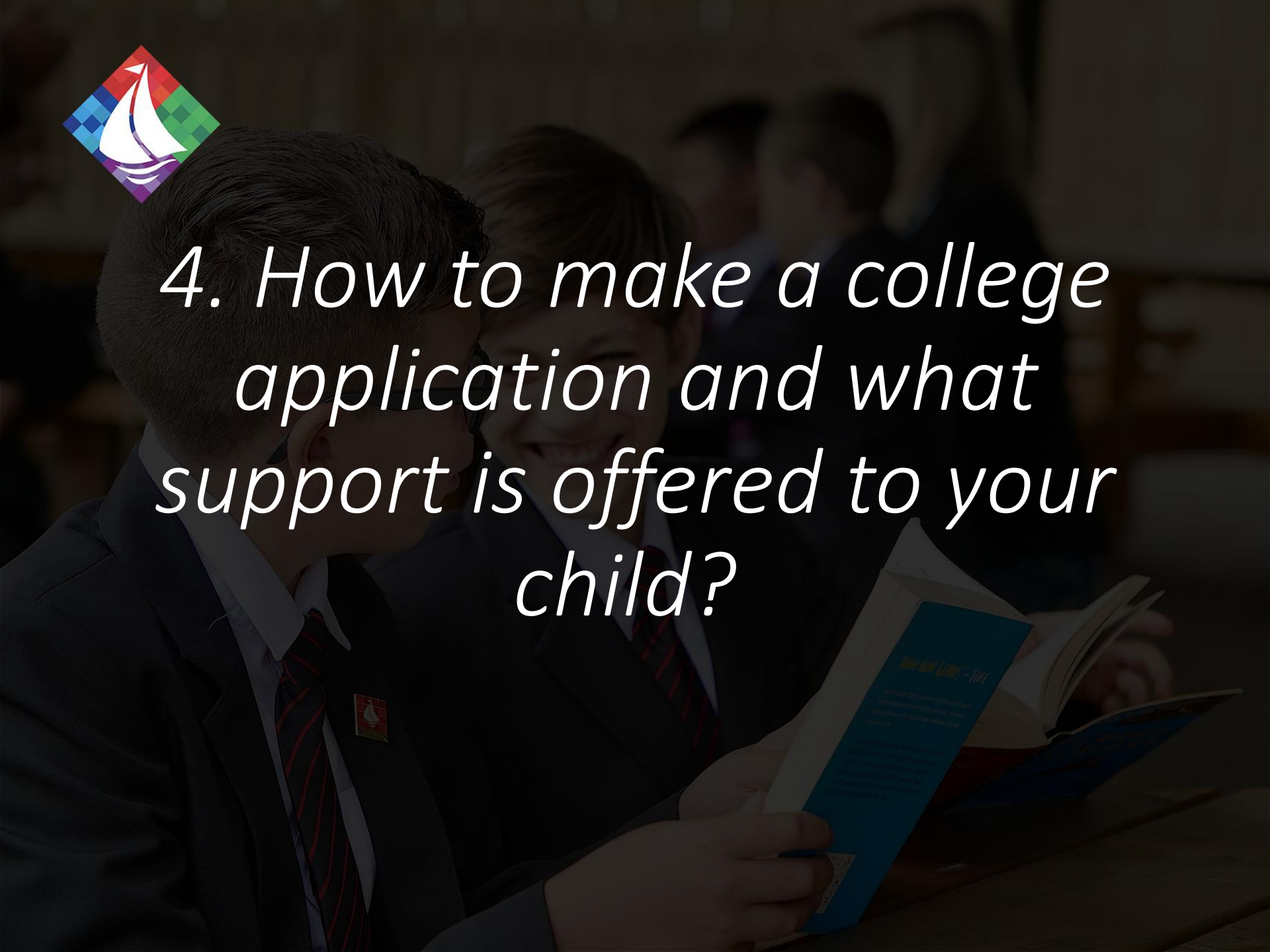
How Much Revision?

Recommended: 2 hours per day

It should be chunked into 20-25 min slots. This does include independent practise and interventions.

How to Revise





4. How to make a college application and what support is offered to your child?

The College ‘myth’

You only need a Grade 3 / Grade 4 to get a place on a course with us.'



- College places are becoming more competitive.

- Lower GCSE results could jeopardies course places, meaning students might start at a lower level.

- Could lead to re-sitting exams.

Applying for College

- **College Open Evenings:** posted on our social media sites on the careers board outside the LRC

- **Applications are now open** – submit before Christmas (support given in lessons).

- **Application Support days:** Local colleges and Sixth forms are on site 5th & 6th October to support students to apply

- **Careers Advisors:** available every Tuesday for career guidance meetings.

All students will get an appointment, even if they've applied.

Miss Passmore is on Site to book parent meetings

Prom 2027

- **Venue –** Queens Hotel
- **Date –** 15th July

- If you want to attend, please ensure you purchase a ticket via Parent Pay.

What Next...

Drama Studio: Science, English and Film Studies, Maths, Computing and Business

Humanities 6. History, Geography, Sociology, Travel and Tourism, and Ancient History.

Library: All other subjects

Canteen: Careers Fair

- Miss Passmore (Careers Lead)
- Local Colleges
- Local employers and Apprenticeship Providers

Other: Mrs Dring – Examinations Officer, Senior Leaders and Heads of House


Thank you



Please remain seated until your chair colour is called.

- Blue - Drama studio (Core subjects)
- Green – Library (All other subjects)
- Red – Canteen (Careers)
- Purple - HU6 (Humanities)