

Welcome to Year 10 Information Evening

Tuesday 22nd September 2026



Scholarship



Curiosity



Tenacity



Responsibility



Respect



2026 Exams

GCE Results (Sixth Form)

Measure	2026
A Level Average Grade	C+
Applied General Average Grade	Dist=
A*-B	47.8%
Dist*-Merit	100%

Successes...

- ❖ Lucy A*A*A*
- ❖ Sophie A*A*A*A
- ❖ Jonas A*AA
- ❖ Oscar AAA
- ❖ Jai A*ABB

10:46 am 13/08/26

Results for Longsands Academy in St Neots

Our first results of the day come from Longsands Academy in St Neots, with principal Umara Qureshi saying: "Congratulations to all of our sixth form on achieving another fantastic set of results."

"We are absolutely delighted for our incredible young people, whose hard work, dedication and resilience have been rewarded so brilliantly."



Lucy Baker, Jonas Petrokas and Sophie Ostler (Image: Astrea)

GCSE Results

Measure	2026
Attainment 8 score	48.08
Grades 9-4 in Eng & Maths	70.30%
Grades 9-5 in Eng & Maths	50.90%
Grades 9-7 in Eng & Maths	15.20%
Attainment in EBacc subjects	15.30

- ❖ Logan - 8x grade 9, 1x grade 8
- ❖ Martha - 7x grade 9, 2x grade 7
- ❖ Ben – 6x grade 9, 3x grade 8
- ❖ Carys – 5x grade 9, 2x grade 8, 2x grade 7
- ❖ Joshua - 4x grade 9, 6x grade 8
- ❖ Alicia - 4x grade 9, 3x grade 8, 2x grade 7
- ❖ Kanyiri – 3x grade 9, 4x grade 8, 3x grade 7



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Building a strong thriving community



Paving the pathway to a successful future



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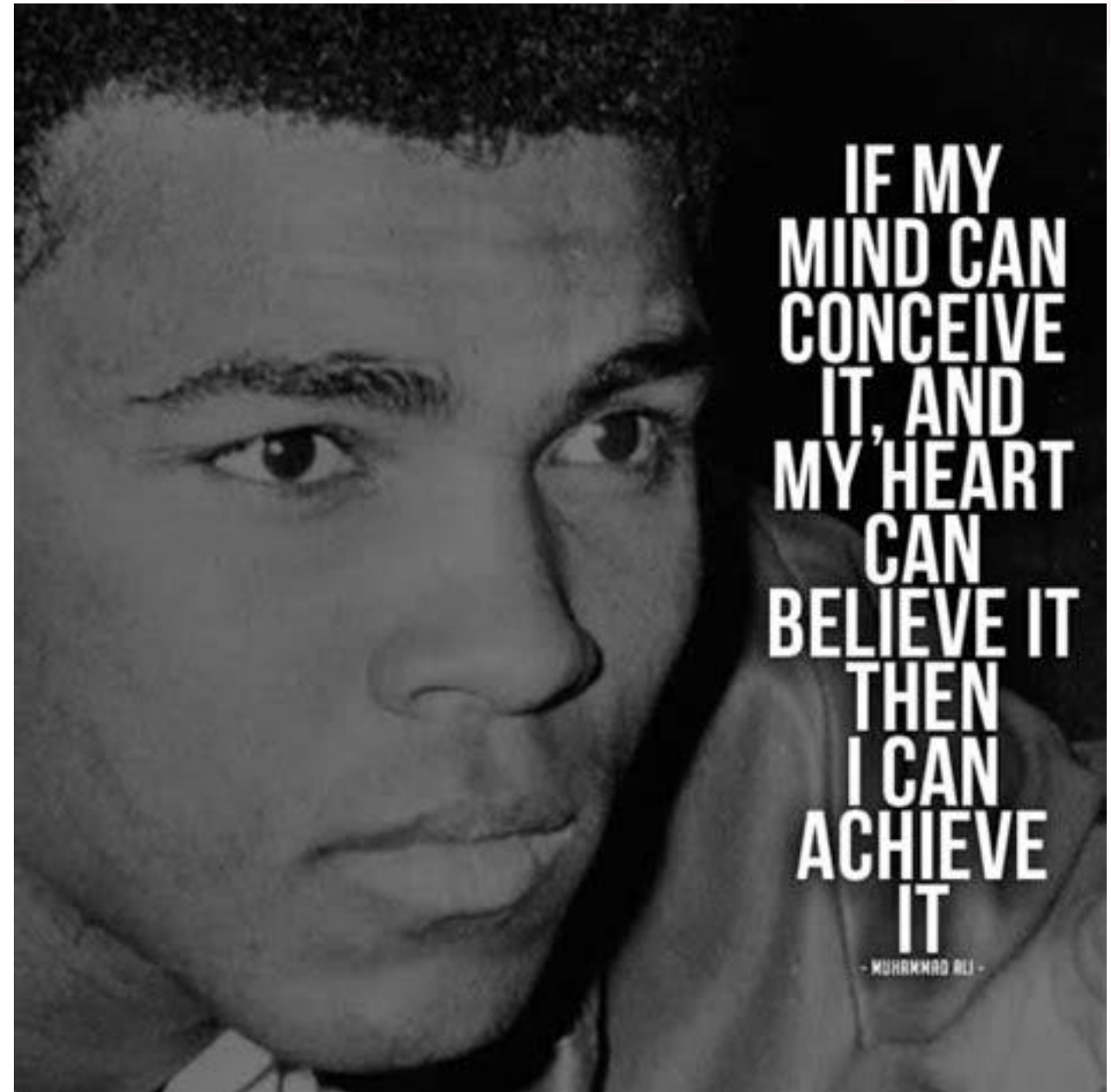
Responsibility



Respect

Work Hard
Be Kind
Achieve More

Together, we create successful scholars who embody our values of curiosity, respect, tenacity and responsibility, empowering them to work hard, be kind and achieve more.



Highest Aspirations

- Russell Group Universities
- Apprenticeships
- Scholars Programme – Expert help

LONGSANDS SIXTH FORM POST-SIXTH FORM DESTINATIONS 2026



69%
UNIVERSITY

8%
APPRENTICESHIP

13%
WORK

8%
GAP YEAR

2%
COLLEGE

MOST POPULAR DESTINATIONS 2026

1. University of Leeds
2. University of Nottingham
3. Nottingham Trent University
4. University of Lincoln
5. Royal Holloway University
6. Exeter University
7. Bournemouth University

MOST POPULAR SUBJECT FIELDS 2026

1. Psychology
2. Sport
3. History
4. Primary Education
5. Geography

Why St Neots?

- Super Curricular Activities
- Leadership Roles
- Enrichment and Trips
- Skills
- Incredible Work Experience Opportunities

A person in a blue shirt and black shorts is running away from the camera on a paved road that curves to the right. The road is flanked by a grassy hill on the left and a guardrail on the right. In the background, a town is visible in a valley, and the sun is setting, creating a warm, golden glow. The sky is blue with some clouds. A large red banner with white text is overlaid on the image.

Hard work beats talent when
talent doesn't work hard.

Tim Notke

What we want for all our scholars:

- ✓ Feel safe
- ✓ Feel they belong
- ✓ Attend regularly
- ✓ Work hard and be ambitious
- ✓ Achieve their potential



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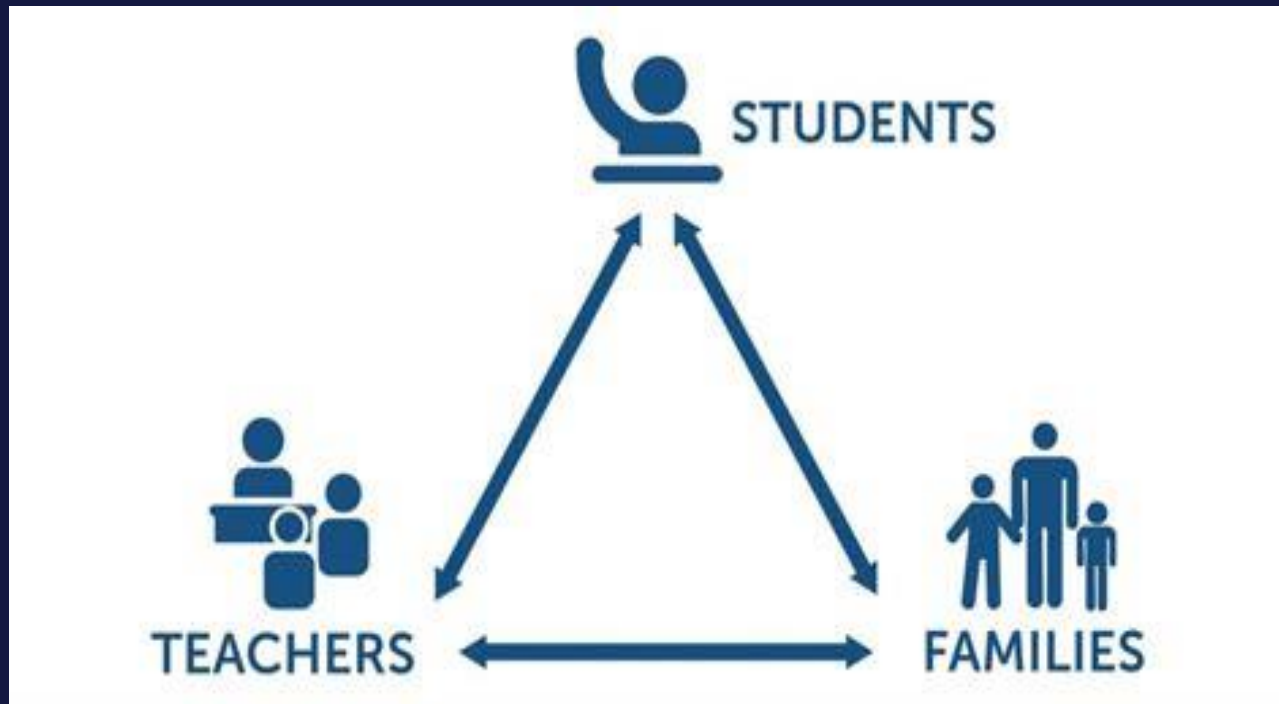
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Support for our year 10s and parents

- Targeted parents evening – In person
- Masterclasses before mocks
- Bespoke Mentoring (Academic and Pastoral)



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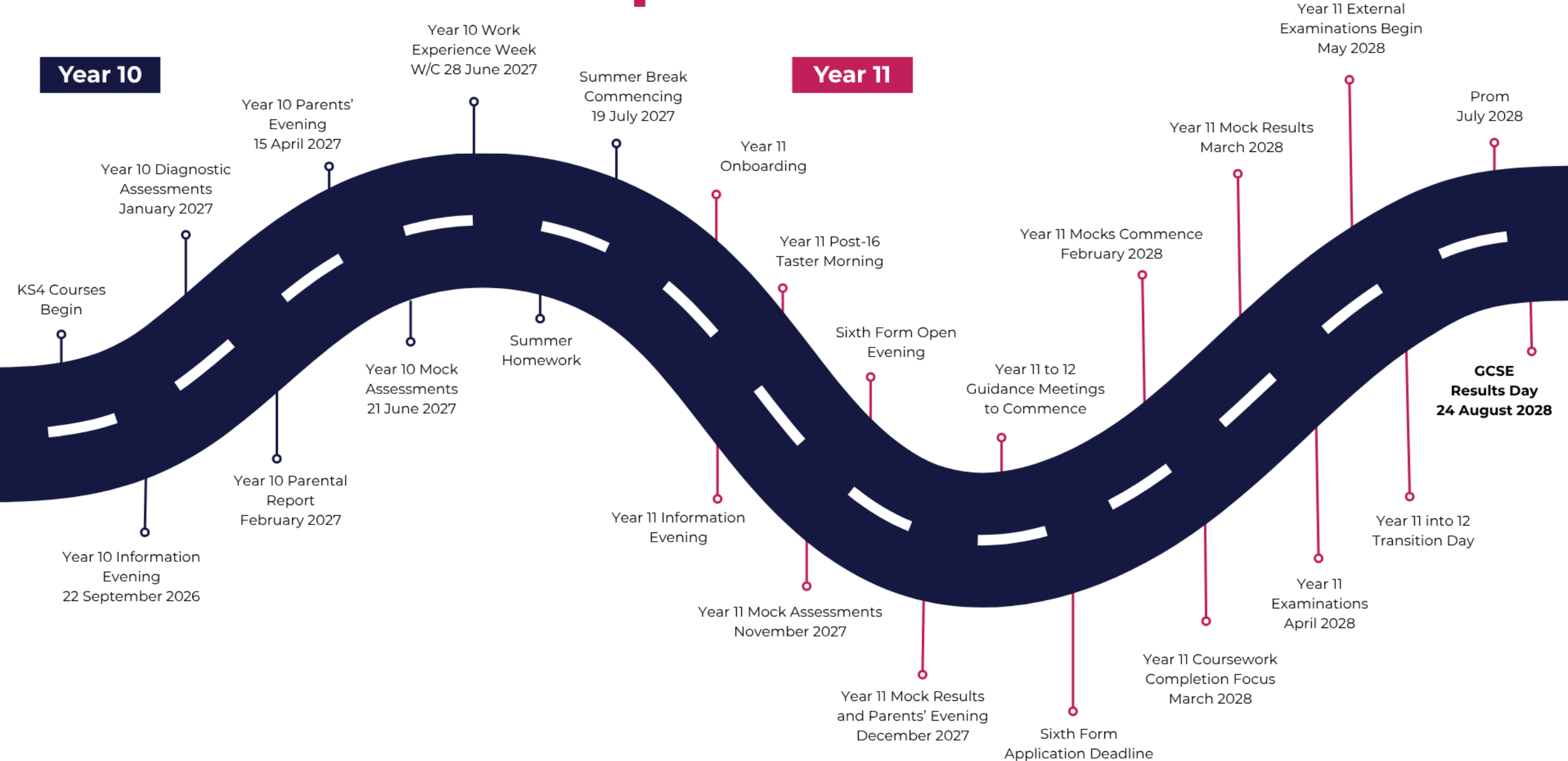


Respect

Year 10 Roadmap

Year 10

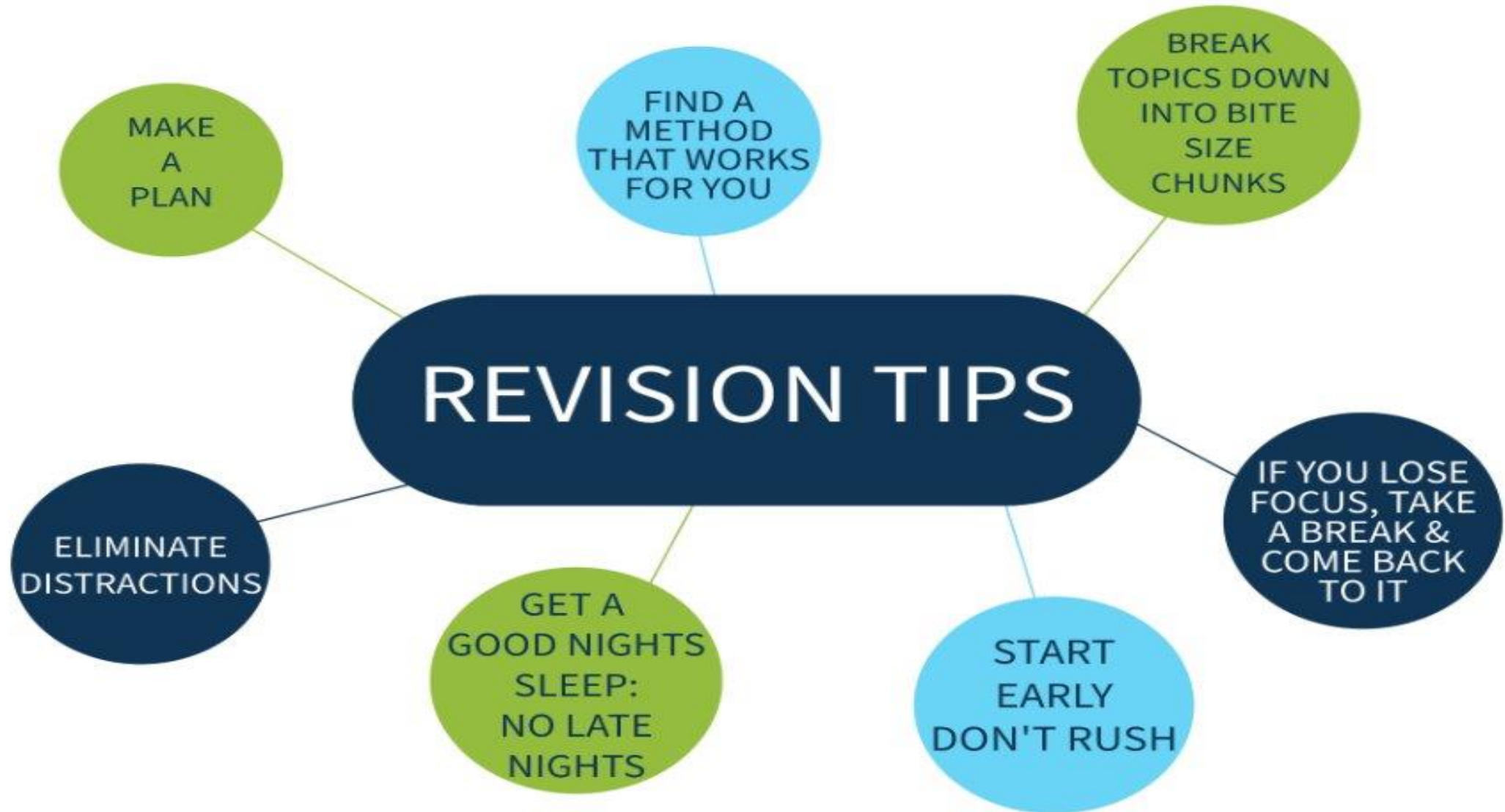
Year 11



Year 10 Mock and Diagnostics Dates



- Diagnostic Assessments - w/c 4th Jan 2027 (3 weeks)
- Mock 1 - w/c 21st June 2027 (2 weeks)
- Y10 GCSE Fine Art and Photography Mock – 8th July 2027



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Revision Timetable

	5-6 pm	6-7pm	7-8pm
Monday			
Tuesday			
Wednesday			
Thursday			
Friday			



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Enrichment and well-being

- Enrichment timetable in booklets
- Sleep
- Social time
- Family time



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100%



0 Days Absent = 0 Lessons Missed



Outstanding
Will Achieve Highly

98%



4 Days Absent = 20 Lessons Missed



On Target
Will Achieve Highly

96%



8 Days Absent = 40 Lessons Missed



Great Effort
Could impact
your achievement

95%



10 Days Absent = 50 Lessons Missed



Needs Improvement
Could seriously
impact your achievement

93%



14 Days Absent = 70 Lessons Missed



Concerns
Will seriously impact your
achievement

90%



20 Days Absent = 100 Lessons Missed



Serious Concerns
Will seriously impact your
achievement

Attendance matters

Every Day Counts

Attendance	Impact
97%+	ON TRACK
95%	Approx. 10 days missed
90%	Approx. 19 days missed
85%	Approx. 29 days missed

- Attendance is one of the strongest predictors of academic achievement.
- Learning is sequential; missing lessons creates gaps that are difficult to recover.
- Good attendance also supports friendships, confidence and a sense of belonging.
- Our aim is for every student to achieve 97%+ attendance wherever possible.



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How can parents and carers support attendance?

- You can help by:
- Establishing strong routines
- Ensuring punctuality
- Booking appointments outside school where possible
- Communicating concerns early
- Encouraging resilience and independence

Our target: 97%+ attendance



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Average Grade vs Attendance



Attendance	Average grade
100%	6.30
97% -99%	5.90
$90 \leq A < 92\%$	5.52
$85 \leq A < 90\%$	5.00
$80 \leq A < 85\%$	3.91
$70 \leq A < 80\%$	3.97
$60 \leq A < 70\%$	1.96
$40 \leq A < 60\%$	2.30
$< 40\%$	1.33

**90% attendance
= 19 days of
school missed
every year**



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AI can support GCSE work but not do it for you!

- AI can improve/write an answer without improving your knowledge.
- If you cannot explain or reproduce knowledge independently, you have not learnt it yet.
- GCSEs test what **you** know, understand and can do- independently, without AI.
- Build your knowledge first; use AI as a coach or critic.



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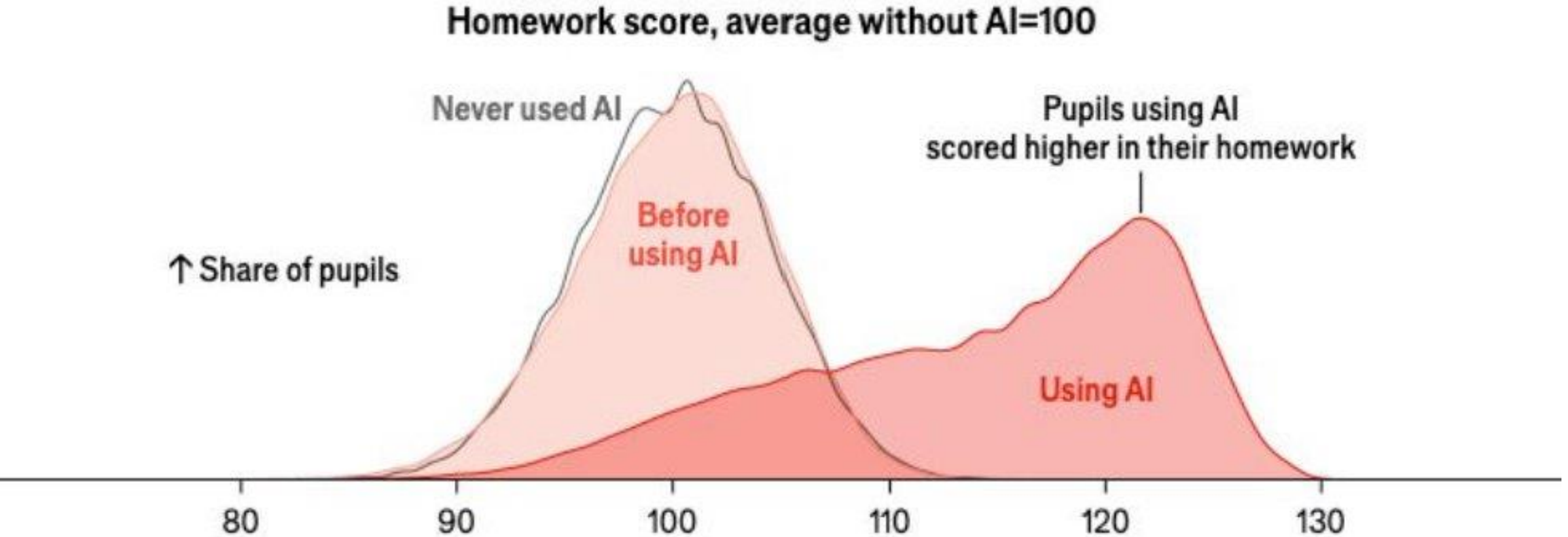


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Research on Homework



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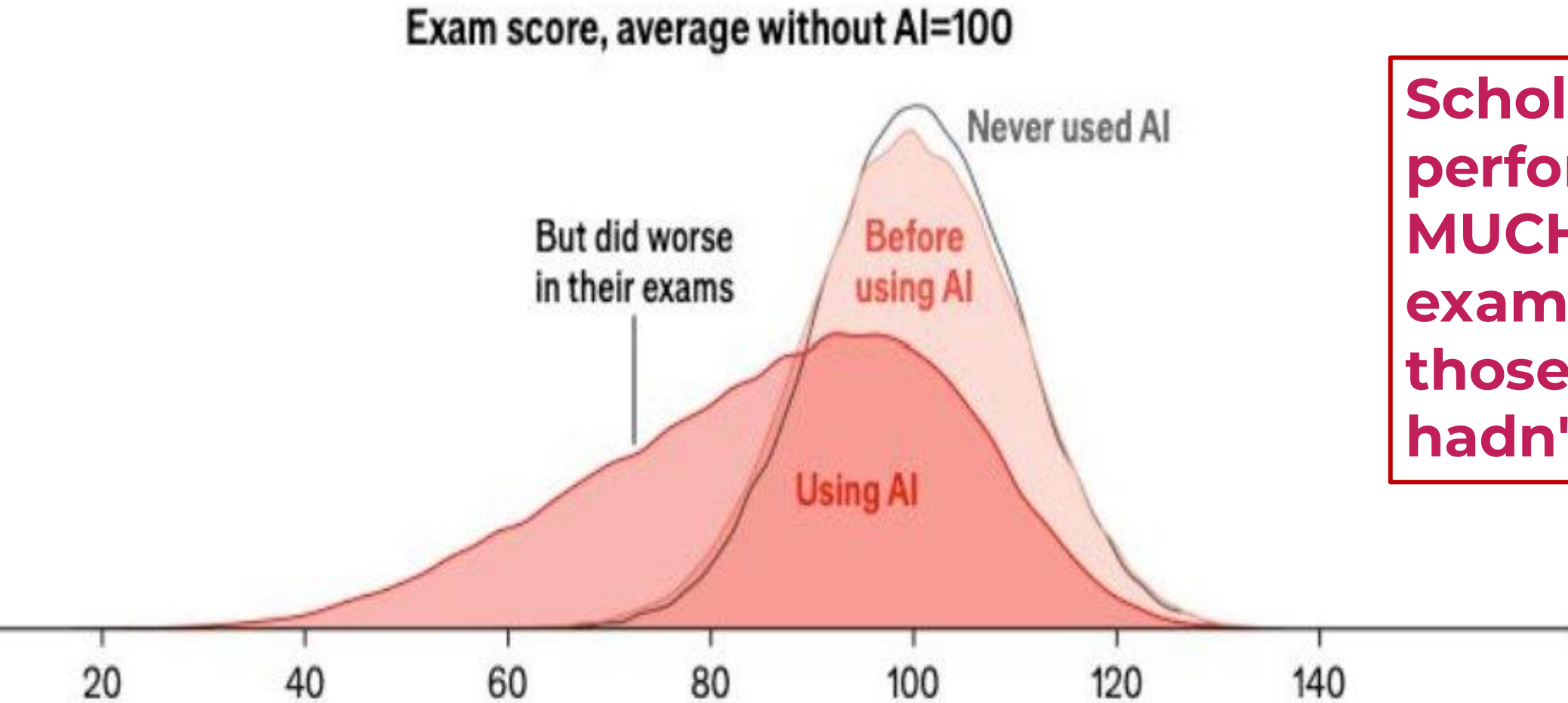


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Research on homework AND exams



Scholars performed MUCH worse in exams than those who hadn't used AI.



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Use AI as a coach or a critic

Some helpful commands:

“Give me one hint, but do not solve it.”

“Ask me five retrieval questions, one at a time.”

“Identify the first error in my method.”

“Challenge my explanation with two questions.”

“Check my answer against these success criteria.”

“Explain this differently, then ask me to explain it back.”



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Homework at Longsands Academy

- 120 minutes of homework each school day
- One-week deadline for all homework
- Homework will continue throughout mocks

Homework helps scholars practise skills, revisit knowledge, improve memory and develop independent study habits.

Retrieval-Based Homework

Builds long-term memory by revisiting previously taught knowledge.



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What Homework Will Scholars Receive?



Weekly homework in all their examined subjects

Weekly Platforms

- Sparx Maths
- Sparx Science
- Sparx Reader

Typical Activities

- Knowledge Organisers
- Carousel Learning
- Retrieval Practice
- Seneca



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How Parents Can Help

- ✓ Encourage regular completion
- ✓ Establish a homework routine
- ✓ Check online tasks weekly
- ✓ Use Knowledge Organisers for revision
- ✓ Encourage scholars to seek help early

Working together to help every scholar achieve their very best.



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CLUBS & ACTIVITIES

Monday

Duke of Edinburgh
Myths and Legends
Yr13 Classics Intervention
Netball Club (boys and girls)
Rugby Club
Instrumental Band

Tuesday

Language Leaders
Pride Club
Creative Writing
Year 8 Dungeons and Dragons Club

Wednesday

Boardgame Club
Christian Union
Mysterious Manuscripts
Year 12 Silver Duke of Edinburgh
Dodgeball Club (girls and boys)
GCSE/BTEC PE Intervention
Girls Netball/Football Fixtures

Thursday

Longsands Voices
Art Club
STEM Club
KS4 Visual Arts catch up
Street Food Club (Year 7)
German Language and Culture
Eco Warriors
Flag Football (girls)
Boys Rugby Fixtures

Friday

Year 7 Craft Club
KS4 Visual Arts catch up
Media Studies Youth Radio for Black Cat Radio
Fitness Suite Club (first 30 scholars only)
Trampolining Club (girls and boys)

Room/location

N1.1, N1.3, N1.4 (occasionally 1.5 - Drama space)
H3
H31
Y7 - Sports Hall changing rooms & Y10/11 - PA changing rooms
Year 7-10 Pavilion changing rooms
Music Department

H3
K1
N1.15
N1.9

K1
N2.4
H2.4
H31
Year 7/8/9 Sports Hall changing rooms
Year 10/11 Pavilion changing rooms

K1
E3.2
G11
E2.1
D22
H4
N2.2
Year 8/9/10 Pavilion changing rooms

G11
E2.1
N110
Year 7-11 Pavilion changing rooms
Year 10/11 Sports Hall changing rooms

Timing

After school
After school
Lunchtime
After school
After school
After school

Lunchtime
Lunchtime
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Lunchtime
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After school
After school



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Year 10 Work Experience

- 8 October 2026

Launch of Year 10 Work Experience in an assembly to Year Group and letter with information and video to families.

- 25 March 2027

Deadline for placement details to be submitted on Unifrog.

- 28 June – 2 July 2027

Year 10 Work Experience Week.



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Where can my child access support?

- Class Teachers and Teaching Assistants
- Form/Intervention teacher
- Pastoral Support Officer – Miss Armiger
- Head of Year - Mr Hudson
- SENCO - Ms Doolan
- Designated Safeguard lead – Ms Isaac
- Safeguarding team
- Attendance Support Officer – Ms Day



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Mock Exams Reminders



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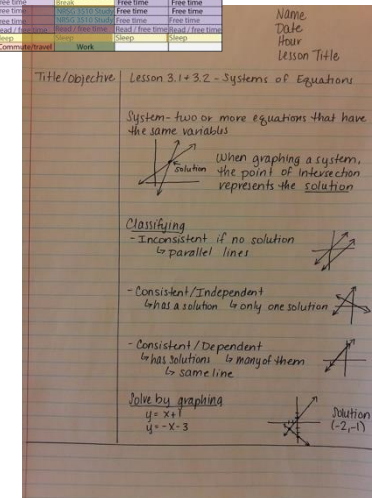
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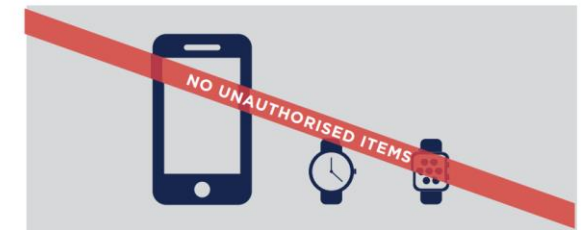
Unauthorised materials/objects

- Very strict national rules around exams – candidates have lost their papers this year

[illegible]

**NO MOBILE PHONES
NO WATCHES**

NO TECHNOLOGICAL OR WEB-ENABLED POTENTIAL SOURCES OF INFORMATION



Possession of unauthorised items, such as a mobile phone or any watch, is a serious offence and could result in

DISQUALIFICATION

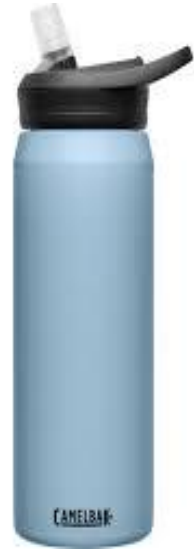
from your examination and your overall qualification.

This poster must be displayed in a prominent place outside each examination room.

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Water bottles



The invigilator may ask you to take off the lid if this is large enough to hide notes

Key Reminders

- You will receive a copy of your mock timetables and candidate handbooks detailing the JCQ regulations.
- All mock exams will be sat in the Sports Hall – each subject in different seats. They must know their seat before the exam.
- Before the exam they will drop your bags, as well as any unauthorised materials/objects into E1.
- Once you have dropped your bags, line up in row order outside the Sports Hall to be registered before entering.
- You will need to know your seat number for each exam.

GCSE Maths

Mr A Fraser



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Maths GCSE – Curriculum content this half-term

Higher	Foundation
Congruent and Similar Shapes	Algebraic Manipulation
Circle Theorems	Solving Linear Equations
Simultaneous equations – Linear and Quadratic	Solving Linear Inequalities
Algebraic Fractions	Linear simultaneous equations
Functions	Angle facts, including angles in parallel lines
Algebraic Proof	Bearings



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Maths GCSE – Still to be covered after mock exams

Higher	Foundation
Iteration	Vectors (basic)
Higer Statistics including box plots, cumulative frequency graphs and histograms	Trigonometry
Constructions and Loci (recap)	Probability
Transformations recap and negative enlargements	Two way tables, frequency trees, Venn diagrams, tree diagrams
Advanced graphs including estimating gradients, area under a curve, exponential and reciprocal graphs	Transformations recap and exam style questions
Vectors	Scattergraphs and frequency polygons
Trigonometry: recap, exact values and graphs	Averages recap and averages from tables



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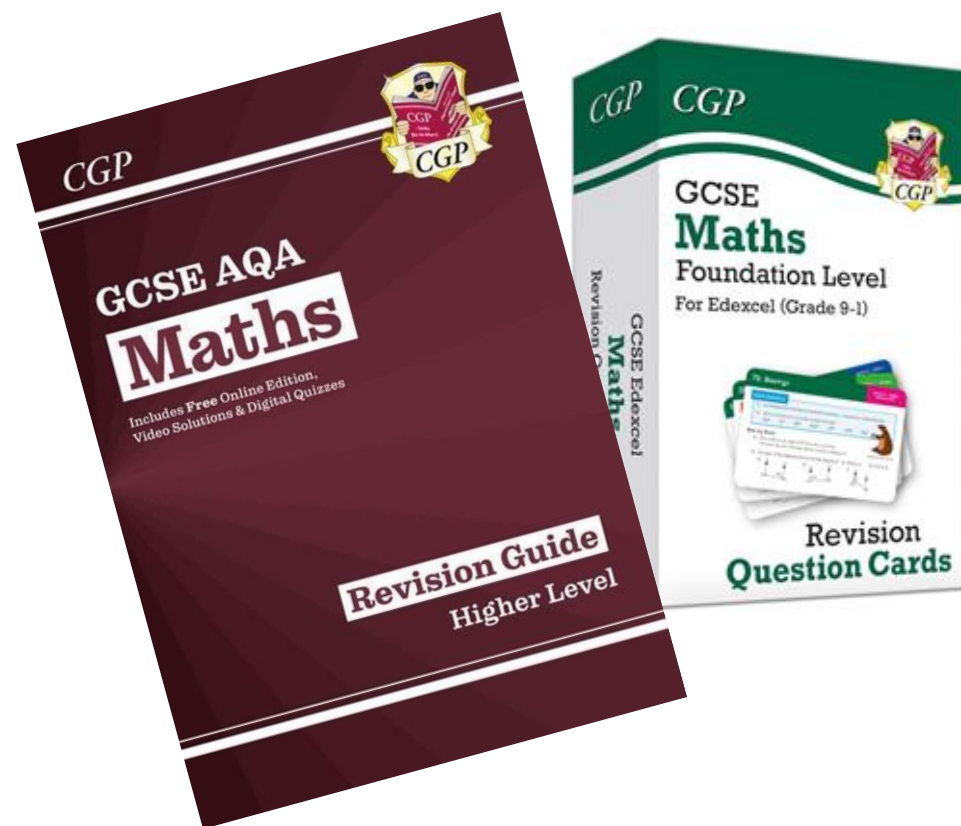
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Mock Exams (November)

- Full set of 3 papers
 - Paper 1 - Non-calculator
 - Paper 2 - Calculator
 - Paper 3 – Calculator

Revision Guides

- Revision Guides
 - Highlight / post its / copy
 - Pages per day / week
 - Do test questions
- Flash cards
- “Revise maths by doing maths”
 - Practice papers
 - “Staples” papers



Useful resources

Sparx Maths – homework/revision/fix-up

Maths Genie – practice papers

Corbett Maths – worksheets with answers and videos

Lots of other websites...

Booklets and classwork

Revision Guides

Key Contacts

Mr Fraser,
Head of Maths
alistair.fraser@astrea-longsands.org

Mrs F Smith,
KS4 coordinator, Maths
Fiona.Smith@astrea-longsands.org

Class teachers

Miss Crowhurst

Head of English, Media & Drama



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YOUR GCSE ENGLISH JOURNEY

TWO SUBJECTS | TWO QUALIFICATIONS | + SPOKEN LANGUAGE



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ENGLISH LANGUAGE (8700)

REAL TEXTS. REAL IDEAS. REAL WRITING.

PAPER 1 80 MARKS



**Explorations in
creative reading
and writing**
(Fiction)



1 hour
45 minutes



One unseen
fiction text

PAPER 2 80 MARKS



**Writers' viewpoints
and perspectives**
(Non-fiction)



1 hour
45 minutes



Two linked
non-fiction
texts



ENGLISH LITERATURE (8702)

POWERFUL STORIES. TIMELESS THEMES.

PAPER 1 64 MARKS



**Macbeth
A Christmas Carol**



1 hour
45 minutes



One question
on each text

PAPER 2 96 MARKS



**An Inspector Calls
Power and Conflict Poetry
Unseen Poetry**



2 hours
15 minutes



One modern
text, one poetry
comparison and
one unseen
poem question



SPOKEN LANGUAGE

PRESENT A TOPIC. RESPOND TO QUESTIONS.



Prepare and deliver a presentation
on a topic of your choice.

WHERE DO THE MARKS COME FROM?

AQA GCSE ENGLISH • TWO QUALIFICATIONS



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LEARN, THRIVE, SUCCEED

ENGLISH LANGUAGE (8700)

= 160 MARKS

PAPER 1

80 MARKS

Explorations in creative reading and writing



Section A: Reading (40 marks)

- Q1 – 4 marks
- Q2 – 8 marks
- Q3 – 8 marks
- Q4 – 20 marks



Section B: Writing (40 marks)

- Content – 24 marks
- Technical accuracy – 16 marks (SPaG)

PAPER 2

80 MARKS

Writers' viewpoints and perspectives



Section A: Reading (40 marks)

- Q1 – 4 marks
- Q2 – 8 marks
- Q3 – 12 marks
- Q4 – 16 marks



Section B: Writing (40 marks)

- Content – 24 marks
- Technical accuracy – 16 marks (SPaG)

ENGLISH LITERATURE (8702)

= 160 MARKS

PAPER 1

64 MARKS

Shakespeare and the 19th-century novel



Section A: Macbeth (34 marks total)

- AO1, AO2, AO3 – 30 marks
- AO4 (SPaG) – 4 marks



Section B: A Christmas Carol (30 marks total)

- AO1, AO2, AO3 – 30 marks

No separate SPaG marks

PAPER 2

96 MARKS

Modern texts and poetry



Section A: An Inspector Calls (34 marks total)

- AO1, AO2, AO3 – 30 marks
- AO4 (SPaG) – 4 marks



Section B: Power and Conflict Poetry (30 marks total)

- AO1, AO2, AO3 – 30 marks
- No separate SPaG marks



Section C: Unseen Poetry (32 marks total)

- C.1 – 24 marks (AO1, AO2, AO3)
- C.2 – 8 marks (AO1, AO2, AO3)

No separate SPaG marks

WHAT DO THE ASSESSMENT OBJECTIVES (AOs) MEAN?



AO1

Understand, respond to texts and use references



AO2

Analyse writer's methods (language, structure and form)



AO3

Show understanding of context (the bigger picture)



AO4

Technical accuracy (spelling, punctuation and grammar)



AO5

Communicate ideas effectively (writing for purpose and audience)



AO6

Use a range of vocabulary and sentence structures accurately (SPaG)

YEAR 10 ENGLISH: THE YEAR AHEAD

GREAT TEXTS | REAL IDEAS | LIFELONG SKILLS



Be kind to your future self...

Work now for ease in Year 11.



AUTUMN TERM

EXPLORE | BUILD | ANALYSE

LITERATURE



A Christmas Carol

Characters and themes
Context and ideas
Writer choices

LANGUAGE



English Language Paper 1 (Fiction)

Reading (fiction)
Writing
Analysis and viewpoints
Language methods



SPRING TERM

DEEPEN | CONNECT | APPLY

LITERATURE



Macbeth

Power and ambition
Humanity and morality
Writer choices

LANGUAGE



English Language (Transition to Paper 2) (Non-fiction)

From non-fiction to fiction
Reading and writing skills
Analysis, structure and craft



SUMMER TERM

SYNTHESISE | PREPARE | SUCCEED

LITERATURE



An Inspector Calls

Social responsibility
Conflict and change
Dramatic methods
Writer choices

LANGUAGE



English Language Paper 2 (Non-fiction)

Reading (non-fiction)
Writing
Analysis and craft
Perspectives and ideas



POETRY

Power and Conflict Anthology

Voices | themes | comparisons | context



POETRY

Power and Conflict Anthology

Developing comparisons | ideas across poems



SPOKEN LANGUAGE

Prepare, present and respond
Develop confidence
Earn your certificate



YEAR 10 MOCKS

Show what you know
Build experience
Prepare for Year 11

THROUGHOUT THE YEAR

CONSISTENT PRACTICE.
LASTING PROGRESS.



RETRIEVAL

Keep knowledge fresh



FORTNIGHTLY WRITING

Regular extended writing across all topics



FEEDBACK

Know what's going well and what to focus on



ASSESSMENT

Check progress and inform teaching



POWER TOPICS

Revisit key learning throughout the year

KEY RESOURCES

USE THESE TO SUPPORT YOUR LEARNING



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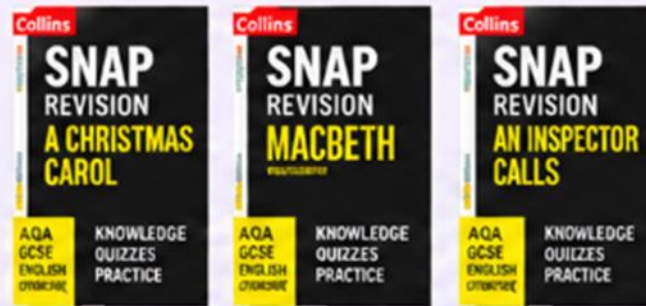
Seneca

Revision and
practice (free)



CGP Guides

Clear notes
and practice
questions



SNAP Revision Guides

Key knowledge, quotes and practice



PMT

Notes and
resources



Mr Bruff

Helpful
explanations
and videos



AQA

Specification
and exam
materials



**USE THESE
REGULARLY**



Build your
knowledge



Practise
questions



Review and
improve

Key Contacts

Miss Crowhurst - Head of English

Sophie.crowhurst@astrea-longsands.org

Ms Tamasari - Lead Practitioner for English

Rebecca.tamasari@astrea-Longsands.org

GCSE Science

Mr Martin



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AQA GCSE Science Units

Biology	Chemistry	Physics
<u>Cell Biology (Y9)</u>	<u>Atomic Structure and the Periodic Table (Y9)</u>	<u>Energy (Y9)</u>
<u>Organisation (Y9)</u>	<u>Bonding and Structure (Y9)</u>	Electricity
<u>Infection and Response</u>	<u>Quantitative Chemistry</u>	<u>Particle Model of Matter (Y9)</u>
Bioenergetics	Chemical Changes	<u>Atomic Structure</u>
Homeostasis and Response	Energy Changes	Forces
Inheritance, Variation and Evolution	Rates of Reaction	Waves
Ecology	Organic Chemistry	Magnetism and Electromagnetism
	Chemical Analysis	*Space (Triple Only)
	Chemistry of the Atmosphere	
	Using Resources	

Assessments

- There are 6 assessments in total at the end of Y11 that determine your GCSE Grade
- Paper 1 and Paper 2 in each of Biology, Chemistry and Physics
- Set 1 are following the triple/separate route and will get 3 GCSEs once in each discipline. There is more content and the exams are also longer. 100 marks/1h45m.
- Everyone else follows Combined Science (Trilogy) which has less content and shorter exams. 70 marks/1h15m. It is equivalent to two GCSEs



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How are grades decided

- The marks for each paper are added together and the total mark is used to arrive at an overall grade. (So Paper 1 and 2 for each separate science if doing triple, and all 6 papers for combined/double science.) You have to be entered in the same tier for all papers in the GCSE.
- Foundation Tier allows for a maximum grade of a 5, to 1.
- Higher Tier allows for a minimum grade of a 3*, to 9.



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Next steps

- Both separate/triple and combined/double provide a robust science curriculum and sets scholars up to have broad and deep scientific understanding of the world us.
- Both are accepted to get onto A-Level Sciences.
- We will be tracking progress over Y10 and Y11 to make sure everyone is on the best course for them as far as possible.
- This means if it looks like a scholar might not get at least 3 grade 7s in separate/triple, we may consider a move to combined as two 7s is better than three 6s.



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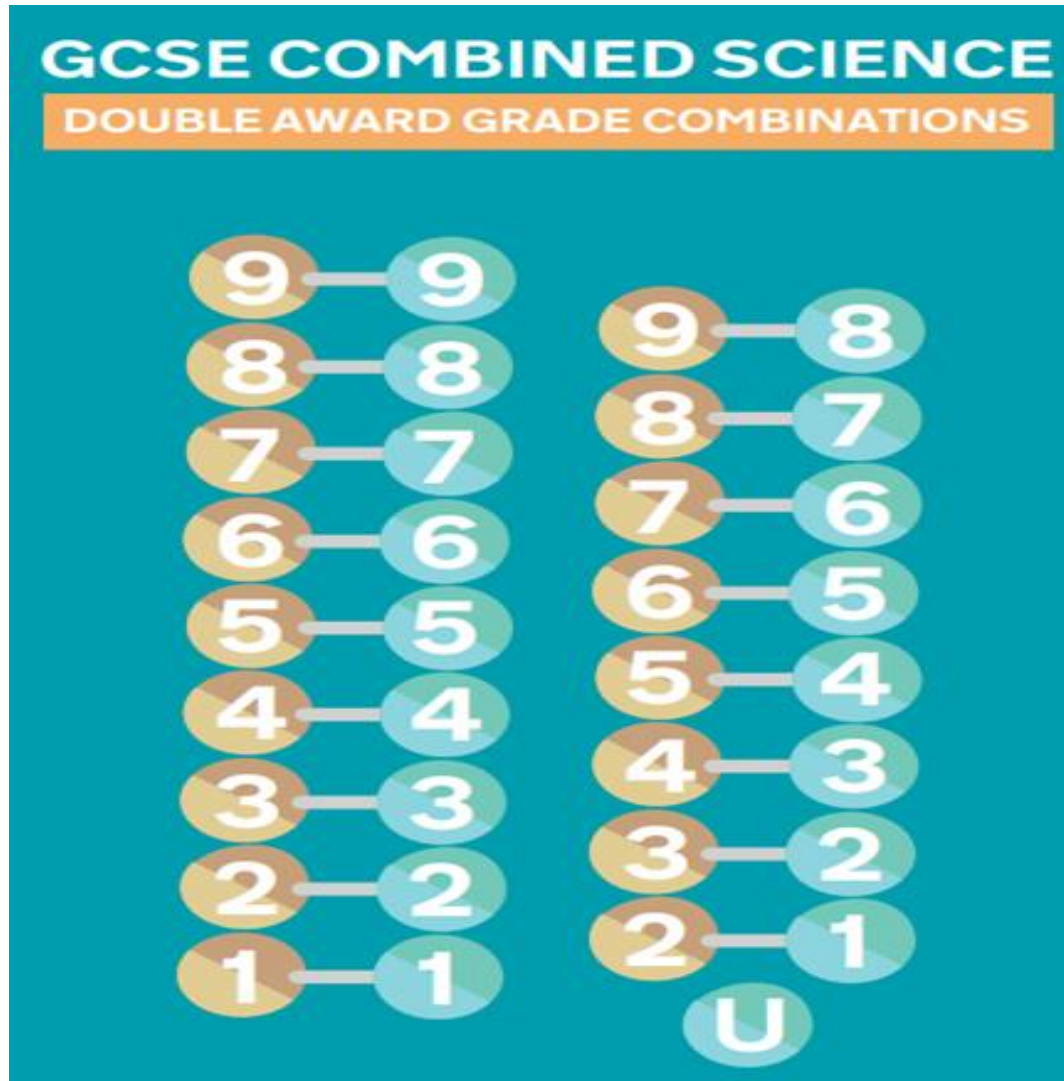


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Combined/Double Science Grades



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How to revise

What to do

Securing knowledge
e.g. KOs, Sparx Sci,
Flashcards, mindmaps

Exam practice with
meaningful feedback....

Mark schemes and ask
for help

What **NOT** to do

~~Copy notes, diagrams~~

~~Make flashcards and
mindmaps, but don't use
them~~

~~Read over notes/booklets etc~~



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Useful resources

Sparx Science (hw, independent learning and flashcards)

PMT Revision Resources

AQA past papers

Freesciencelessons

BBC Bitesize

23 Equations App

Key Contacts

Mr Martin - Head of Science and
Physics Lead

peter.martin@astrea-longsands.org

Mr Kwan - Head of Biology

[Manhol.kwan@astrea-
Longsands.org](mailto:Manhol.kwan@astrea-Longsands.org)

Mr Larkman- Head of Chemistry

[Matt.larkman@astrea-
Longsands.org](mailto:Matt.larkman@astrea-Longsands.org)

Stalls around the Ritchie Hall

Longsands Sixth Form – Mr Smy

Attendance – Mrs Baker

Stageworks – Stageworks Team

SEN – Ms Doolan (SENCO)

Safeguarding – Mr Milne



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Responsibility



Respect

Work Hard
Be Kind
Achieve More



Scholarship



Curiosity



Tenacity



Responsibility



Respect