

'Being GCSE ready'

Brookvale Groby Learning Campus 7 September 2017

Our vision and motto



Vision statement:

Valuing Everyone, Achieving Excellence

Our Motto:

Work Hard, Be Kind



Our values



Work Hard

1. Self Control with learning – not getting distracted, following instructions and being organised with learning.

Be Kind

- 2. Self Control with others behaving appropriately around others, taking criticism, and not losing your temper.
- 3. **Social intelligence** understanding the feelings of others and using this to inform your own actions.
- 4. **Gratitude** appreciating what others do for you and doing nice things in return.
- 5. **Curiosity and creativity** a strong desire to learn, ask searching questions and be creative.
- 6. **Zest** an approach to life filled with excitement and energy.
- 7. **Grit** Perseverance, independence, resilience, passion for long term goals.
- 8. **Growth mindset** Understanding that intelligence can be developed through practice.

Our values are the skills a student needs for GCSE success



Curiosity and creativity – a strong desire to learn, ask searching questions and be creative.

Zest – an approach to life filled with excitement and energy.

Grit – Perseverance, independence, resilience, passion for long term goals.

Growth mindset – Understanding that intelligence can be developed through practice.





All progress reports are emailed to you. Make sure you keep us up to date with your email address.





We will report to you 3 times per year plus Parent Evening

- Progress Report 1 10 October
- Progress Report 2 6 February
- Progress Report 3 8 May
- Parent Evening 15 March



Reporting Progress

Reports will contain predicted grades based on quality of work and attitude towards work. We will always try to be as accurate as we can with predictions, but they need to be read with caution

Assessments happen roughly every half term so if you are concerned about progress then contact the subject teacher for up to date information



Contacting staff if you have a concern

Contacting staff is straightforward if you have a concern.

You can either call the campus or email them by using the website.

Contact Staff

Communication Policy

Staff will check emails at least once per day but they are not expected to reply during evenings, weekends or holidays Parents/Carers should expect an acknowledgement to a phone call or email within 48 hours of making contact, and a full response within 5 working days.



Using the website



Smart Homework App



Understand the qualifications and grading systems

GCSEs etc



We run 4 types of course:

- GCSE's
- Technical Awards
- BTECs
- OCR Nationals

Technical Awards, BTECs and OCR National courses are vocational courses because they are linked to careers.

All 4 pathways are equivalent to each other although grading of them is different

<u>Assessment Structures</u>

All courses are 2 year, linear courses

Practical GCSEs and vocational courses contain coursework as part of their overall assessment, although there is an examination element to all courses

Academic GCSE's are fully assessed through exams at the end of the two years





All GCSE's are graded 1-9, 9 being the highest grade

Science is equivalent to 2 GCSE's and is therefore given 2 grades 1,1-9,9. These two grades can be different

Technical Awards, BTEC's and OCR Nationals are graded Distinction *, Distinction, Merit, Pass (all level 2), Distinction, Merit, Pass (level 1)

Some subjects have different entry tiers for examination. These tiers will limit the range of grades available to students. (Maths, Science, Languages)



Support your child's learning at home

Supporting your child



- Parental support is 8 times more important in determining a child's academic success than social class (Campaign for Learning research)
 The hardest demand on a student is understanding the long-term importance of doing the best they can.
- Students also differ in their levels of maturity, their ability to take responsibility for their learning, organisational skills and levels of motivation.
- This is where parents come in. Your support, encouragement and interest can make a spectacular difference to your child's motivation and ability to cope with the academic and organisational demands of the exam period.

Have high expectations



- 95%+ attendance
- Below 90% attendance no more authorisation of absence, no holidays in term time
- Support the school by not justifying examples of poor behaviour for learning or poor attitudes to learning
- Supporting routines such as uniform, mobile phones and good punctuality
- Keep up to date with homework and what is happening in terms of exams

Support your child at home



- Provide a space to work at home
- Ensure that your child has the right equipment including a scientific calculator, exam equipment and revision guides for each subject
- Get to know the specifications being used by the subject teacher (details available in the course booklet / on the website)
- Help your child plan their revision for tests, mocks and the real exams including building in time for relaxation.

Support with revision

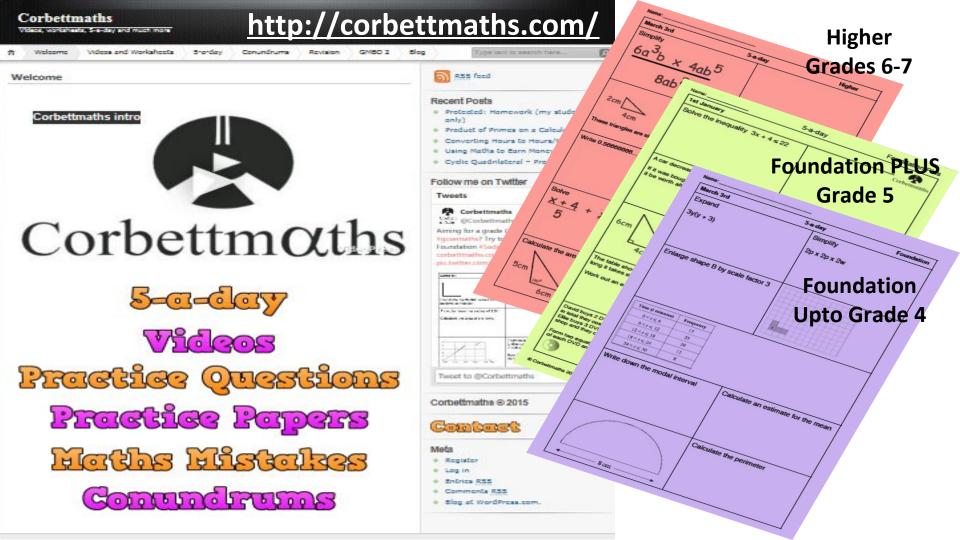


- •The secret to doing well in exams lies in planning. You can help your child to create a clear revision plan and method of studying that will make them feel in control of their work.
- •Tips for revision planning:
 - •work out a revision timetable for each subject
 - •break revision time into small chunks hour-long sessions with short breaks at the end of each session often work well
 - •make sure your child has all the essential books and materials
 - •condense notes onto postcards to act as revision prompts
 - •buy new stationery, highlighters and pens to make revision more interesting
 - •go through school notes with your child or listen while they revise a topic
 - time your child's attempts at practice papers

GCSE Maths



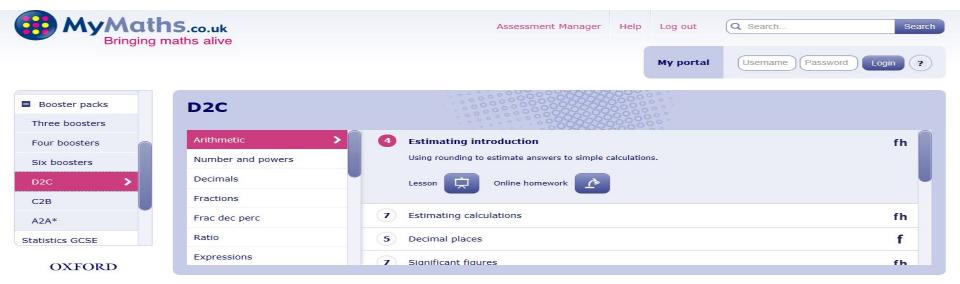
- Practice things little and often this has been proven to improve students'
 long term memory e.g. 5-a-day on Corbett Maths is great. Also Mymaths and
 Mr Barton are useful as revision sites and can be used to support work done in
 lessons.
- Students must have a scientific calculator and know how to use it 2 of the 3 GCSE papers are calculator papers. Calculators should be brought to lessons so that your child's teacher can show them how to use it effectively
- The majority of in-class revision comes in Y11 with past papers. The department provides all the resources in terms past papers



Mymaths.co.uk

Login: groby

Password: fraction



mr barton maths.com

Teachers Pupils Parents Just for fun My Blog Contact/legal

Welcome to > pupils

This is the most important section of the website. The aim of it is to get you understanding and enjoying your maths a bit more.

Here you will find links to notes and examples, ways to check your work, video solutions, tutorials, revision websites, exam advice, podcasts, everything you could possibly need to help you get as good as possible at your maths

Big News: You can now download the full set of GCSE notes to print out or view on your phone/tablet by clicking here.

GCSE notes	GCSE revision page	a level	a level
and free		notes and	aqa
ebook		examples	past papers
check your answers!	good websites for you	top revision and exam tips!	what use is maths?

GCSE English



- All students will receive timed essay homeworks in year 10 which are important assessment points.
- Parental support is essential to ensure that these assessments are done in a 45 minute block of time to their best ability. These assessments are essential for them to fully benefit from our feedback.
- Revision guides are being updated and will be available for each unit/text next term - but existing guides are available on the student shared area for students to download.

GCSE Science



- Students will require the appropriate revision guide(s) (Combined Science or Biology, Chemistry, Physics). Some students may benefit from using a dedicated science specific workbook. These can all be purchased from the science prep room.
- Students will be regularly tested at the end of each science module, your support would be greatly appreciated to encourage your child to prepare for these tests.
- A calculator is essential for ALL science lessons.



The importance of learning throughout the course and revising for assessments and exams



Marginal Gains- David Brailsford



"It is about marginal gains. The approach comes from the idea that if you break down a big goal into small parts, and then you improve on each of them, you will deliver a huge increase when you put them all together."





Mock exams at the end of Year 10 (June 2018) and December of Year 11 (Dec 2018)

Revision guides can be purchased from the school shop - Groby building / Science Prep room

March 2018 - Exam revision evening





Growth mindset is based on the principles that being 'smart' doesn't guarantee success. It is effort that guarantees success.

Research proves that when you praise effort not ability students achieve better grades / outcomes. *E.g. A student in Set 3 English this year achieved a grade 9 in English!*

Anyone can learn anything if they put their mind to it and work at it.

What have we learnt about the new GCSE?



- The new courses are more demanding with more to learn and more exam papers
- Getting a good Key Stage 2 (year 6)outcome (Level 5) does not mean automatic success at GCSE
- Students have to work harder now to get the grades particularly the higher grades
- Boys are more likely to underperform in language / literacy based subjects because of the extended writing and level of organisation needed to learn lots of content.
- Students who worked hard did exceptionally well.
- Parental involvement is key to success structuring revision, ensuring good attendance (95%+), supporting and helping.
- Parents of boys will need to be more demanding and have higher expectations of what their child does at home. In general, boys have a lower level of intrinsic motivation to work hard and external pressures make it harder for them to achieve.



Ella Munn Top Performing Girl

3 grade 9's, 6A* and 1 Dist* L2

Ella said; "Oh my God that's great!

I literally could not have done any better!"

Ella will be continuing into Post 16 here at BGLC to study Physics, Maths, Further Maths and Spanish.



Nayan Mistry

Top Performing Boy

1 grade 9, 7A* and 2 grade 8's

Nayan was really happy with his results he said; "I worked really hard, kept focused and did lots of revision."

He is staying on in Post 16 here at BGLC to study Maths, Physics and Computer Science.

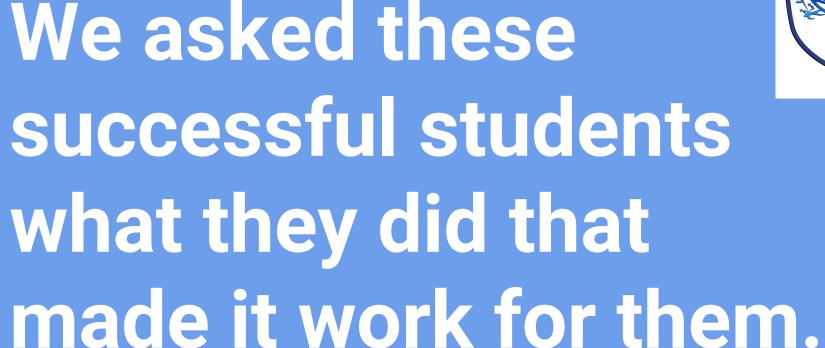


Student with the most progress

3A*, 3A, 1 grade 9, 8 & 7

Rhea was absolutely thrilled that all her hard word had paid off!

Rhea is staying on in Post 16 here at BGLC to study English Lang/Lit, Spanish, Physics / Business.





What did these former Year 11 students say made all the difference?



- Work hard from the start of Year 10
- Be organised -'Get on' as soon as you get home from school
- Every lesson counts be there, and go to every extra session offered by teachers
- Ask for extra help
- If you don't 'get' something ask at the time
- Make sure you spend equal time on all subjects- start with the hardest!
- Get plenty of sleep
- Drink water
- Eat breakfast
- Plan your time so you get some time to relax leave one day for yourself e.g. Sunday
- Make sure you do something you love



Good luck to the Class of 2019