



Boroughbridge High School

23rd October 2024

Dear Year 10 Parent/Carer,

Headteacher’s Update - Our raising achievement strategies for Year 10

A key focus for this year is to develop and deepen our values, that we are ambitious, respectful and resilient. This will support students in Year 10 to gain the highest possible GCSE and BTEC grades at the end of this year for their two option subjects and for the rest of their subjects at the end of Year 11. We are also committed to supporting students to make ambitious choices for the next stage of their educational journey, post-16.

Following on from Expectations Evening at the beginning of the year, this letter outlines the strategies that we have in place, whilst also aiming to give you the information that you need to support your child’s progress.

Our values and how they relate to raising achievement

We have developed descriptors for each of our values and, as you will have seen in your first tracking letter, we have used these to update our Attitude to Learning, Behaviour for Learning and Homework descriptors. These, along with our learning phases, ensure that students are clear of our expectations and what they need to do to achieve. They are as follows,

<p>Our values - we are ambitious, respectful and resilient. Ambitious - We aim high and are ambitious for what we can achieve during our school years and in our future lives. Respectful - We are an inclusive community where we respect ourselves and others and celebrate difference. Resilient - We are determined to succeed and see mistakes and setbacks as an opportunity to learn.</p>		
Attitude to Learning	Behaviour for Learning	Homework
<p>Ambitious I have high attendance. I am prepared for learning. I meet learning expectations. I actively participate and contribute in lessons. Respectful I value my own qualities and skills and those of others. Resilient I try my best and persevere even when things are difficult. I welcome feedback and use it to improve. I try to develop strategies to be independent. I ask for help when I need it.</p>	<p>Respectful I show kindness in my words and actions. I value my own qualities and skills and those of others by listening to and considering ideas from others. I respond positively to instructions from adults. I meet behaviour expectations and take responsibility for my actions. I wear my uniform with pride.</p>	<p>Ambitious I complete homework to maximise my learning time. I take opportunities to develop myself. Resilient I try my best and persevere even when things are difficult. I welcome feedback and use it to improve. I try to develop strategies to be independent. I ask for help when I need it.</p>

Headteacher: Kathryn Stephenson, BA (Hons)

Parent/Carer evenings

This year you will have two formal opportunities to meet with your child's subject teachers.

Wednesday 6th November 2024 – Year 10 Parent/Carer Evening (In school) 4-6.30p.m.

Here you will have the opportunity to speak to all of your child's teachers. You will already have received information about how to make appointments for the first one on Wednesday 6th November. If you have any problems with this, then please contact schooladmin@boroughbridgehigh.com.

Wednesday 22nd January 2024 – Year 10 Parent/Carer Evening (Online) 4-6.30p.m.

Here you will have the opportunity to speak to your child's option subject teachers. We have introduced a second Parent/Carer evening in response to parental and staff feedback so that there is the opportunity to discuss Progress Exam results in the option subjects.

You will receive further tracking data on Wednesday 15th January 2025 and Thursday 3rd April 2025.

Progress Exams

We have two main phases of Progress Exams in Year 10. These are

21st -29th November 2024 - Progress Exams 1

3rd -14th March 2025 – Progress Exams 2

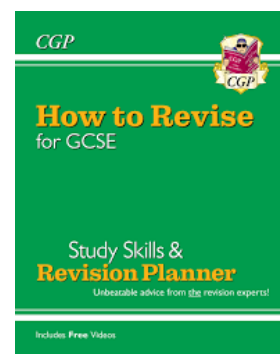
Our revision strategy

We have a number of ways in which we support students with their revision. We have explained to students why it is important for them to approach their Progress Exams with the same level of preparation and commitment as their final exams as this will help them to build up their knowledge and exam technique and will also provide teachers with the information that they need to target their teaching in the coming months.

You will have received the **Revision Guide** which we have put together in school. We have shared this with parents and carers following feedback at the Expectations Evenings last year. This will enable you to have conversations at home about revision and what is coming up in the Progress Exams. In this booklet there is information about each Progress Exam including what is on each paper and how students can revise for it. Students have access to this document on Google Classroom. You will also have received the Progress Exam timetable.

To further support students with their revision

- In lessons, subject teachers use retrieval activities to help students to build their knowledge over time. Students are aware that these approaches can also be used for independent revision. Teachers will also talk about more general revision approaches and how they can be successfully applied to their subject.
- During form time, Year 11 are exploring different revision techniques.
- In assemblies, we are talking about approaches to revision, using our values (**Ambitious, Respectful and Resilient**) and newly formed Attitude to Learning, Behaviour for Learning and Homework descriptors.
- All students have received a 'How to revise' book which, along with revision techniques, has subject specific information and a planner to create a revision timetable.



Other areas which will support success

Attendance

Students learn most productively when they are in the classroom and our GCSE/BTEC analysis from exams last year clearly shows that students whose attendance was high significantly outperformed those with lower attendance. We have discussed this with students so that they understand the importance of being in school and being in lessons.

Paid work

We appreciate that, once students are 14, carrying out some paid work can be beneficial not only financially but also in helping them to experience the world of work and develop their skills. However, it's important that they plan their time so that they have sufficient time to complete their school work. The government guidelines on child employment can be found at <https://www.gov.uk/child-employment/restrictions-on-child-employment>

Finally,

I look forward to seeing you at the **Parent/Carer evening on Wednesday 6th November** when I will be available to answer any questions or queries that you have or please contact schooladmin@boroughbridgehigh.com

We understand the value of working closely with parents and carers to ensure the success of our young people and your ongoing support is much appreciated.

Yours sincerely,

K Stephenson

Miss K. Stephenson
Headteacher