# Achievement Matters for Parents/Guardians

21st September 2026

"Success is the sum of small efforts, repeated day in and day out." – Robert Collier

**Why Achievement Matters**

Examination grades do not define who a person is. They cannot measure qualities such as talent, kindness, compassion, or a sense of humour. However, we also know that good results can open doors to many future opportunities and make it easier for students to reach their goals and ambitions. With your encouragement, we hope your child will make the most of all the support available to them, so they are able to achieve the very best GCSE outcomes possible.

It was wonderful to see so many of you at our first **Parents in Partnership: "What to Expect" Evening**.

We hope this event marks the beginning of a successful and productive Year 11 for our students. By working together, we can support every young person to achieve their full potential, secure the outcomes they deserve, and keep open the doors to their future aspirations and opportunities.

For those who would like to revisit the information shared on the evening, or for anyone who was unable to attend, the presentation is available on our website:

Parents in Partnership - Year 11 What to expect Evening 2026

**Exam Board information**

AQA www.aqa.org.uk
Edexcel www.qualifications.pearson.com
WJEC https://www.wjec.co.uk

**Year 11 Mocks 1 -** Monday October 12th – Friday October 23rd

Revision and independent preparation for these examinations is critical as this will allow students to:

- Demonstrate their learning in that subject
- Gain confidence and self-belief
- Identify any key areas for further development
- Practice the key revision skills and techniques that will be used to secure the very best outcomes in the final GCSE examination in year 11.

Mock examinations also allow students to

- Practice examination techniques
- Develop strategies to deal with the inevitable anxiety caused by exams

Students will also be completing Coursework and NEA work during this time – further details to follow

**Year 11 Parent Consultation Evening – Thursday 19th November**
An opportunity to discuss Mock results and next steps

**Sixth Form Options Evening Thursday 22nd October**

Come and see what our Sixth Form can offer

## An evidence-based list of effective GCSE revision strategies, drawing from cognitive science and successful study habits PART 1

🎯 1. Active Recall – "Testing Yourself"

Why it works: Actively retrieving information strengthens memory far more than re-reading notes.

How to use it:

- Use flashcards (physical or apps like Anki/Quizlet) to quiz yourself.
- Cover up answers and try to write or say key points from memory.
- Practice past paper questions or make your own quiz questions.
- Try "brain dumps" — write everything you know on a topic, then check what you missed.

⏳ 2. Spaced Repetition – "Little and Often"

Why it works: Revising topics at spaced intervals helps long-term retention.

How to use it:

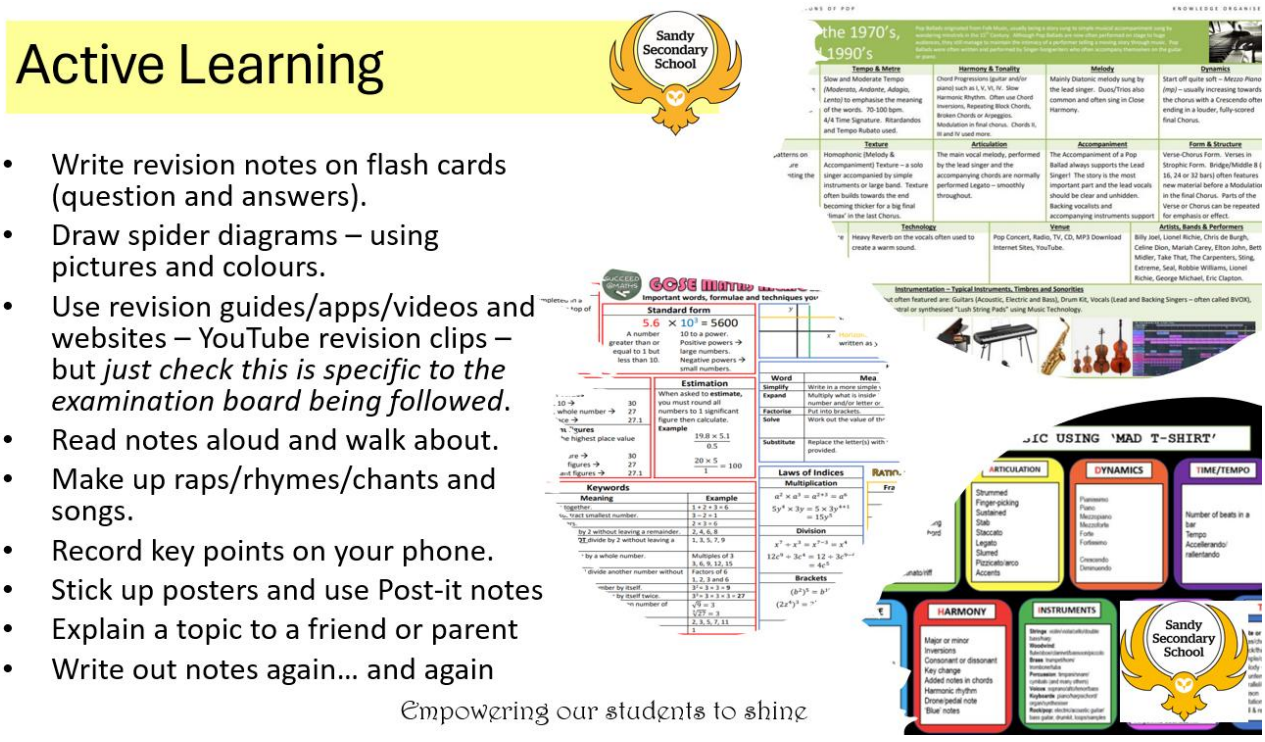
- Start revising early and revisit each topic multiple times.
- Use a revision timetable that spaces subjects over weeks.
- Revisit topics after 1 day, 3 days, 7 days, 14 days, etc.
- Combine with flashcards that automatically resurface challenging cards (e.g. Anki).

🧩 3. Interleaving – "Mixing It Up"

Why it works: Mixing different topics or question types strengthens problem-solving and recall.

How to use it:

- Don't block all revision by subject (e.g., "all of Chemistry in one day").
- Alternate between subjects or topics (e.g., 30 min Biology, 30 min History).
- Mix question types within subjects — especially in Maths or Science.




## We look forward to working with your son/daughter as they enter their final year of compulsory education

To help us plan the most effective support for both students and families throughout the year, we would be grateful if you could spare five minutes to complete a short online survey. Your feedback will help us shape the resources, guidance, and events we provide as students prepare for their GCSE examinations.

Year 11 Parent Survey – Study Support and What to Expect Evening – Fill out form