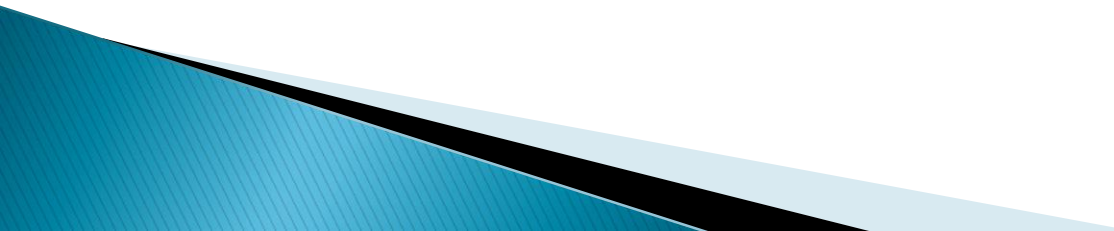


# 5<sup>th</sup> Year Information Morning



August 2015

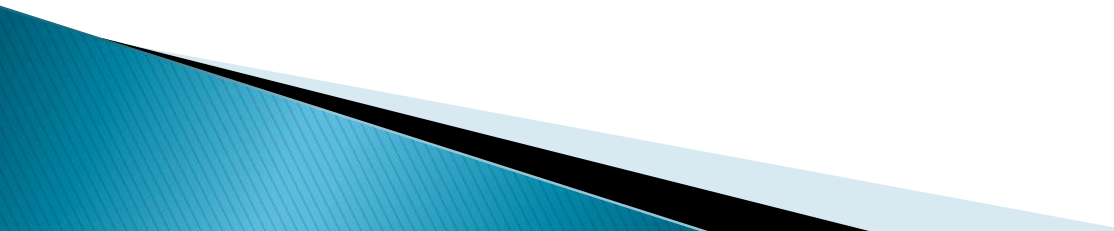
# Content

- ▶ Headmaster
  - ▶ Year Tutor
  - ▶ Head of CEIAG
  - ▶ Head of Middle School
- 

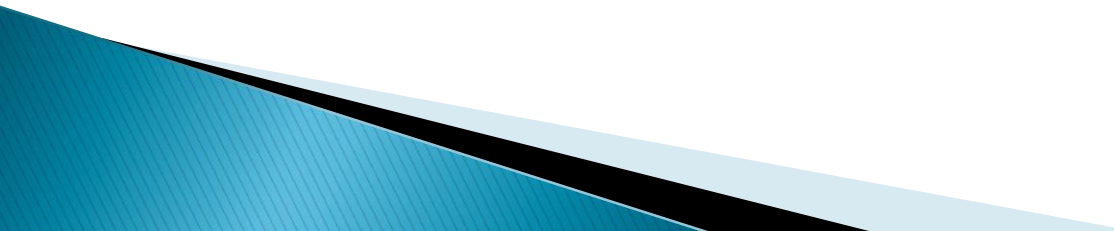
# Headmaster



# Welcome

- ▶ Appreciation of Attendance at Meeting
  - ▶ Information rather than usual Parent Teacher Meeting
  - ▶ Having this meeting in order to try and highlight with you as parents and students the issues that could have a serious impact on your GCSE Grades
- 

# Outline of Issues

- ▶ Behaviour
  - ▶ Home – School links
  - ▶ Pastoral Focus for the Year
  - ▶ Academic Indiscipline
  - ▶ Module results
  - ▶ Controlled assessment
  - ▶ New Year – New Start
- 

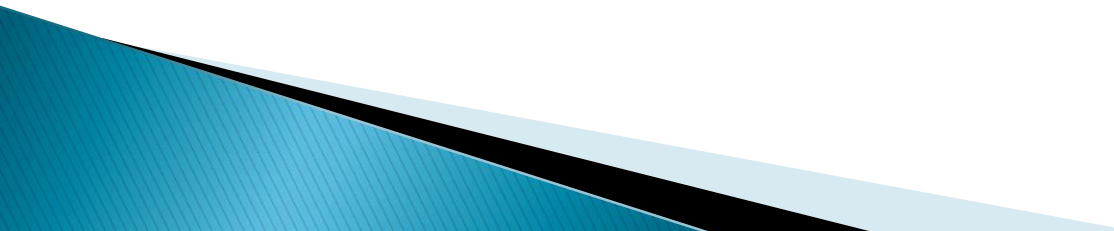
Year Tutor

» Mrs B Tohill

# Behaviour

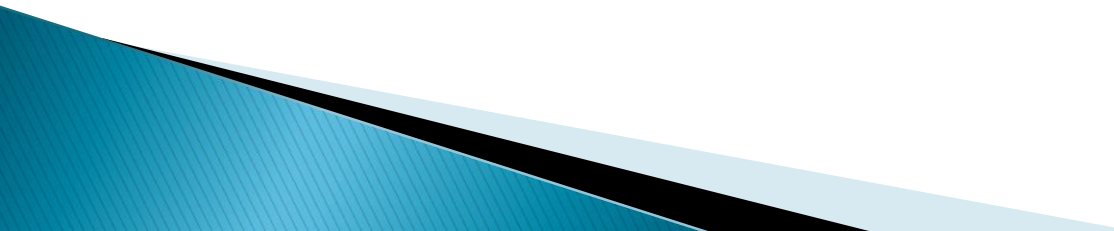
- ▶ Pupils and parents are well aware of our expectations in this area – High Expectations!
- ▶ This has a crucial impact on 5<sup>th</sup> year for two reasons:
  - It is used as a deciding factor as to whether we invite your son back for A levels
  - We will take a very stern approach to classroom disruption i.e. if your son is disruptive, he will be removed and as a consequence misses that lesson

# Pastoral Support / Challenge

- ▶ We ask pupils to work together with staff in what is a vital year for them and to accept that we will make tough decisions for their own and everybody's benefit
  - ▶ We ask parents to support us in the use of sanctions in the knowledge that we all share the same aim which is helping your son to mature and be successful in his GCSEs
- 



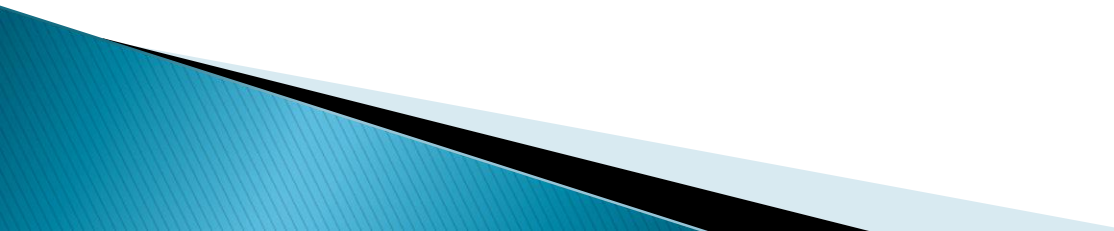
# Home – School links

- ▶ Layout of the homework planner
  - ▶ ‘No homework’ should not be recorded in a planner – each student has additional work to do each evening for each subject – reading, revising notes, research, oral work etc.
  - ▶ Notes to explain absence – new perforated sheets at the back of the homework planner
  - ▶ Signing of the **homework planner weekly** (not in advance) recognises that you are aware of teacher concerns and also what work your son has done that week
- 

# Attendance

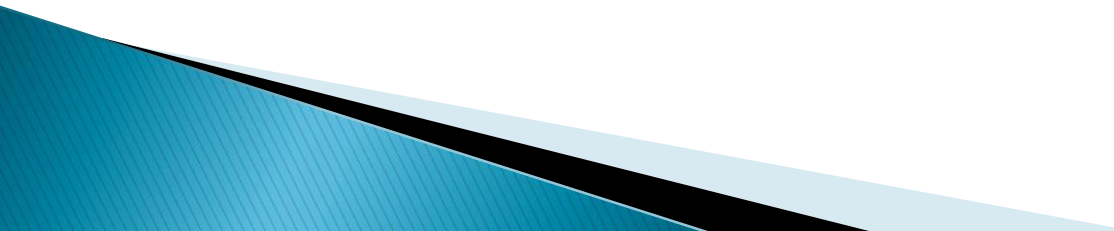
- ▶ Your son's attendance record for the year was on his report
- ▶ Remember if it is around 90% he missed on average one day per fortnight
- ▶ If it is around 80% it is on average one day per week
- ▶ Poor attendance has a direct link to poor performance at GCSE. Do not support your son's request to remain at home to 'catch up on work'

# Practical Subjects

- ▶ Art, Music, Drama, Technology and Construction, Moving Images
  - ▶ If you son studies one of these subjects, he will have to spend considerable time in school after 3:20pm and also considerable hours at home
  - ▶ After school study available Monday to Thursday 3.30pm–4.50pm – Study Hall (supervised with access to ICT)
- 

# School–Life Balance :

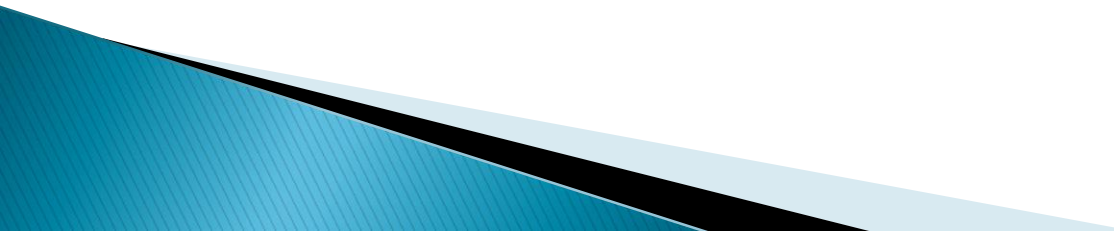
## ‘Emotional Health’

- ▶ The importance of ensuring a balance between schoolwork, interests and part time jobs
  - ▶ Being involved in communities and extracurricular pursuits – all very important elements of holistic growth and well-being
  - ▶ Be assured of my full support during this difficult year
- 

# Our Year Group Focus ... 'Keeping Safe'

- ▶ Online safety
- ▶ Positive mental health

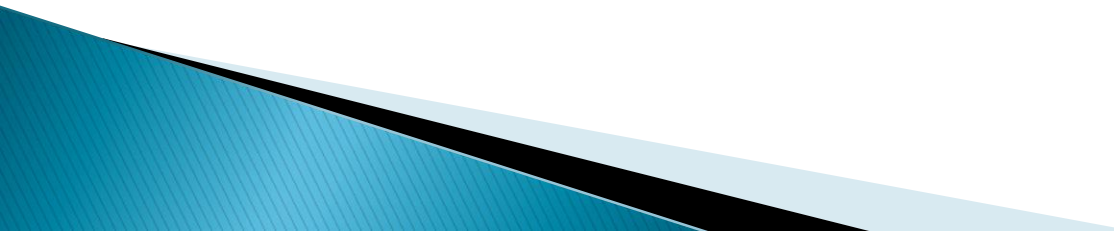
# Online safety ... Risks & Dangers

- ▶ Inappropriate content, including pornography
  - ▶ Ignoring age restrictions
  - ▶ Friending or communicating with people they don't know
  - ▶ Grooming and sexual abuse
  - ▶ Sharing personal information
  - ▶ Gambling or running up debts
- 

# Parental Tips to Help Keep Students Safe

- ▶ Have the conversation early and often
- ▶ Know who your child is talking to online
- ▶ Set rules and agree boundaries
- ▶ Make sure that content is age-appropriate
- ▶ Use parental controls to filter, restrict, monitor or report content
- ▶ Check you know how to use privacy settings and reporting tools
- ▶ <http://www.nspcc.org.uk/preventing-abuse/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/>
- ▶ [www.waynedenner.com](http://www.waynedenner.com)

# Positive Mental Health

- ▶ Connect with others
  - ▶ Be active
  - ▶ Keep learning
  - ▶ Give to others
  - ▶ Be mindful
- 



» Head of CEIAG

Mrs A Reynolds

# Year 12 Careers Education

- ▶ Careers Education – programme delivered through:
  - Careers classes at whole group level
  - Guidance session/interview at individual level
- ▶ Every Year 12 student will have a careers interview with Mrs Dunne, our external careers advisor from Careers Service NI.
- ▶ Plenty of support, information and advice available throughout the year.

# Careers & GCSE Results

- ▶ GCSEs – why important? Do they matter?
- ▶ GCSEs:
- ▶ Can determine whether or not you progress to an A Level programme of study;
- ▶ Can determine the qualifications you take next at further or higher education;
- ▶ Are the results that universities see and may use to predict your A Level performance;
- ▶ May broaden or limit university choices:
  - English and maths – passes at grade B or better often stipulated.


# Career Progression Routes

- ▶ A Levels
  - Work or use to progress to higher education
- ▶ BTEC/NVQ
  - Work or use to progress to further and/or higher education
- ▶ Training programme
- ▶ Apprenticeship
- ▶ Check courses at Southern Regional College and Belfast Metropolitan College => Apply.

Head of Middle School

» Mrs C Mc Grath

# Role

- ▶ Support
  - ▶ Motivate
  - ▶ Challenge
- 
- ▶ We 'care' – take/teach/show/evoke
  - ▶ We expect out students to do the same
- 
- ▶ GCSE performance lays the cornerstone building blocks for your son's future – this is NOT a Myth – it is Facts !!
- 

# Academic Indiscipline

- ▶ Homework / Study
  - ▶ Module Results – where do we stand ?
  - ▶ Coursework (CW)
  - ▶ Controlled Assessment (CA)
  - ▶ Final Year exams
- 
- ▶ ( Flyer containing all info on Academic Indiscipline / Modules/CA and CW)

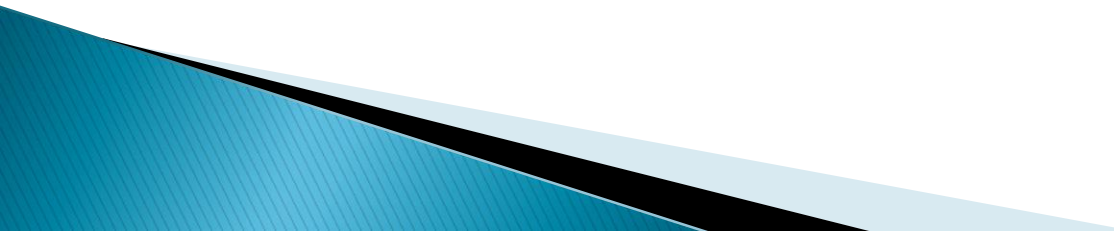
# Effects

- ▶ The single most important factor in students not achieving their GCSE grades and being able to move in to 6<sup>th</sup> Form is:

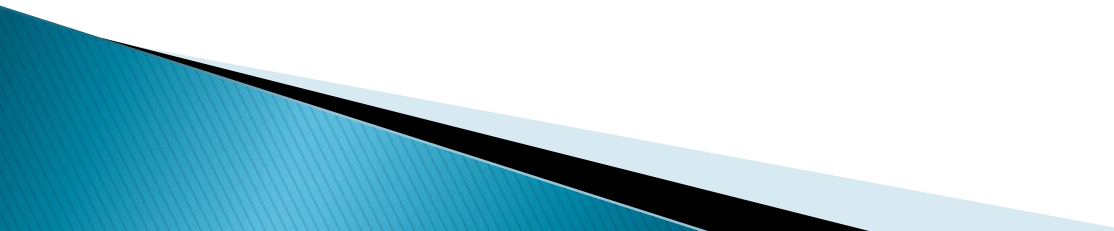
Academic Indiscipline



# Homework / Study

- ▶ An essential part of school life and the link between school work and home study
  - ▶ You and your son need to sit down and ensure that he has the space and time set aside each evening to do this
  - ▶ This has a direct impact on GCSE grades
- 

# Module Results

- ▶ You have now received module results in many subjects along with your report
  - ▶ This is the starting point for assessing where your son stands 60% though his two year course
  - ▶ If he has not performed well, he must accept responsibility.
- 

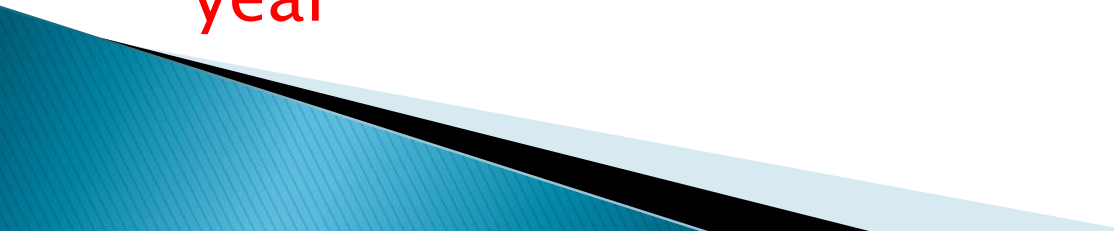
# Year 11 RESULTS & PP

- ▶ % A\* – B                      22%
- ▶ % A\* – C                      45%
- ▶ 5 +                              90% ( 119/132)
- ▶ 7 +                              72% ( 95/ 132)
  
- ▶ <3Bs/4Cs                      32%
- ▶ (Current entry criteria to Yr 12)

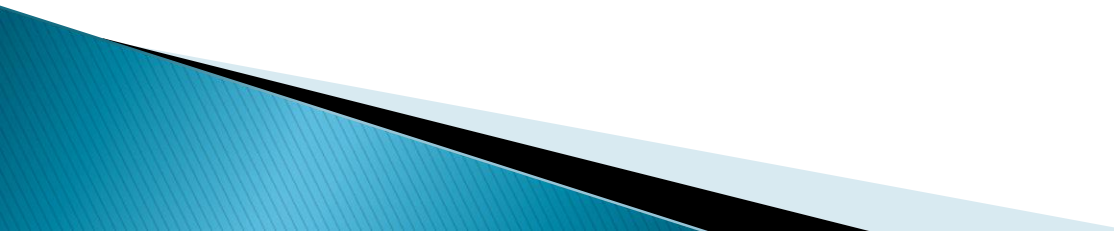
# Repeats in Module Exams

- ▶ He will have to prepare independently for repeats since teachers will be completing 5<sup>th</sup> yr work
- ▶ There is a repeat module entry fee of £12 per examination
- ▶ These take place **next June** alongside his GCSEs
- ▶ Maths Repeat ( Jan)/ Science ( 1 paper only)
- ▶ **Any remark/ return of script requests by Tuesday 01<sup>st</sup> Sept 1pm – Tess**

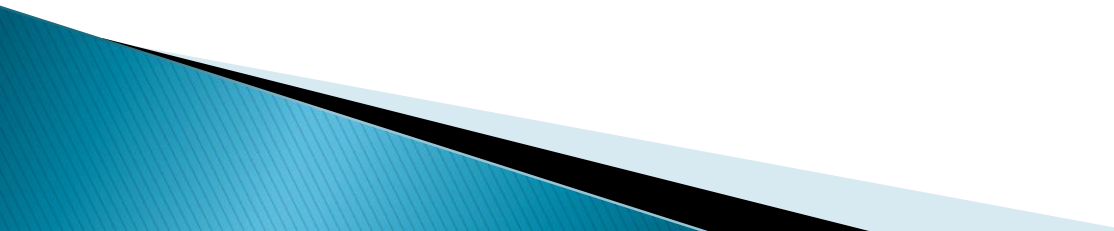
# Coursework Deadlines

- ▶ Exam Boards set these and they are non negotiable
  - ▶ Teachers set internal deadlines so that they can advise students regarding how the work can be improved
  - ▶ Failure by students to meet internal deadlines will have a significant impact on their grades
  - ▶ Coursework should **not be left to the last minute and time should not be taken off school to complete work because of failure by the student to manage his time throughout the year**
- 


# Controlled Assessment

- ▶ Controlled assessment is a formal recognised part of your son's GCSE course
  - ▶ He will sit between one and four of these per subject
  - ▶ They normally account for 15 – 20% each towards a GCSE grade
  - ▶ **They should not be missed and cannot be repeated**
  - ▶ **( Yellow Flyer)**
- 

# Controlled Assessment

- ▶ They are the culmination of 2 / 3 weeks work in class or independent research work and are often examined in the Hall under exam conditions
  - ▶ Missing a controlled assessment means having to complete an examination at a time when the preparation work is not fresh in your son's mind or it has to be done independently
- 

# A levels in the Abbey

- ▶ 7 GCSE passes of which at least 3 must be grade B
  - ▶ An excellent disciplinary record
  - ▶ A suitable academic profile for A level
  - ▶ A Grade C – albeit a pass grade is generally a very difficult start to an A level in a subject
  - ▶ RESEARCH !!!! – Several courses at third level require minimum of Grade B in the relevant subject area to proceed to HE – in particular Maths/English/Science
- 



# What now??

- ▶ Don't panic and don't over-react
- ▶ Good Yr Group – WE Believe in You – YOU believe in Yourself !!
- ▶ **Focus – Believe – Achieve** –new yr/new start
- ▶ **Begin switch from summer mode to school mode immediately**
- ▶ Success will only be achieved by working with your son
- ▶ Evaluate where he is in each subject, why he has underperformed
- ▶ Ensure he has notes from 4<sup>th</sup> yr up to date
- ▶ Keep a record of what you discuss
- ▶ **Hit the ground running on the 01<sup>st</sup> September**
- ▶ **Progress Meetings ( YT/FT/Head of School)**

# Remember Always.....

▶ **FOCUS**

▶ **BELIEVE**

▶ **ACHIEVE**

▶ This is a new year – a new start !!!!!!!!!!!!!

