

Senior Phase Parent Information Evening



Senior Phase Information Evening



- **Outline qualifications.**
- **Key dates**
- **Study Advice.**

Why 'Senior Phase?'

- **S1 – S3 Broad General Education**
- **S4 – S6 Senior Phase**

National Qualifications

Dingwall Academy

In 2013 the CFE nationals replaced standard grades and higher still exams

CFE		
National 3	Standard grade foundation	Access 3
National 4	Standard grade general	Intermediate 1
National 5	Standard grade credit	Intermediate 2
Higher	Higher	Higher
Advanced Higher	Advanced Higher	Advanced Higher

Units, courses

There's more focus on knowledge and skills – including vital skills: literacy and numeracy, which underpin all learning and are critical in life.

Each course is made up of knowledge and skills that are assessed by a course assessment.

Course	Assessment
National 4	Assignment within school
National 5	Assignment within school and/or exam
Higher	Assignment within school and /or exam
Advanced higher	Assignment within school and/or exam

Units, courses

Each course is made up of units of work.

At national 4, where there is no exam, the units are assessed in class along with the final course assessment.

At national 5 and higher the courses are also made up of units. The units are assessed within the exam in May.

At advanced higher the courses are also made up of units. The units are assessed by short unit assessments in class and within the exam in May.

Free standing units

Sometimes pupils take national courses over more than one year to match their pace of learning or fit in with other learning - in these cases it is useful to assess each unit as pupils learn the course content and develop skills.

We call these **free standing units** and pupils are credited for these on the SQA certificate each year.

Free standing units are achievable and help support broader skills development useful in employment and further study, they are useful on their own and as part of an exam assessed course.

Investigations, Assignments and Folios ...

Do you know what is required?

Do you know the deadlines?

<https://www.npfs.org.uk/downloads/category/in-a-nutshell-series/nationals-in-a-nutshell-series/>

Managing the workload of assignment preparation can be challenging, you can support young people by helping them plan time to prepare.

No appeal system ...

I
What happens if ...
I do badly on the
day of the exam?..

If school has concerns about a candidate's grade we can request a clerical check or marking review. We would do this automatically if there was robust evidence that suggested a pupil was normally able to perform at a higher level than they attained in the exam.

Exceptional Circumstances

Consideration Service

What happens if

I am absent on the day of an exam?.....

I am ill on the day of the exam?.....



Assessment Arrangements

We are allowed to make 'assessment arrangements' for pupils with identified learning needs as required. This allows a pupil to demonstrate their knowledge, skills and understanding regardless of a barrier to learning.

We follow the SQA Guidelines very closely so that the integrity of the qualifications are upheld.

AA are worked out every year and for every subject. AA are used in formal assessments, prelims and final exams and also reflect day to day classroom practice. This is part of an ongoing process around knowing and meeting learners' needs with the pupil very much at the centre.

There has been a move away from 'live' readers and scribes to using ICT. This is an SQA requirement and also a life skills for pupils.

Pupils and parents/carers can discuss AA with Mr Williams or Ms Kerr.

Testing times ...

- **Prelims completed.**

Option process

- S4 into S5

- Reports and option forms issued 13th Feb.
- Returned Friday 22nd February

- S5 into S6

- Reports and option forms issued 22nd Feb.
- Returned Friday 8th March.

Option process

- Online option booklet – school website.
-
- http://www.dingwallacademy.com/senior_phase_options_help.html
- Contains information on courses on offer.
- Think beyond the traditional subject choices.



SQA Exams

2019

- 8 school weeks

January S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	February S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28	March S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	April S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30
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SQA Exams

8 school
weeks

2019

January S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	February S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28	March S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	April S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30
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Calendar Templates by Vertex42.com

<https://www.vertex42.com/calendars/CS19.html>

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28th
November

Testing times ...

- **Easter holidays**



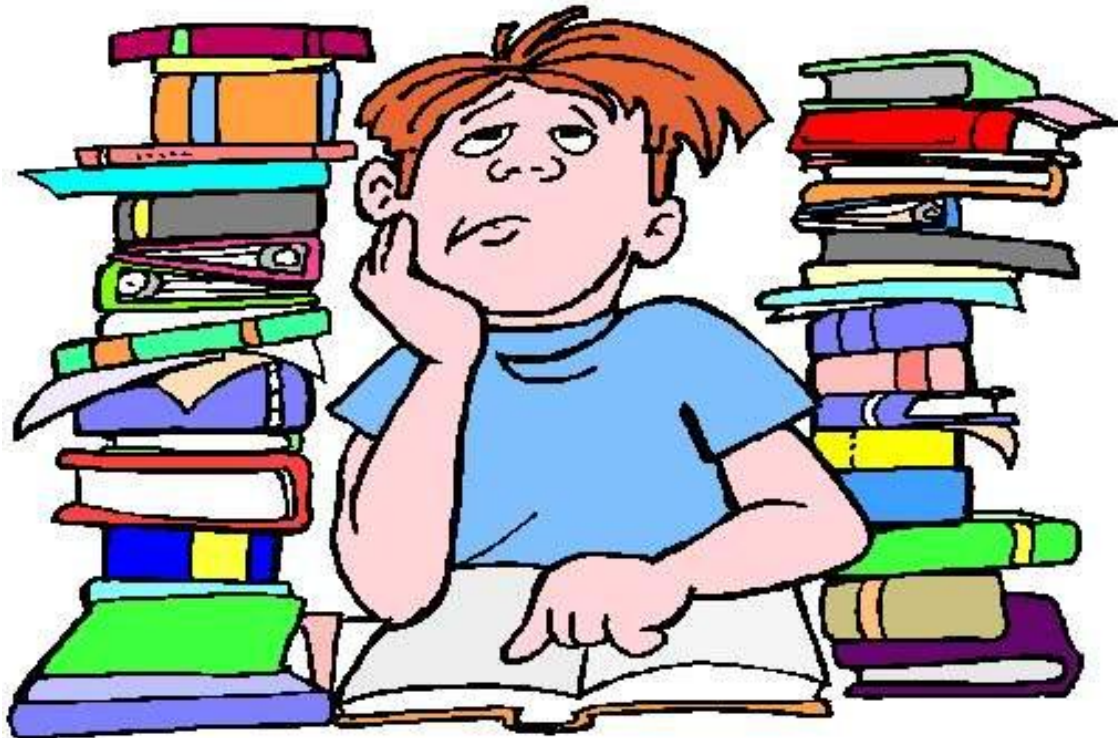
- **School closes Friday 5th April –
re-opens Tuesday 23rd April**

Higher PE Thursday 25th April

Testing times ...

- **School returns Tuesday 23rd April**
- **Study leave starts Monday 29th April**
- **SQA Exam Timetable**
- https://www.sqa.org.uk/sqa/files_ccc/ExamTimetable2019.pdf

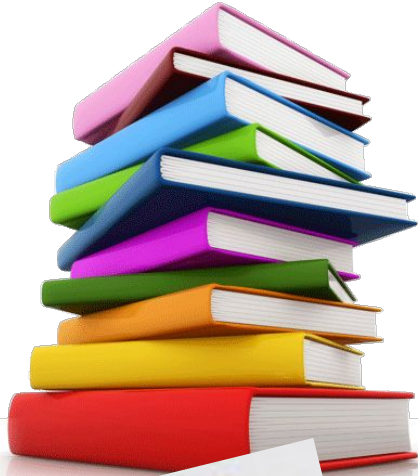
Where do you start?



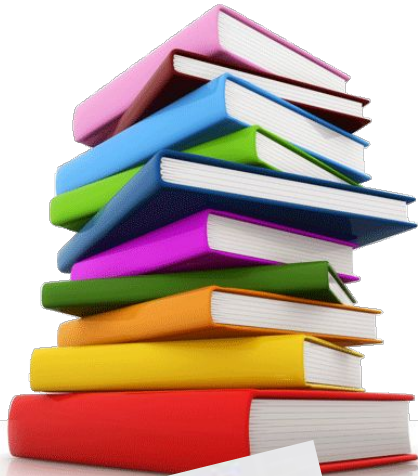
Resources

- What do you need to have in front of you for effective study?

Resources



Resources



Parental Involvement

“The research is overwhelmingly clear: when parents play a positive role in their children’s education, students do better in school”

How can I help?

- Build revision time into family life.
- Create a quiet space.
- Reward – cups of tea chocolate biscuits!
- Breaks from revision.

Help consolidate revision by

- Talking through summary notes.
- Asking for explanation of mind map.
- Timed past papers.
- Ask for explanations, teach the parent.
- Talk, talk, talk.

The importance of planning

- Fail to plan.
Plan to fail.

Have a system for planning.



		Weekly Study Timetable						
		Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Morning	7 - 8							
	8 - 9							
	9 - 10							
	10 - 11							
	11 - 12							
Afternoon	12 - 1							
	1 - 2							
	2 - 3							
	3 - 4							
	4 - 5							
Evening	5 - 6							
	6 - 7							
	7 - 8							
	8 - 9							
	9 - 10							
	10 - 11							

How long?



How long?

- Minimum 2 hours per subject - each week.
- Break into manageable chunks.



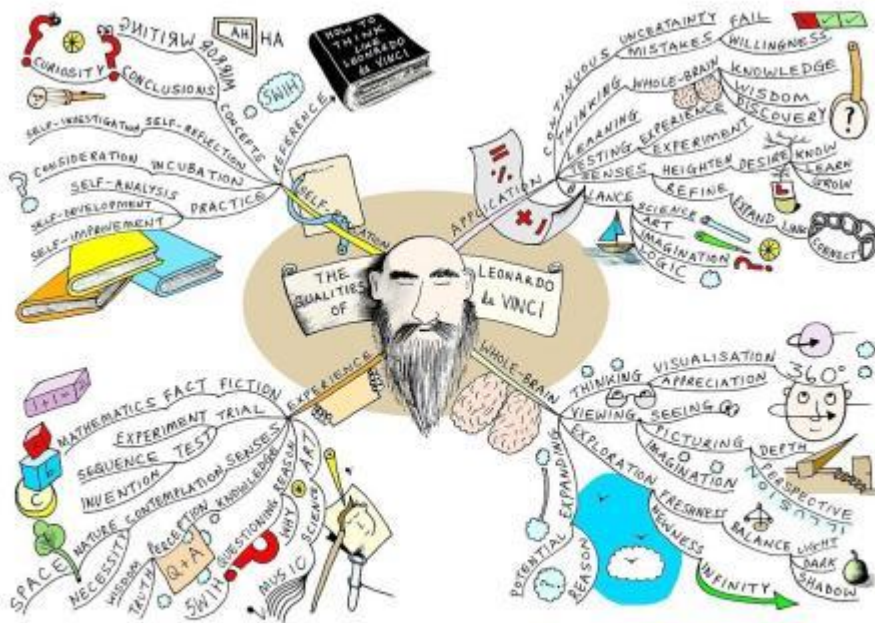
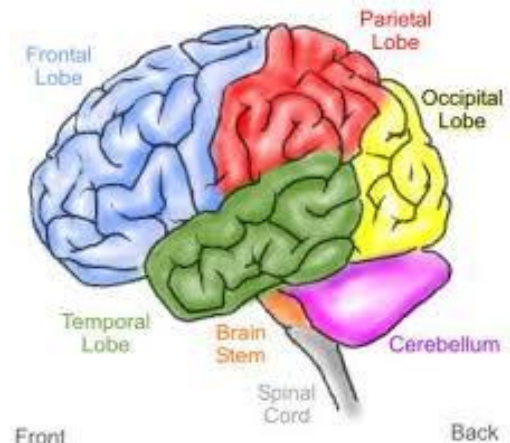
How long did you spend on a mobile device or games console?



But what do I do?



Regions of the Human Brain



But what do I do?

- Check for understanding.
- Recap.
- Practice.



Speaking from experience ...

- Don't make ridiculous study aims.
- Make quality notes that you understand.
- Study the material you don't understand and not the material you do – get out of your comfort zone!



Speaking from experience ...

- Short, focused study sessions. Quality rather than quantity.
- Make use of your class time and concentrate on new material your teachers give you.
- If you are finding past papers a bit tricky, do a few with your notes beside you before going on to practise in exam conditions.

Past Papers



Past Papers) by Sqa (30 Aug 2013)

£8.99 **£7.19** Paperback 

Order in the next **5 hours** and get it by Tuesday, Dec 3.

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Past Papers



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National 5 Specimen Question Papers

The documents below illustrate the standard, structure and requirements of the question papers learners will sit from session 2013-14. These also include marking instructions.

View [Higher Specimen Question Papers](#)

[Hodder Education](#) have produced sets of additional model papers for many subjects too. These include copies of the SQA specimen question papers and are available to buy now.

BBC Bitesize

The screenshot shows a web browser window with the address bar displaying `http://www.bbc.co.uk/education/levels/z6gw2hv`. The browser's address bar also shows a tab for "BBC - National 5". The browser's menu bar includes "File", "Edit", "View", "Favorites", "Tools", and "Help". The browser's toolbar includes a search bar, a "del.icio.us" button, and a "TAG" button.

The BBC Bitesize website interface features a navigation bar with the BBC logo, a search bar, and links to "News", "Sport", "Weather", "iPlayer", "TV", "Radio", and "More".

Bitesize has changed!

The new home of both Study Guides and Class Clips

- ✓ Brand new guides for GCSEs, Key Stage 3, Scottish Highers and Nationals
- ✓ Now available on your tablet and phone

Why has Bitesize changed?

OK, got it!

Bitesize

Tell us what you think

Primary ▾ Secondary ▾ All Subjects ▾

3rd level 4th level CA3 KS3 GCSE National 4 **National 5** Nàiseanta 4

`http://www.bbc.co.uk/`

Google Classroom



Supported Study

N5 and Higher English Monday Room 203

N5 and Higher Chemistry Tuesday Room 135

N5 and Higher Biology/H Bio Wed Room 144

N5 Biology Thu Room 144

N5 and Higher Physics Thu Room 136

N5 and Higher Graphics Fri Room 27

Computer and Games Design All lunchtimes Room 212

Target Setting



Targets set on Google Sheet

- Share and discuss targets at home.



Meeting those target grades:

- Effective Study
- +
- Intrinsic Motivation
- +
- Growth Mindset
- +
- Work in School
- +
- Relax!

Relax.



Can only
happen if
you plan.



Barriers to study:

Barriers to study:



FIXED MINDSET



So what happens next ...

- Check deadlines for all coursework.
- Discuss targets and study plan.
- Check exam timetable.
- Discuss plans for Easter.



**DO IT
NOW**

Start the preparation now





It's a funny
thing, the more I
practice the
luckier I get.

Arnold Palmer