

Welcome to Thomas Deacon Academy

Year 11 Parent Information Evening

Tuesday 12th September

Mrs Jenny Brassington
Deputy Vice Principal -
Standards



Who am I and why am I here?

Mrs Brassington

Deputy Vice Prinicipal

My job to support students to meet or exceed their target grades.



Achievement – GCSEs have changed

Ofqual

Grading new GCSEs from 2017

New grading structure	Current grading structure
9	
8	A*
7	A
6	B
5	
4	C
3	D
2	E
1	F
	G
U	U

GOOD PASS (DfE)
5 and above = top of C and above

AWARDING
4 and above = bottom of C and above

No longer grades – numbers from 1-9

9 is the top grade



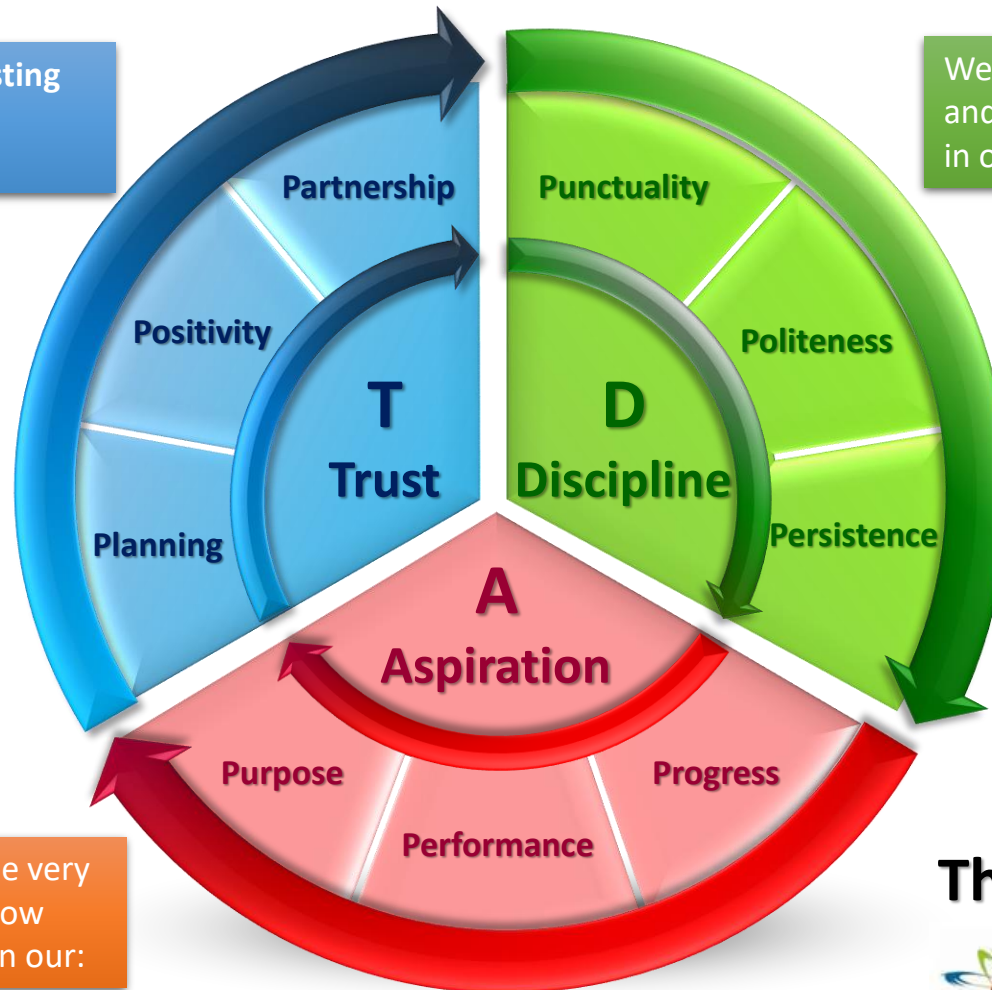
GCSE Courses

- GCSE grades go from 1-9; where 9 is the TOP grade.
- The way that grades are awarded has also changed – there are no clear grade boundaries – these will be determined each year based on student marks.
- So GCSEs are a competition – the students with the best marks get the best grades BUT roughly the same number of grades will be awarded each year.
- As marks get higher – grade boundaries are likely to get higher – so you have to be your best.
- The better grades students get, the more likely they are to get onto their choice of post-16 course; the more likely they will go to university and the better (and better paid) job they will get.

Our values

Values

We model **trusting** relationships through our:



We never give up and are **disciplined** in our:

We want the very best and show **aspiration** in our:

The TDA Way



Our expectations

- Prepared for learning – bringing the correct equipment to every lesson (pen, pencil, ruler, calculator)
- Prepared for learning with homework completed.
- Punctual – arriving at school and at every lesson on time and not missing deadlines.
- Performing to the best of our ability and being the best we can be.
- Developing partnership – working with teachers to gain the best possible grades
- Showing purpose – attending all revision and intervention sessions.



Attendance

Miss Giaquinto
Deputy Vice Principal Wellbeing

Do you know what your child's attendance % is?

100%....80%?

Do you know what it means?



National Attendance 95%



Trust | Discipline | Aspiration

This is Simon, he is in Year 7 and has 90% attendance.

Is this good? What does it mean?



1 school year at **90%** attendance
= **4** whole weeks of lessons **MISSED!**



Let's look a little closer

- **90%** attendance over **5** years of secondary school....

= $\frac{1}{2}$ a school **year missed!**

- **80%** attendance over **5** years of secondary school....

= **1 school year missed!**



What does this mean for Simon's GCSE's?

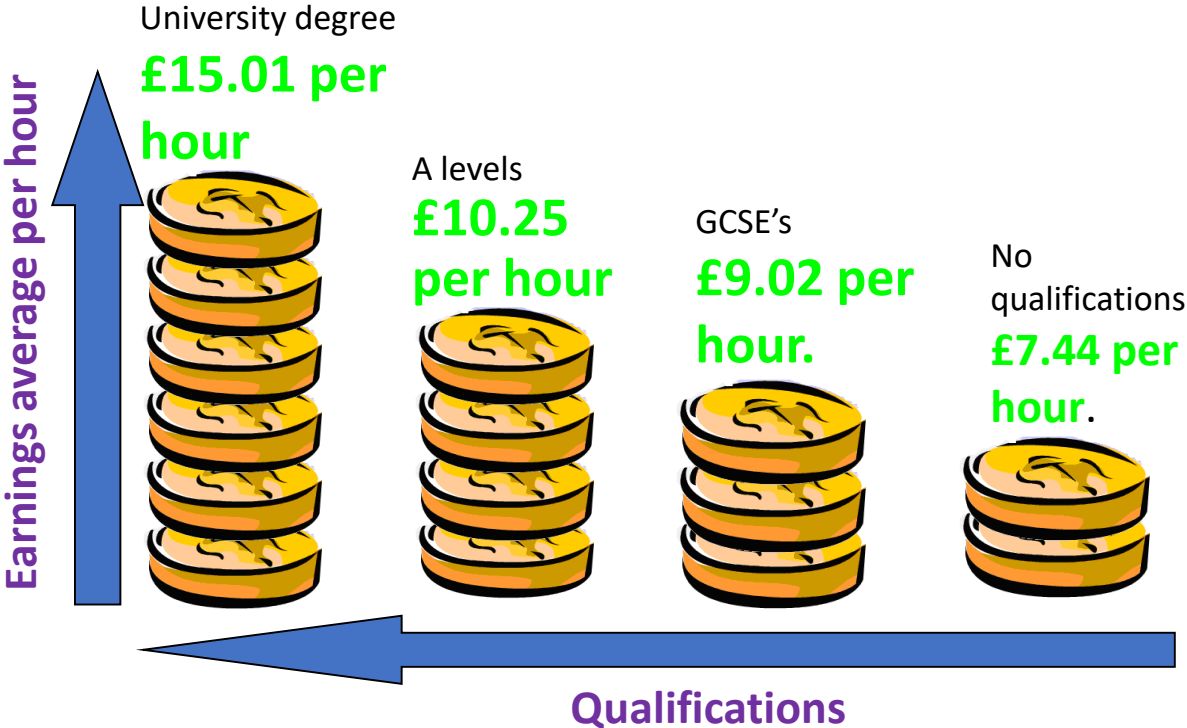
Research suggests that:

17 missed school days a year
= **1** GCSE grade **DROP** in achievement. (DfES)

The greater the attendance the greater the
achievement.



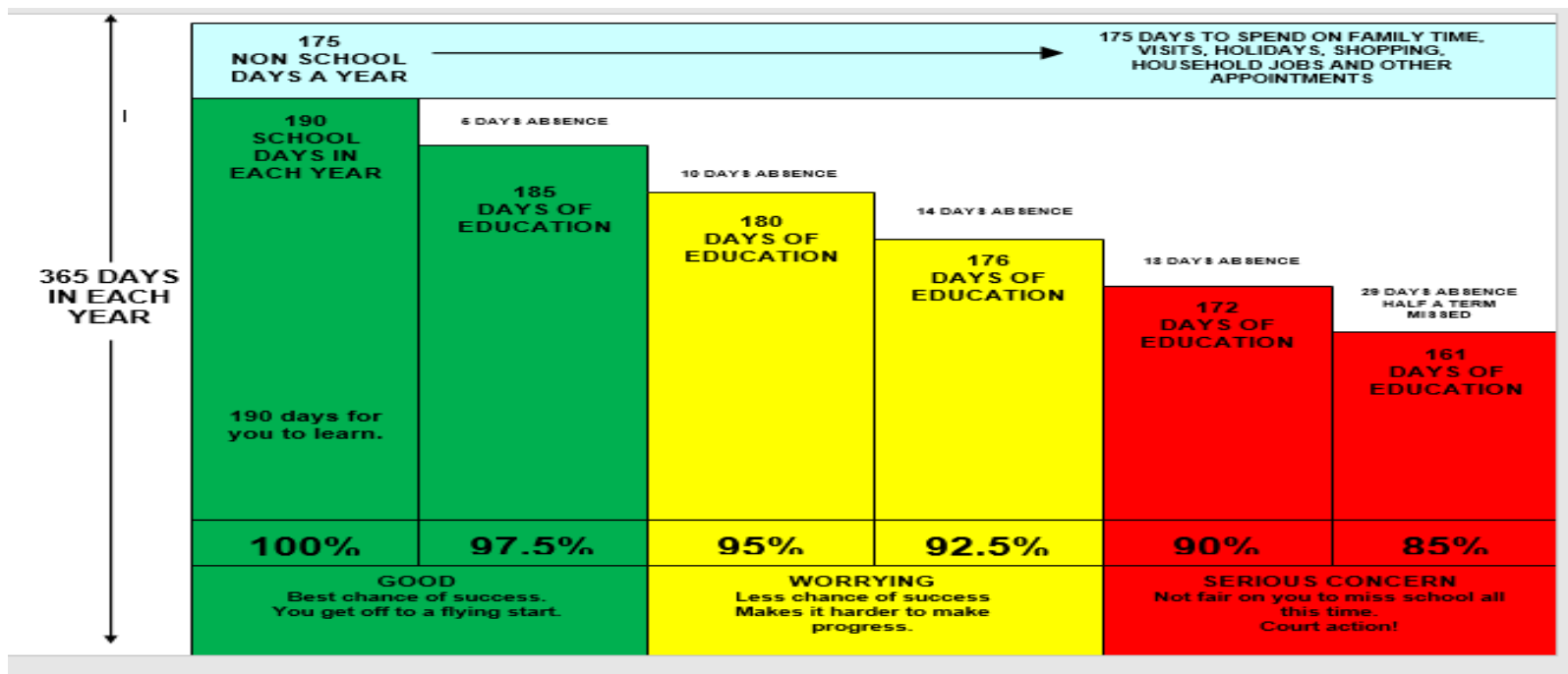
So people with high attendance get better qualifications, but does this really matter?



Absence protocols

- Always call in on the first day of absence before **9.00am**
- If they have been signed off by a Doctor there is no need to ring in every day
- However if not and you have not stated or it is not clear how long they will be off then you must ring in **before 9.00am.**





175
NON SCHOOL
DAYS A YEAR

175 DAYS TO SPEND ON FAMILY TIME,
VISITS, HOLIDAYS, SHOPPING,
HOUSEHOLD JOBS AND OTHER
APPOINTMENTS

190
SCHOOL
DAYS IN
EACH YEAR

6 DAYS ABSENCE

185
DAYS OF
EDUCATION

10 DAYS ABSENCE

180
DAYS OF
EDUCATION

14 DAYS ABSENCE

176
DAYS OF
EDUCATION

18 DAYS ABSENCE

172
DAYS OF
EDUCATION

29 DAYS ABSENCE
HALF A TERM
MISSED

161
DAYS OF
EDUCATION

190 days for
you to learn.

100%

97.5%

95%

92.5%

90%

85%

GOOD
Best chance of success.
You get off to a flying start.

WORRYING
Less chance of success
Makes it harder to make
progress.

SERIOUS CONCERN
Not fair on you to miss school all
this time.
Court action!

365 DAYS
IN EACH
YEAR

171

What does this number mean to you?

Achievement – key dates

- Wednesday 11th October – Post-16 Open Evening
- Tuesday 17th October – Parent-Tutor Evening
- Friday 3rd November – Checkpoint 1 reports available
- **Monday 18th November – Year 11 Internal Examinations begin (two weeks)**
- Thursday 7th December – Parent-teacher consultation evening
- Friday 19th January – Checkpoint 2 reports available
- **w.c. 19th February – Pre Public Examinations begin (continue for two weeks)**
- Thursday 22nd March – PPE exam results released
- w.c. 26th March - Checkpoint 3 reports
- Tuesday 27th March – Parent-teacher consultation evening.
- **w.c. 14th May – main examinations begin**



Achievement – key dates

Why so many exams?



Achievement – key dates

- Maths interventions
- English interventions
- Science interventions/revision – every TUESDAY after school
- Easter holidays – there will be revision sessions for subjects during this holiday periods – extremely useful for students to attend.
- Saturdays and May half-term



How can I help my child?

HOMework

In Year 11 students will receive approximately 1 hour homework per week (minimum) from each of their subjects each week.

This can all be checked on Show My Homework.

If students are not set specific homework they should be encouraged to complete some revision of work already completed – using web resources, using PLCs that can be found in books and key words lists.

How can I help my child?

REVISION

They need to develop a PLAN and should use information from their books to help with this.

Revision needs to focus on the students' WEAK areas – so list the parts of a subject that they struggle with.

You can help by just being there. Asking questions. Helping them with the details.

How can I help my child? REVISION

Is it possible to provide them with a quiet area to work – no TV?

Encourage students to put away all electronic devices. (Some revision work can be done electronically but most still needs to be done on paper.)

Provide paper, pens, highlighters etc. They can get all of this from the school shop if required.

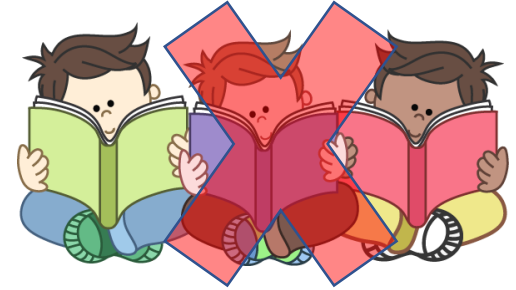
Be really positive before an exam.



How can I help my child? REVISION STRATEGIES

Revision is not reading

- Don't just read the pieces of information – do something with it.
- Students could – make a mind map, create some revision cards, write out the notes.
- Use the memory clock to structure revision.



There will be revision support provided in PD lessons and Tutor Times prior to examinations.

60 minute revision session.

The memory clock

Review– 15 minutes

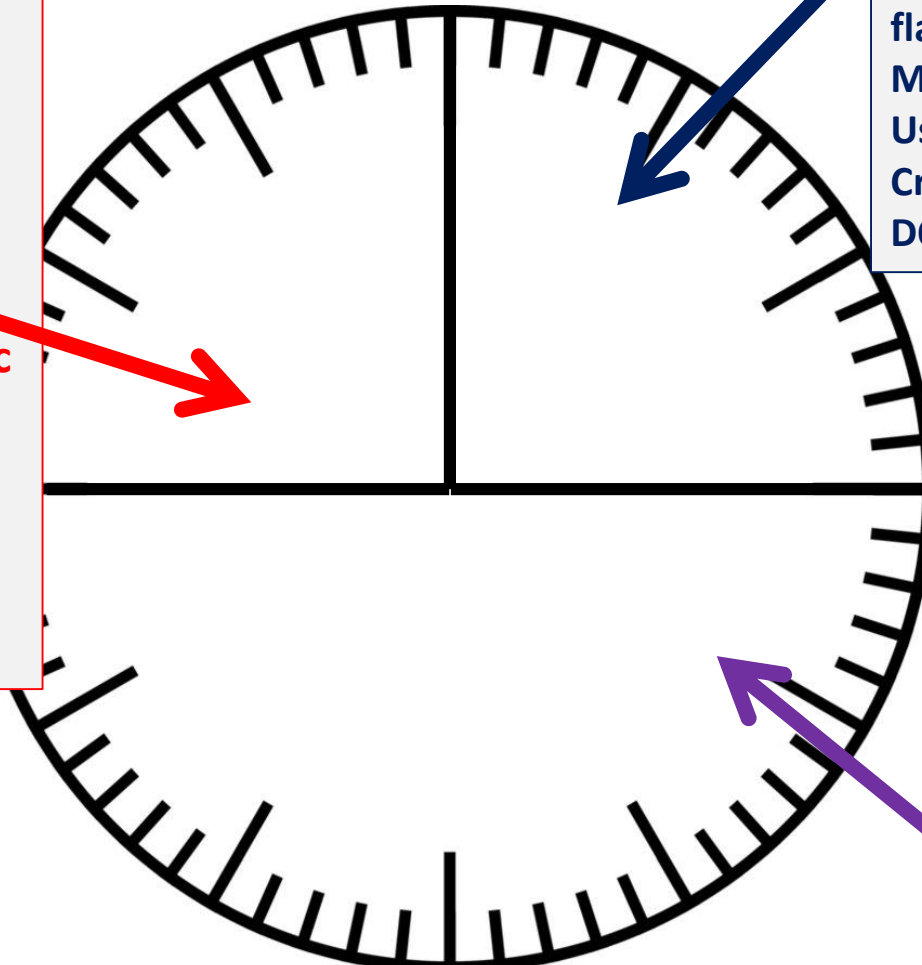
Check what you have completed.

Add notes to bits you can't remember.

Do you know this topic better?

Return to it later.

Look at exam mark-schemes



Review your work – 15 minutes.

Find the notes that you need

Create a mind map or flashcards

Mnemonics

Use a PLC

Create some actions

DO SOMETHING.

Practice– 30 minutes.

Hide your notes and rewrite them.

Get someone to test you on your flashcards.

Go over your actions time and time again.

Complete exam questions.

How can I help my child? BEFORE AN EXAMINATION

Try to make sure that you have a copy of their examination timetable.



- Early night
- Good breakfast
- Check that they know the time and location of the exam
- Check equipment needed
- Wish them luck with a smile...

Finally expect...



Your child will be stressed.

They may not say it but sometimes, all they will want is a cuddle...



English, Maths and Sciences

Mr Dilley
Head of
Department for
Sciences

Mrs Rouse
Head of
Department for
English

Mrs Hardy
Head of
Department for
English

Training

You will not get to the top without training

- Your lessons
- Your homework
- Quality revision – throughout your GCSEs
- Practice exam papers
- Attendance at revision and intervention sessions
- 100% - we are a 100% Academy

“It is only by starting at an unusually young age and by practicing with such ferocious devotion that it is possible to accumulate ten thousand hours while still in adolescence. Far from being an exception to the ten-thousand-hour rule, Mozart is a shining testament to it.”

— [Matthew Syed, Bounce: Mozart, Federer, Picasso, Beckham, and the Science of Success](#)

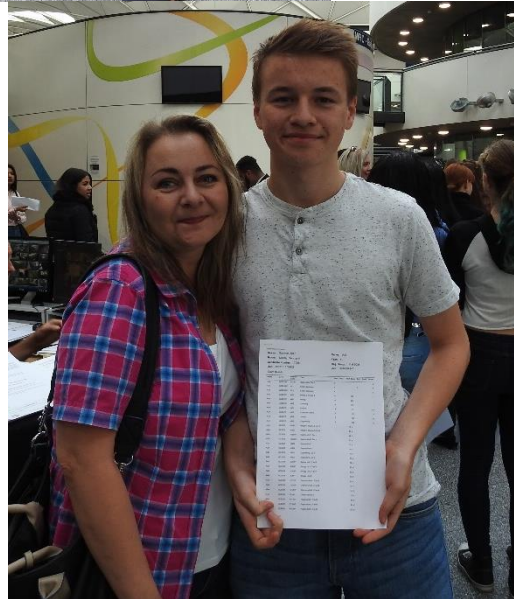


I have lost count of the times I had to tell him (Jonny Wilkinson) to stop practising and come inside when we were together at Newcastle. And then when he wasn't practising kicking he was talking about it.

Steve Bates, rugby coach (Newcastle) and former PE teacher.



Winners this year



Focus on your target



AND WIN