

# Universal and Targeted Support

Exam Success Evening  
28<sup>th</sup> of September 2017

# Universal and Targeted Support

- Universal Support
  - Supports available to all students in S4
- Targeted Support
  - Supports in place for individuals or groups of young people

# Universal Support

- Class Teacher and Subject Departments/Faculties
- After School Supported Study Programme
- PSE and support from PTPC
- S4 Core Period

# S4 Core Period

- Three Key Elements
  1. Mindsets
  2. Study Skills
  3. Subject Study Support
- Course designed:
  - prepare young people for challenges likely to be faced by S4 students;
  - in consultation with previous S4 students.

# 1) Mindsets

- Prof. Carol Dweck of Stanford University
- Growth vs. Fixed Mindsets
- Growth mindsets
  - Belief that continuous, gradual improvement is possible
  - “ I can be better at English tomorrow than I am today”
- Fixed Mindsets
  - Belief that intelligence is innate and very difficult to develop
  - “I’m not very good at English, and there’s not much I can do to change that.”
  - “I’m really good at English, so I don’t really need to put a lot of effort in to pass.”

# 1) Mindsets

- **Benefits**

- We can develop the habits and behaviours linked to growth mindsets
  - Resilience, Responsibility, Solution- Focused . . .
- We can encourage young people to set improvement targets and plan actions which are practical, achievable, and step-by-step

- **Challenges**

- Battling misconceptions: Mindsets isn't just about having a “positive attitude”; it's about this and much more!
- We're “fixing the roof while the sun shines”; students have not yet experienced the challenges for which we're preparing them, so may not yet appreciate why this is necessary.

Subject	Challenges	Proposed Actions	Review
English	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Need to improve in Close Reading element – my scores are lower here.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b><u>First</u></b>, I'll look over my notes on different question types to check what I know and what I don't know yet;</li> <li><b><u>Then</u></b>, I'll use BBC Bitesize in independent study time to review close reading strategies for the different question types;</li> <li><b><u>Then</u></b>, I'll get feedback from my teacher on what I've done;</li> <li><b><u>Finally</u></b>, I'll be able to score more marks for each type of Close Reading question and improve my overall score.</li> </ul>	
English	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Need to do better</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b><u>First</u></b>, I'll try harder;</li> <li><b><u>Then</u></b>, I'll pay more attention in class;</li> <li><b><u>Then</u></b>, I'll get more questions correct;</li> <li><b><u>Finally</u></b>, I'll pass English.</li> </ul>	

## 2) Study Skills

- An opportunity to:
  - Share the expertise of recent SQA candidates in preparing for examinations
  - Experiment with a range of study skills and strategies to find those which work best:
    - For each individual student;
    - For particular subjects
  - Encourage students to adopt **active** revision strategies at home in order to consolidate classwork
    - Considering the earlier advice from our Ed. Psych. on effective studying
    - Avoiding the “reading over my notes” approach.



## 2) Study Skills

- Visits from S6 Study Mentors
- Individual, practical lessons on the study skills endorsed by previous S4 students:
  - Mind-mapping
  - Flashcards
  - Note-Making
  - Studying in Groups
  - Study Timetabling

# 3) Subject Study Support

- Using the tracking data available from interim and full reports:
  - Pupils have the opportunity to select from a range of options for subject support
  - Takes place during Monday P5
  - Pupils in small groups with subject specialist

# Targeted Support

- PT Enhanced Transitions Mentoring
- Senior Pupil Mentoring
- PST Supported Study
- Blairvadach Study Weekends