



# **Welcome to our Senior Phase Exams Success Evening**


**We will begin at 6pm**

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# Programme for this evening:

- Overview of SQA Qualifications – Session 2021-2022 - Mrs Clare Hayes – DHT / SQA Coordinator
- Being successful in the Senior Phase – Mrs Forrester, DHT S4/S5
- School Captains – Perspective from Senior Phase learners
- Supporting your young person during the Senior Phase – Ms Wendy Black, Principal Teacher of Pastoral Care

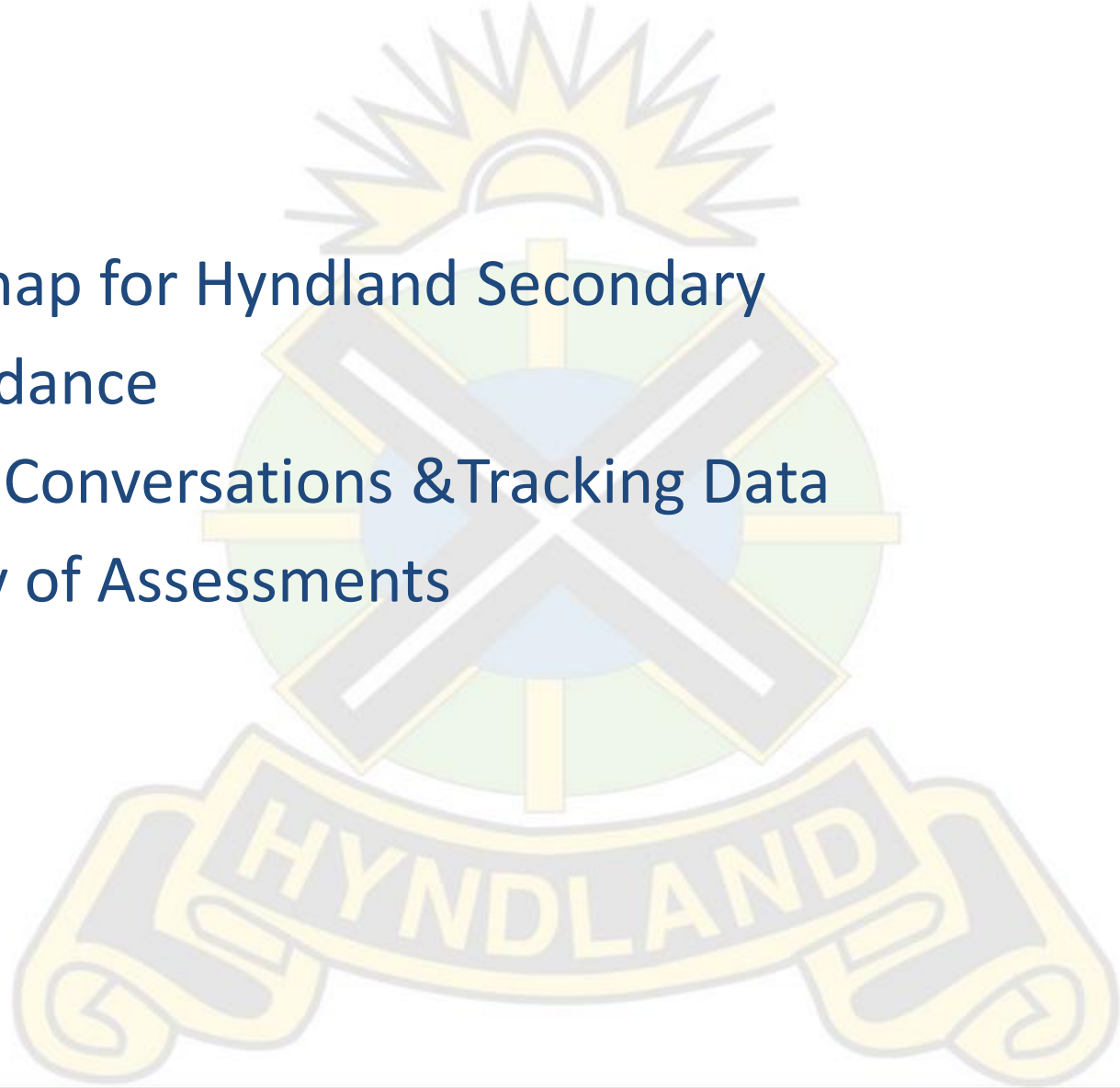
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# **Session 1 – SQA Qualifications – Session 2021-2022**

**Mrs Clare Hayes**

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- Route-map for Hyndland Secondary
- SQA guidance
- Learner Conversations & Tracking Data
- Integrity of Assessments

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# Route-map:

## **1. Current public health advice: SQA exam diet with modifications, as published**

Departments will undertake assessments and gather tracking data in the 'usual' way. Prelims will be scheduled in January.

Examples:

**Higher Physics:** There are three class assessments for each Unit and a revision homework exercise linked to each assessment. This means an assessment approximately monthly. There is an AB test at the end of each Unit which is in the style of SQA exam questions. Units 1 & 2 are full units. Unit 3 is a half unit. The assignment has been removed for this session.

**National 5 English:** October – Set text, November - RUAE in pre prelim, December – timed Critical Essay, January – Portfolio Draft 2, February – RUAE, Scottish set Text, Critical Essay

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## 2. Increased levels of disruption: SQA exam diet with modifications (as above) + additional measures *(extract from SQA website)*

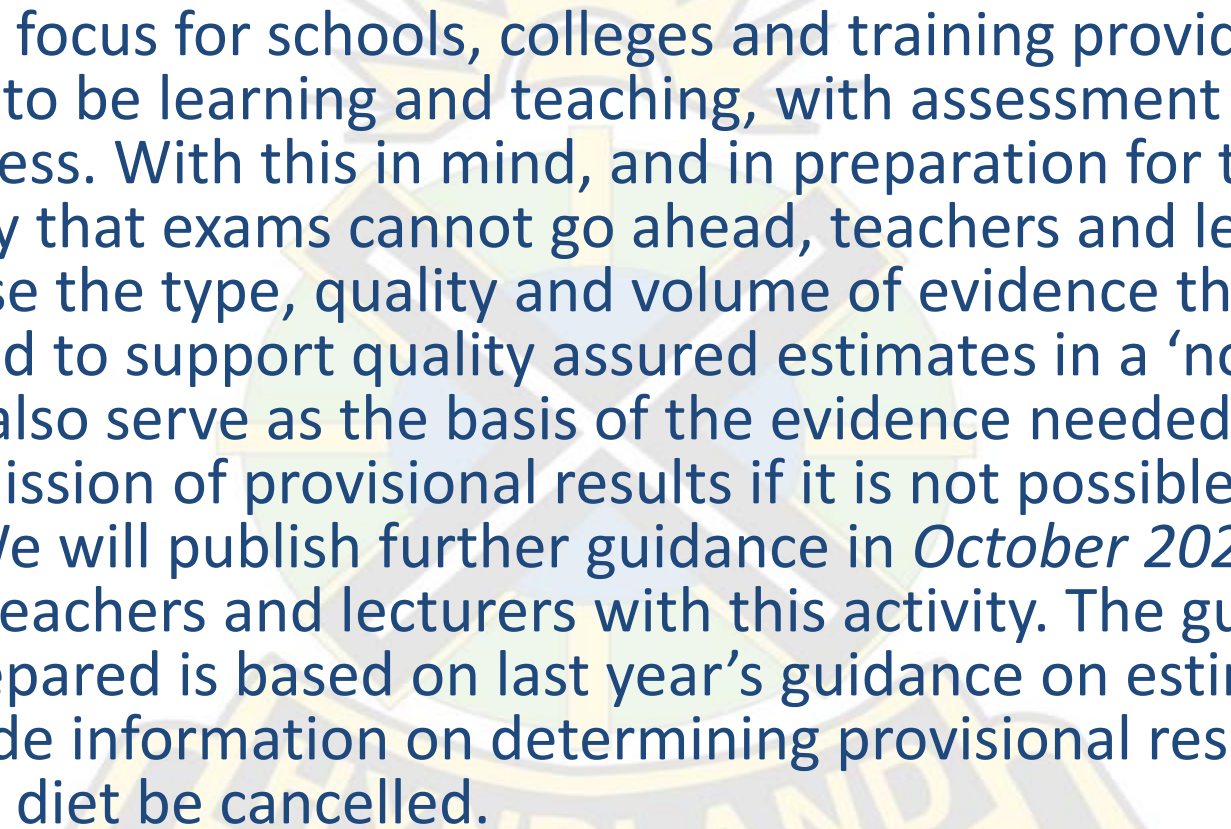
- SQA will continue to constantly monitor public health advice and levels of disruption across the country, while taking account of discussions that take place in the Covid-19 Education Recovery Group (CERG)\*\*. If there is further significant disruption to learning and teaching this session, appropriate additional support measures for learners will be put in place to help reduce pre-exam stress. For example, where possible in some subjects SQA may provide additional information to help learners focus their study on the run up to the exams. This will not be possible in all subjects due to the types of modifications which are already in place. *The actual assessments will not change under this approach.*
- If additional measures are required, they will be introduced at the end of March 2022.

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### 3. Public health advice leads to SQA exams being cancelled: teachers and lecturers determine provisional results

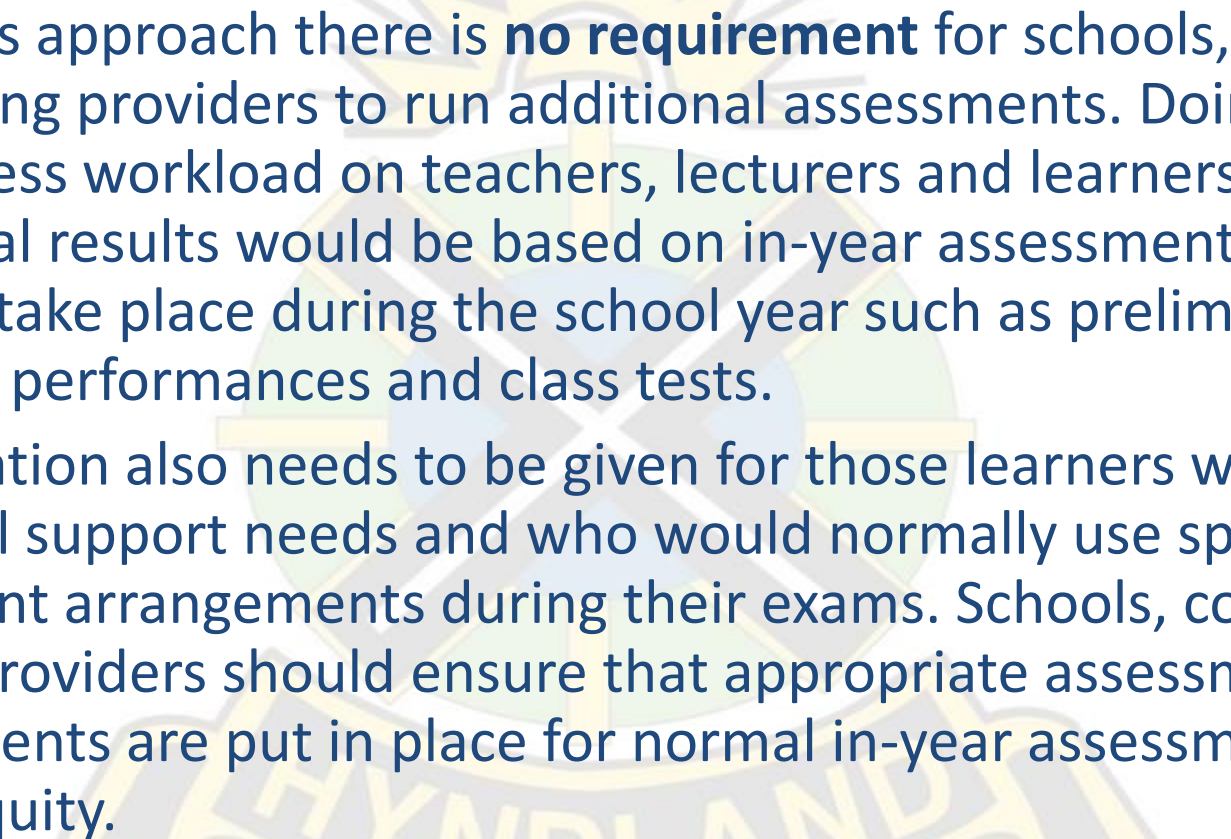
- If the Covid-19 pandemic gets worse to the point where physical gatherings are restricted at the time of the exams, the SQA exam diet will be cancelled. If this happens, teachers and lecturers will be asked to determine provisional results by using their professional judgement of evidence that shows each learner's skills, knowledge and understanding.

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- The background of the slide features a large, faint watermark of the University of Southland crest. The crest is shield-shaped with a yellow sunburst at the top, a blue shield with a white cross, and a yellow banner at the bottom with the word 'SOUTHLAND' in blue capital letters.
- The main focus for schools, colleges and training providers will continue to be learning and teaching, with assessment to support that process. With this in mind, and in preparation for the possibility that exams cannot go ahead, teachers and lecturers should use the type, quality and volume of evidence that would be needed to support quality assured estimates in a 'normal' year. This will also serve as the basis of the evidence needed to support the submission of provisional results if it is not possible to run exams. We will publish further guidance in *October 2021* to support teachers and lecturers with this activity. The guidance being prepared is based on last year's guidance on estimates and will include information on determining provisional results should the exam diet be cancelled.

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- The background of the slide features a large, faint watermark of the Hyndland School crest. The crest is circular with a sunburst at the top, a shield in the center, and a banner at the bottom with the word 'HYNDLAND' written on it.
- Under this approach there is **no requirement** for schools, colleges and training providers to run additional assessments. Doing so would place excess workload on teachers, lecturers and learners. Provisional results would be based on in-year assessments that normally take place during the school year such as prelims, practical activities, performances and class tests.
  - Consideration also needs to be given for those learners with additional support needs and who would normally use specific assessment arrangements during their exams. Schools, colleges and training providers should ensure that appropriate assessment arrangements are put in place for normal in-year assessments to ensure equity.

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# Assessment conditions

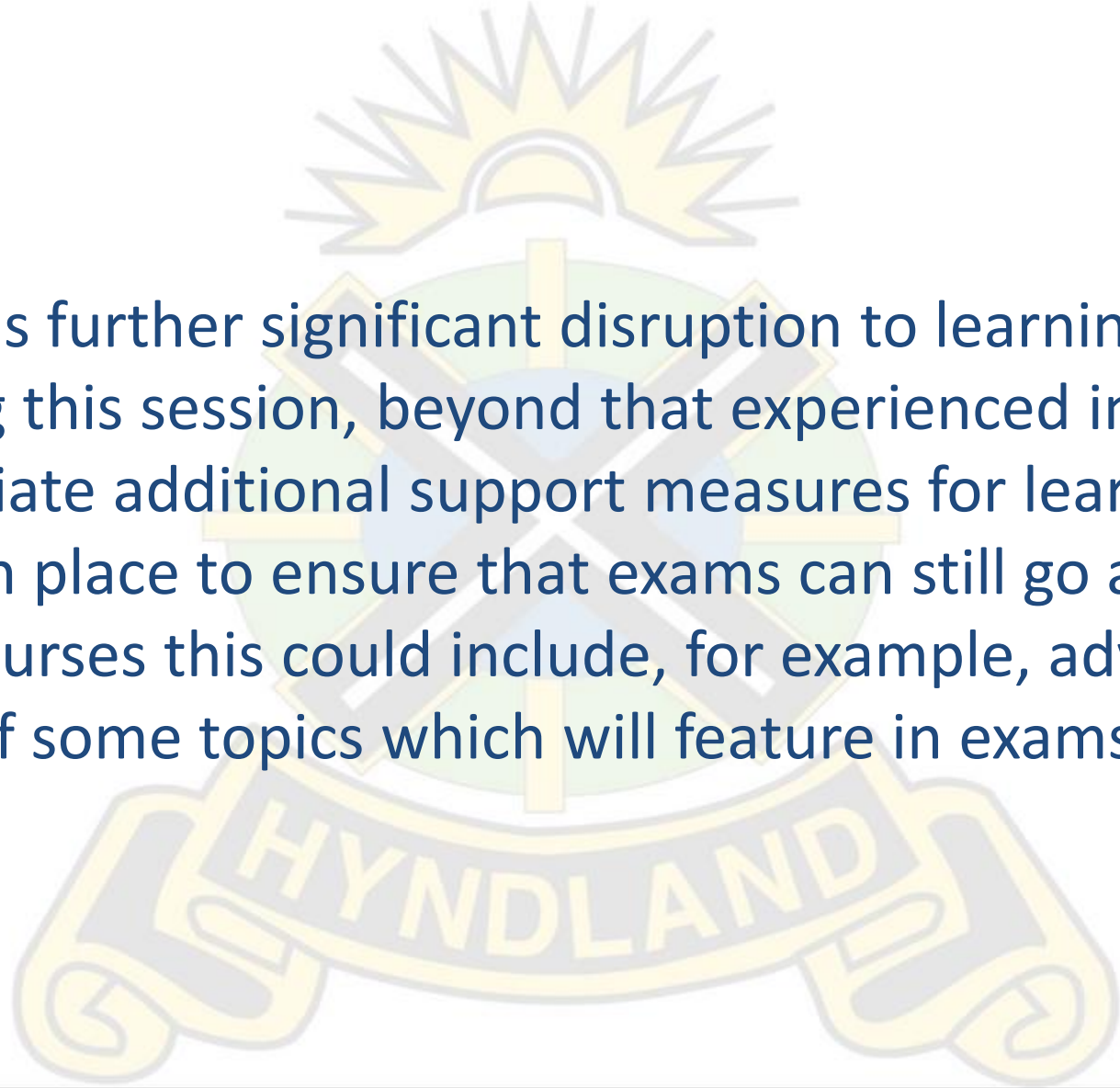
- If you have access to Alternative Assessment Arrangements, AAA such as extra time, access to ICT etc, This must have been agreed with Mrs J McFarlane, PT Support for Learning in advance of any assessment.

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# SQA Modification Summary

- <https://www.sqa.org.uk/sqa/98682.html>
- Link takes you to SQA pages where more detail of the modifications in place for this session can be found.
- Teachers will guide young people as to the changes in courses for this session.
- For most National 5 to Advanced Higher courses, these are the same modifications that were put in place for 2020-21.

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- If there is further significant disruption to learning and teaching this session, beyond that experienced in 2020-21, appropriate additional support measures for learners will be put in place to ensure that exams can still go ahead. For some courses this could include, for example, advance notice of some topics which will feature in exams.

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# Tracking, Grades & Communication

- Young people will be informed of their progress at each stage of the tracking process.
- Young people should use their learner conversation to inform their revision for future assessments.
- Three tracking reports will be issued at key points in the school calendar
- The school will submit an estimate grade to SQA at the end of March. (this is a typical part of the SQA quality assurance process – updated guidance on producing estimates for session 2021-22 is still to be published)

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# Integrity of the Evidence we hold

- Each young person in S4-6 should have completed the SQA Declaration!

## Sources.

- It is important to know that you cannot copy material from other sources and include it as if it were our own work.

## Plagiarism.

- You must not pretend that other people's work is your own. Passing off other peoples work as your own is call 'plagiarism' and is cheating.

## Collusion

- Working with others when you should be working on your own is called 'collusion'. Everyone involved in collusion is breaking the rules – not just the person who has asked for help. Collusion is cheating.

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# Exam Conditions

When you sit an assessment under exam conditions this means:

- You should not talk or communicate with any person in the room except the teacher.
- If you need to speak to the teacher, raise your hand and wait for the teacher to respond.
- You should be responding to 'unseen' questions and not have any knowledge of the paper in advance.
- Do not ask friends about the content of the assessment – especially those who have completed the assessment before you – this is Collusion.
- You must not access your phone, iPad, smart watch or other device with storage or internet access.
- The only items on your desk should be stationary associated with the assessment e.g. pen, pencil, question/answer paper, ruler, calculator etc.
- You have access to Alternative Assessment Arrangements, AAA such as extra time, access to ICT etc, This must have been agreed with Mrs J McFarlane, PT Support for Learning in advance of any assessment.

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# Further Information

- SQA are regularly updating their website.
- We will share key information as it becomes available.



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# **Session 2 – Key information about the Senior Phase**

**Mrs Laura Forrester**

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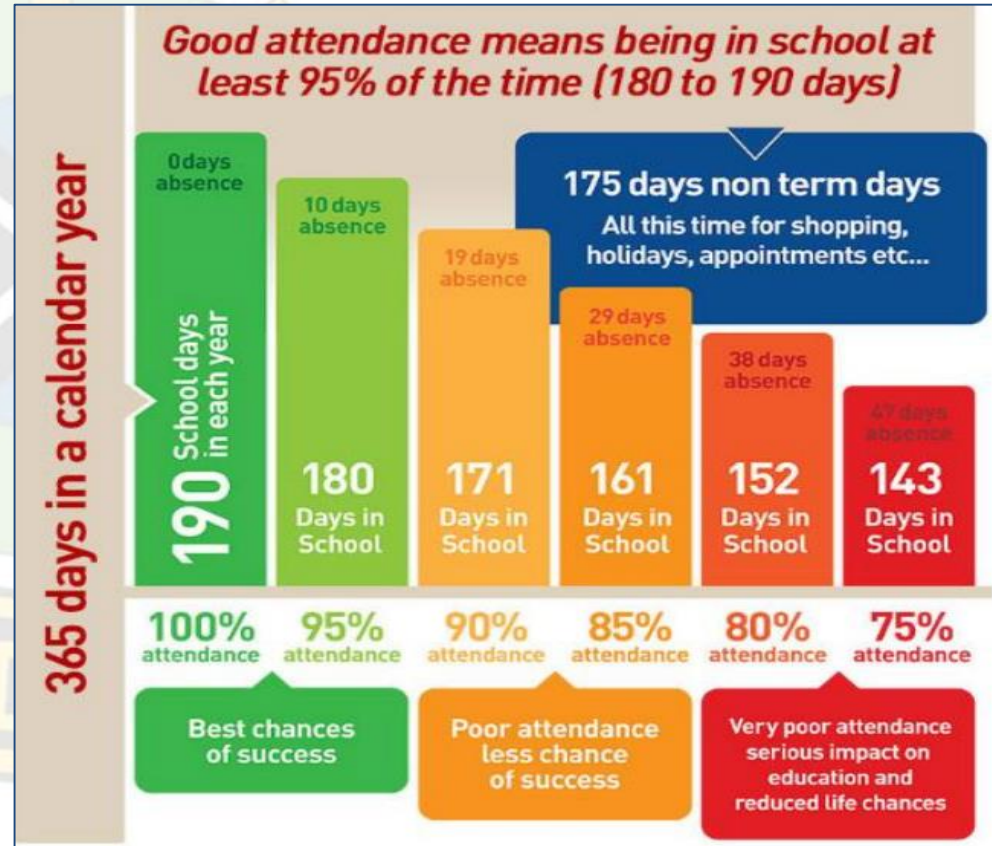
# Achieving @ Hyndland – Attendance

- Attendance in the Senior Phase is vital if you are to achieve well.
- On average, our top performing 20% of S4 students had an average attendance of 97.49% whilst the bottom 20% had an average attendance of 73%.
- The figures are very similar for our S5 and S6 learners.
- This year we do understand that due to exceptional circumstances attendance may not always be possible but we would encourage our seniors to strive for the best attendance they can.

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# Achieving @ Hyndland – Attend today...Achieve tomorrow

90%  
attendance =  
19 days of  
school missed  
in an academic  
year!



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# Achieving @ Hyndland – Time keeping

- As well as attendance, time keeping is just as important.
- Classes start promptly at 8.45am for S4 learners and at 9.00am for our S5/6 learners.
- If a young person is consistently late, this can have a huge impact on their attainment in the subject timetabled period 1.

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# Achieving @ Hyndland – Time keeping

Being only 5 minutes late every day will equate to 3 days of learning lost!



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# Tracking our learner's progress during the session:

## Key Dates for S4 learners

- Tracking report 1 – issued on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> September
- Aiming for Success Parents meeting S4-6 Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> October
- Tracking report 2 – issued early December 2021
- S4 Parents meeting – Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> February 2022
- Tracking report 3 – issued 8<sup>th</sup> February 2022

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# Tracking our learner's progress during the session:

## Key Dates for S5/6 learners

- Tracking report 1 – Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> October 2021
- Aiming for Success Parents meeting S4-6 Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> October 2021
- Tracking report 2 – Friday 17<sup>th</sup> December 2021
- Tracking report 3 – issued 8<sup>th</sup> February 2022
- S5/6 Parents meeting – Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> February 2022

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# Learner Conversations and feedback

**In the fortnight prior to the issuing of tracking reports, all senior phase students will participate in learner conversations with their teachers.**

- These help to identify next steps for learning
- They encourage students to reflect on their own targets – what do they want to achieve by the next report?
- All learners should have a record of their own learner conversations and should discuss this with their families as part of the reporting exercise.

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# Supporting your child with their learning

**Following the issuing of the tracking report we would strongly encourage families to:**

- Discuss the tracking report together as a family.
- Encourage your young person to discuss their learner conversations that they had with staff with you – they should have a record of this.
- Ask them what targets they have set for moving forward with their learning.

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# Learner Conversations and Working Grades

**On each tracking report a working grade will be given for graded courses i.e. National 5, Higher & Advanced Higher**

- Parents and young people should remember that this working grade will most likely change during the session.
- The working grade will be evidence based meaning this is the level that the young person is currently working at based on work / assessments to date.
- The criteria used by departments for the allocation of working grades will have been discussed during learner conversations between the teacher and your young person.

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# S4 Pre Prelim Assessment Calendar

- Following the October break, learners in S4 will undertake a formal assessment diet over a period of 2 weeks.
- Learners will sit one assessment per day.
- The purpose of this is to provide our S4 learners with the opportunity to practice managing an assessment diet prior to the prelims in January 2022.
- Feedback from our S4 learners last session was that they found this very helpful and beneficial.

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# Senior Phase Assessments

- Our S4-S6 learners will also undertake more **informal** check points during the course of the session.
- This will allow learners to generate evidence which is important given the possible uncertainty of the 2022 exam diet.
- This will also help to inform next steps in learning for our young people and allow the department and school to track progress and identify any concerns if required.
- We will issue a collated Senior Phase Assessment Timetable for the remainder of the session after the October break.

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# Supports available for our Senior Phase Learners

## **1. Saturday Study Breakfast Support**

- September to end of November – open to S4 learners
- December and January – open to S5/6 learners
- Students sign up via Teams each week
- Runs from 9.30am until 12.00pm
- Rotation of staff attend to offer subject support
- Quiet and relaxed atmosphere to undertake study

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## 2. Supported Study Programme

- In school supported study will run after the October break for short blocks.
- Sessions may run at lunchtime or after school
- A supported Study timetable will be posted on the school website, on the year group teams and emailed home to families.

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### 3. On-line Supported Study – e-Sgoil

- Education Scotland are offering this again this session.
- Sessions run nightly via Teams
- Young people can sign up via the website using the SQA candidate number
- Delivered by teachers across Scotland
- Will also run during the Easter holidays in preparation for the final SQA Exam diet
- Commenced on 6<sup>th</sup> September, but young people can still sign up.

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# Study Support

Live Webinar Lessons — Week Commencing Monday 6th September

National e-Learning Offer



MONDAY

TIME	SUBJECT	LEVEL
5PM	English	Advanced Higher
5PM	Physics	National 5
5PM	RMPS	Higher
6PM	Maths	National 5
6PM	RMPS	National 5
6PM	Physics	Higher
6PM	Engineering Science	Higher
6PM	Physics	Advanced Higher
6PM	Human Biology	Higher
7PM	PE	Higher
7PM	Biology	Higher
7PM	Computing Science	Higher
7PM	Biology	Advanced Higher
7PM	Computing Science	National 5
7PM	Biology	National 5



TUESDAY

5PM	Maths	National 4
5PM	Geography	National 5
5PM	Music	National 5
6PM	Spanish	Higher
6PM	Maths	Advanced Higher
6PM	Business Management	Higher
6PM	Art	National 5
7PM	Music	Higher
7PM	English	National 5
7PM	Design and Manufacture	Higher
7PM	History	Higher



WEDNESDAY

TIME	SUBJECT	LEVEL
5PM	Graphic Communication	Higher
5PM	Geography	Higher
5PM	Applications of Maths	National 5
5PM	Gàidhlig	Higher
6PM	Modern Studies	Higher
6PM	Gaelic	Higher
6PM	Maths	Higher
6PM	English	National 4
7PM	Gaelic	National 5
7PM	Design and Manufacture	National 5/Higher

THURSDAY

5PM	PE	National 5
5PM	English	Higher
6PM	Chemistry	Higher
6PM	Chemistry	Advanced Higher
7PM	History	National 5
7PM	Chemistry	National 5
7PM	Health and Food Technology	Higher



## 4. Blairvadach Study Weekends 2021/2022

- Dependent upon government guidance surrounding residential trips, we have provisionally booked two study weekends to Blairvadach;
- January 2022 – S4 learners
- March 2022 – S5/6 learners

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## 5. Study Skills Advice on School website

- Under the 'parents' section of our school website, we have created a section called 'Study Skills Advice for parents'.
- Videos are posted of key study techniques such as flashcards and mind maps which have been created by our senior students.
- There are also useful handouts including blank study timetables for families to access.

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Welcome to our Study Skills section of the school website which is aimed at helping parents to support their young person's learning at home. This section of the website aims to provide some practical advice for families in study techniques that can be used at home in preparation for assessments and SQA examinations. We hope you find this useful.

1. Study Skills advice booklet - this useful advice booklet has been created by Mr Gillies and Mr Greer and aims to provide some tips and guidance on how parents can help to support their young people at home with their private study.

<http://www.hyndland-sec.glasgow.sch.uk/Websites/SchSecHyndland/UserFiles/file/Study%20Support%20Booklet.pdf>

2. The Pomodoro Study technique (see film 5 also below)

<http://www.hyndland-sec.glasgow.sch.uk/Websites/SchSecHyndland/UserFiles/file/Pomodoro%20-%20Study%20Technique.pdf>

3. 5 habits of an effective learner

[http://www.hyndland-sec.glasgow.sch.uk/Websites/SchSecHyndland/UserFiles/file/5.-Five-habits-of-an-effective-learner\(1\).pdf](http://www.hyndland-sec.glasgow.sch.uk/Websites/SchSecHyndland/UserFiles/file/5.-Five-habits-of-an-effective-learner(1).pdf)

4. Study Skills Videos - we are delighted to present a number of videos which have been created by Mr Tulloch (English Department) and some of our S6 Captains. More of these will follow but we hope you find these useful:

Film 1 - Flash Cards



## 6. Core Subject Support for S4 learners

- At present, all of our S4 learners are receiving one additional period of Maths per week.
- During the session, some learners may be directed towards subject support in another subject area.
- Tracking data will help to inform which subject area would be most beneficial for each S4 learner.

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## 7. PSE & House Assembly and Year Group Teams

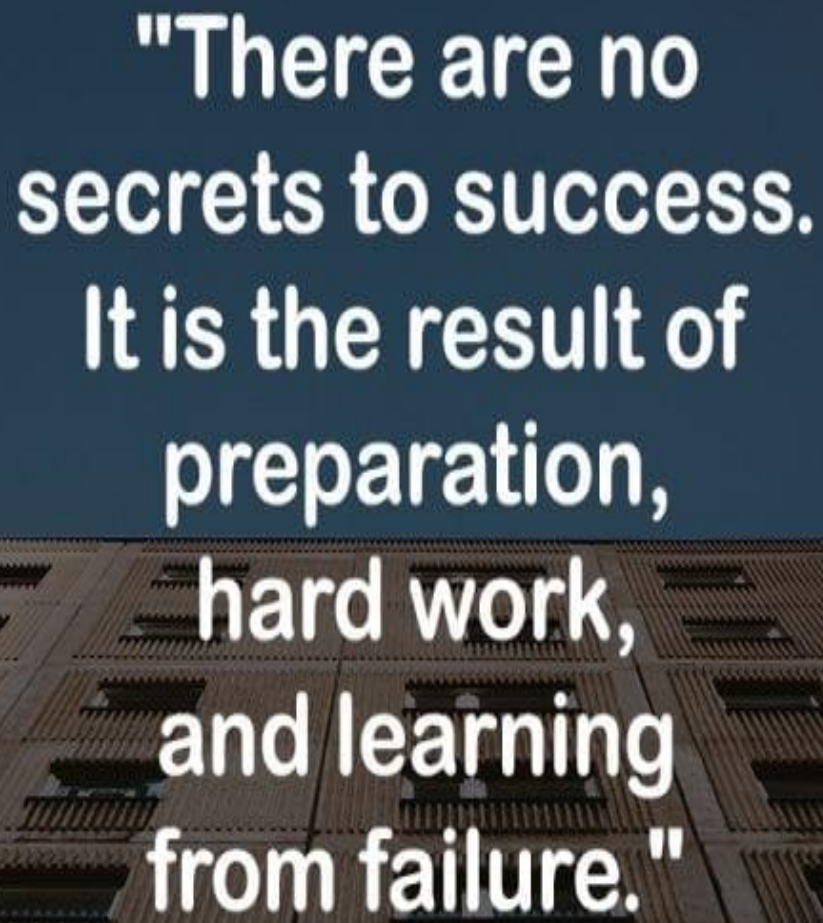
- To date, the House Team have already delivered presentations to both S4 and S5 classes on achieving success in the senior phase.
- Students have also shared their tips for success with younger students.
- We will continue to use PSE and House Assembly time to deliver important messages to our Senior Phase learners.
- Each Senior Phase learner is a member of a year group team – important information about exam support will be posted here. Learners should check their team regularly.

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# Top Tips for Success in the Senior Phase

- Spend time each week night revising over classwork throughout the year – this is on top of homework completion.
- Use the support on offer – sign up for supported study, e-Sgoil and Saturday Breakfast Support.
- If you are unsure about any subject or worried about assessments speak to your class teacher or House Team.

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"There are no  
secrets to success.  
It is the result of  
preparation,  
hard work,  
and learning  
from failure."

- by Colin Powell

[pixelsquote.net](http://pixelsquote.net)

I NEVER  
**DREAMED**  
ABOUT  
**SUCCESS.**  
I WORKED  
FOR IT.

- Estee Lauder

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# **Session 3 – Some of our School Captains will now share their Senior Phase journeys**

**Isabella Fail, Daisy Turner and  
Caitlin Treanor**

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# **Session 4 – Supporting your young person through the Senior Phase**

**Mr Torgi Squire – Principal Teacher  
of Pastoral Care**

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# Helping to manage your young person's time

- The number of competing priorities on a child's time often makes it difficult for them to decide where to start and what to do next.
- Preparing for assessments is often something that some children only begin to think about in the last few weeks (and sometimes only days) before the event.
- Encourage your child to start revising in good time to avoid cramming and panic.

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# Getting them organised at home to study

- Talk to your child and help them decide on a fixed area at home where they can study with the least amount of distractions.
- It may be helpful to speak to other members of the family, particularly younger children, about respecting this study area and as far as possible ask them to try to avoid interrupting.
- If it is difficult for your child to study at home, ask your school if it can help.
- Encourage your child to get their notes in order for each subject before starting. Having notes organised into topic areas for each subject may be helpful.

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# Tips to encourage studying at home

- Assessments can be stressful so encourage your child to take breaks. Hour long revision sessions with short regular breaks of 10 minutes can be effective for children.
- They may prefer to complete each task and then build in a break rather than stick to definite time slots. It is the quality of studying which is important.
- Ask your child how you can best support them with studying. They may find it useful for you to read through revision notes with them. Alternatively, asking them what they have learned in their revision may be helpful.

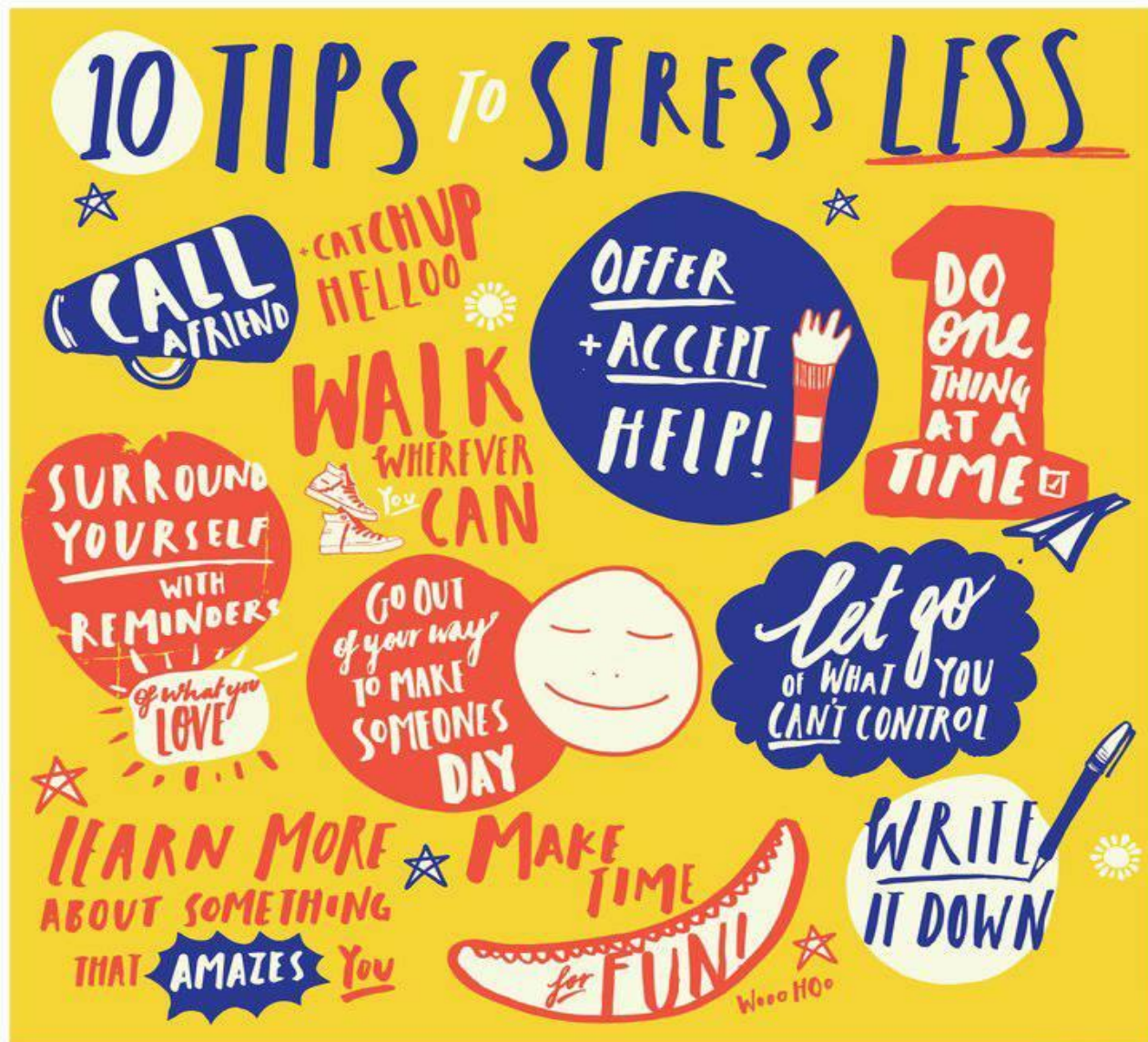
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# Keeping the family well

- Encourage your child to get plenty of sleep. This is particularly important the night before an assessment as it can help them perform better.
- Encourage your child to eat well.
- Help your child to avoid any unnecessary anxiety or panic by making sure they arrive on time for their assessment and have everything they need e.g. pens, pencils.
- Encourage exercise.

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**Thank you for joining us tonight. We will post this presentation on the school website.**

**We look forward to working with you during this session to support your young person with their National Qualifications.**

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