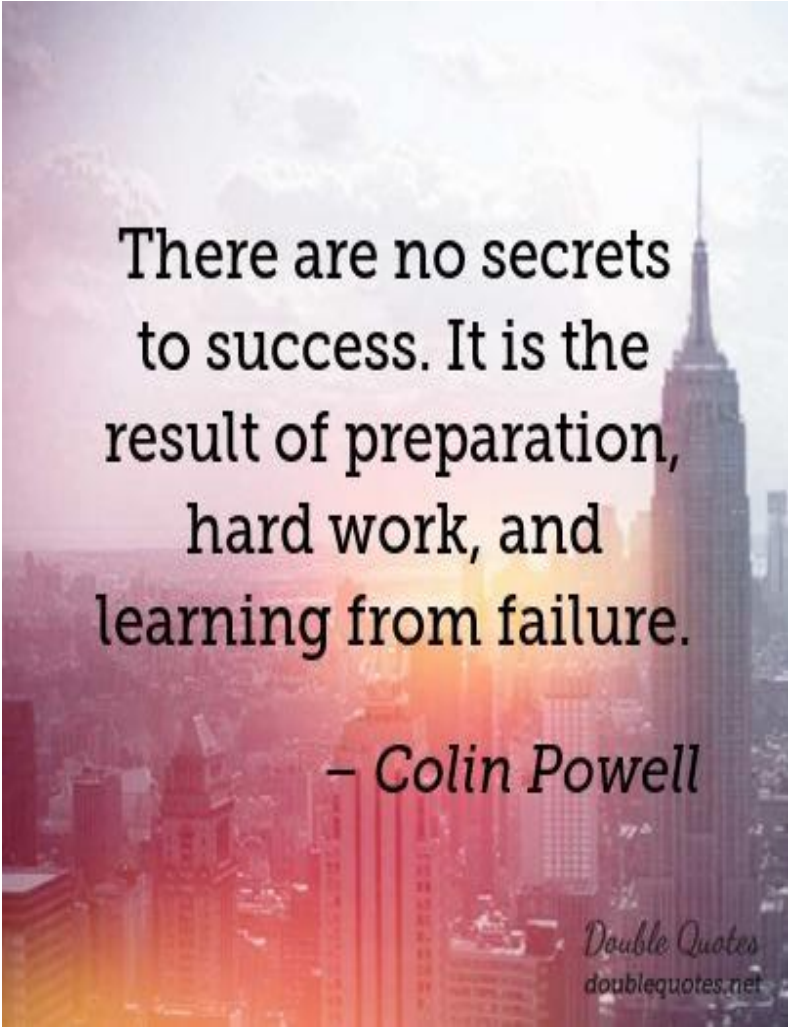


S4 Exams Success Evening



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

– *Colin Powell*

Double Quotes
doublequotes.net

I NEVER
DREAMED
ABOUT
SUCCESS.
I WORKED
FOR IT.

– *Estee Lauder*

Wednesday 20th September 2023

Overview of the Evening

- Welcome – Mrs Edgerton – Head Teacher
- Overview of supports for senior phase learners and SQA procedures – Mrs Forrester (DHT S4/S5) and Mrs Hayes (DHT SQA Coordinator)
- Workshops

SPERO MELIORA - I HOPE FOR BETTER THINGS

Achieving @ Hyndland – Tracking Reports

- Week beginning 23rd October – tracking report 1 (assessment block 1 – September to October).
- Week beginning 4th December – Formal Prelim diet starts!
- Week beginning 22nd January – tracking report 2 (prelim results).
- Week beginning 11th March – tracking report 3.
- Week beginning 28th March – SQA estimates finalised.

SPERO MELIORA - I HOPE FOR BETTER THINGS

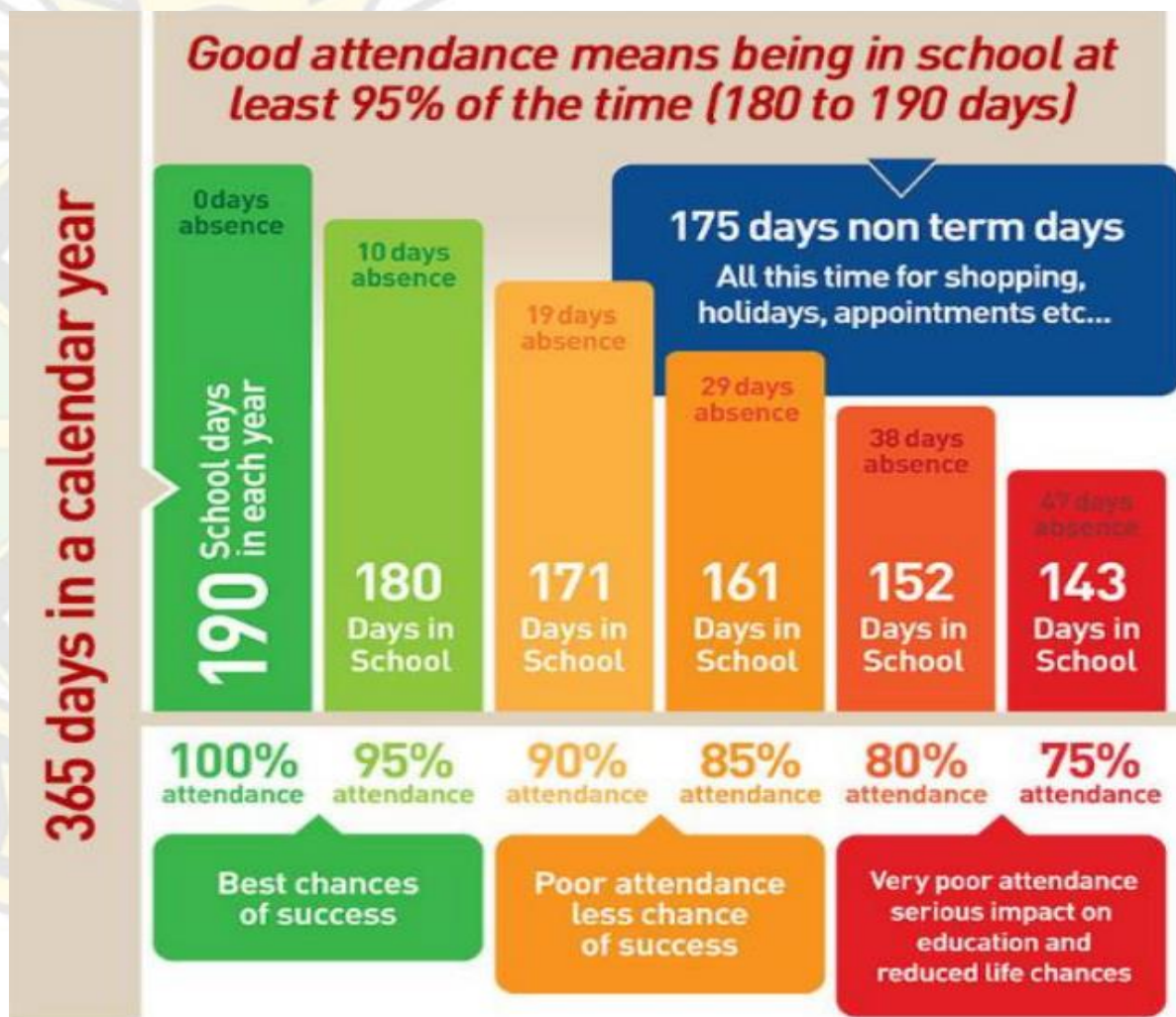
Achieving @ Hyndland – Attendance

- 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 do NOT lie! Even an attendance of between 90-95% can hugely impact on your attainment.

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Achieving @ Hyndland – Attendance

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



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Achieving @ Hyndland – Timekeeping

- As well as attendance, time keeping is just as important.
- Classes start promptly at 8.40am – as the walking bell rings at 8.40am – students should be walking into their classes.
- Therefore students should not be continually arriving late to school.
- If you have a class period 1 and are consistently late, this will have a HUGE impact on your chance of success in that subject.

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Achieving @ Hyndland – Homework / Exam Preparation

- It is vital that all young people in S4 are engaging with their class teams as well as the year group S4 Team on glow.
- As an S4 student, they must take responsibility for managing your time at home and ensuring all homework is completed on time.
- All homework / classwork produced during the year, helps to create the ‘working grade’ that you will be given on each report as well as determining what level you will sit e.g. N4 or N5.

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Achieving @ Hyndland – Preparing for your Prelim Diet

- The formal S4 prelims will begin on 4th December.
- This is approximately **11** weeks away!
- To help with preparations for this, it is important that every S4 learner is now beginning a study timetable at home.
- We would suggest that at least 1-1.5 hours of personal study per evening would be a good starting point in addition to the completion of homework – this can be built upon in the coming weeks.

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Achieving @ Hyndland – Preparing for the Prelims

1. Sign up for E-sgoil online supported study sessions – information regarding this is on your year group Team.
2. Attend Saturday breakfast study support – information will come soon about this – this is a fantastic support which we strongly encourage. Likely to commence in September – keep an eye on your year group Team.
3. Attend supported study in school – again information will follow in due course.
4. Scholar – useful resource for students to use to support study.

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Achieving @ Hyndland – 1. E-sgoil

- **Registration opens 25th Sept.** Delivered weekly via Teams. You will be added to a team when you sign up.
- Delivered live by teachers across Scotland.
- Students will have access to revision resources within the team too.
- All subjects studied at Hyndland in S4 is included in E-sgoil.
- These will run throughout the whole of S4.
- Many successful learners last year found these very helpful.

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Achieving @ Hyndland – 2. Saturday Study Support

- This is likely to commence early October.
- Runs weekly for a block.
- 9.30am until 12.00pm.
- Breakfast provided.
- Students MUST sign up by the Thursday each week via the glow form on the S4 year group Teams.
- A variety of staff will attend to provide support.

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Achieving @ Hyndland – 3. Supported Study

- A block of supported study will run around October and November.
- Students will have to sign up in advance so that we know numbers.
- Sessions will run before school, lunchtimes and after school.

SPERO MELIORA - I HOPE FOR BETTER THINGS

Achieving @ Hyndland – 4. Scholar

- This is a resource provided to Scottish students by Heriot Watt University.
- Scholar helps to support independent study by providing class and revision materials as well as interactive assessments to check understanding of key revision topics.
- A range of subjects are on offer via Scholar including; Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Computing Science, Maths, English, French, Spanish, Art & Design and Business Management.
- If any learner does not know their Scholar username to access the resources, they should speak to the Business and Computing Department who should be able to help.

SPERO MELIORA - I HOPE FOR BETTER THINGS

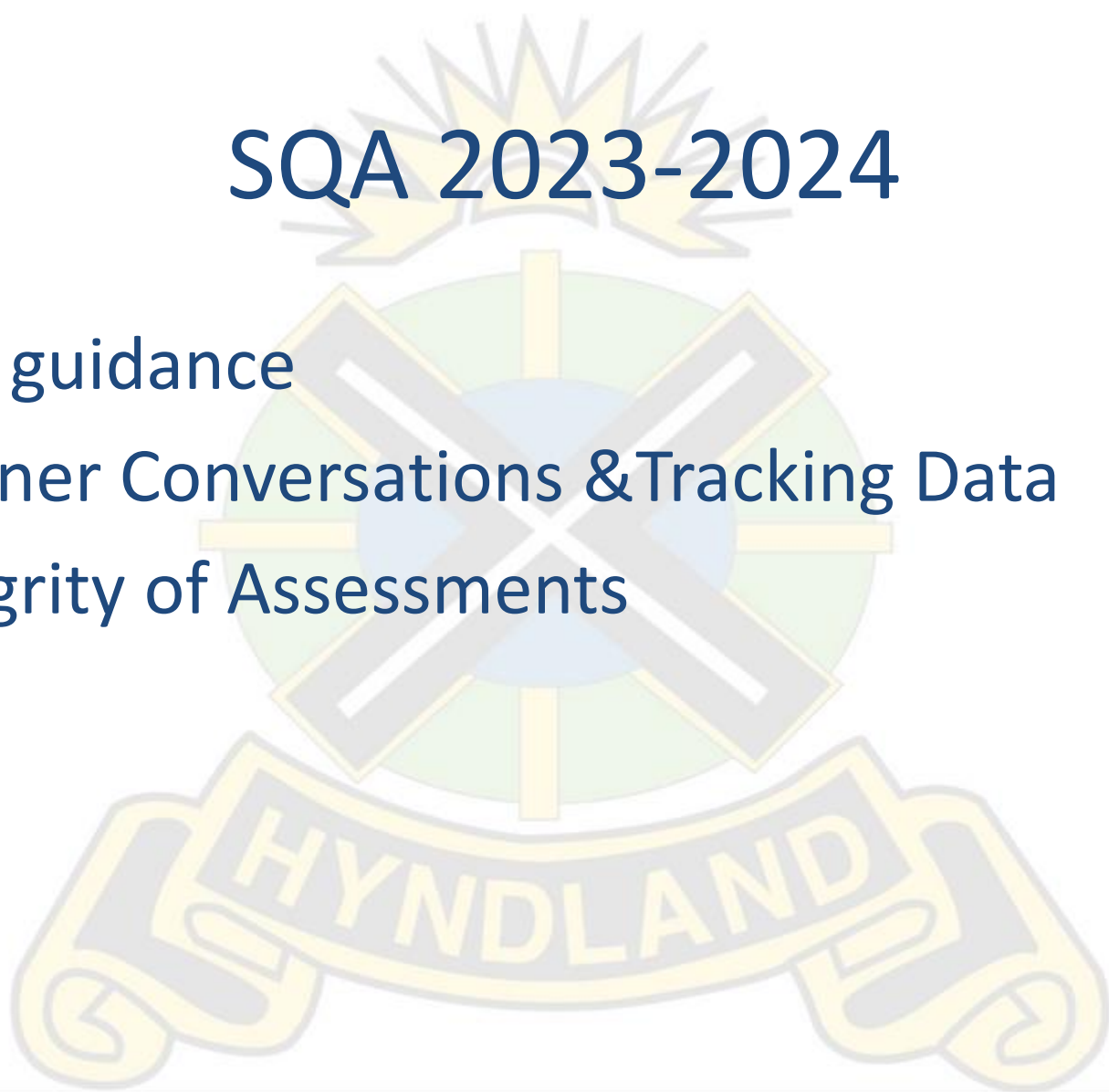
The crest of Hyndland School is centered in the background. It features a shield with a green and blue design, topped by a sunburst. A banner below the shield reads "HYNDLAND".

SQA Information – Mrs Hayes –
Depute Head Teacher and SQA
Coordinator

SPERO MELIORA - I HOPE FOR BETTER THINGS

SQA 2023-2024

- SQA guidance
- Learner Conversations & Tracking Data
- Integrity of Assessments



SPERO MELIORA - I HOPE FOR BETTER THINGS

Presentation Levels

- We will create exam entries for young people at the end of September based on their timetabled subjects
- We have an aspirational presentation policy – if you demonstrate the potential to achieve a N5 qualification, we will present you at National 5 level
- The final decision about presentation levels will be made after prelim exams
- The final date to change a presentation level is 31st March 2024 – after this date the presentation level will be fixed

SPERO MELIORA - I HOPE FOR BETTER THINGS

SQA Modifications - removed

- <https://www.sqa.org.uk/sqa/101508.html>
- Most of the modifications in place for the 2023 exam diet have been removed for the 2024 Exam diet. Full course assessment is now in place in most subjects.
- Exceptions to this include English & Media where some modifications remain.
- Teachers will guide young people as to the assignments and AVUs required. As these are overtaken in class – attendance is crucial.

SPERO MELIORA - I HOPE FOR BETTER THINGS

Assessment conditions

- If you have access to Alternative Assessment Arrangements, AAA such as extra time, reader, access to ICT etc, This must have been agreed with Mrs J McFarlane, PT Support for Learning in advance of any assessment.
- Assessment arrangements are provided where young people have an additional support need.
- Assessment arrangements are evidence based and registered with SQA in advance of the formal exam diet

SPERO MELIORA - I HOPE FOR BETTER THINGS

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)
- Estimates are based on demonstrated attainment and are NOT a prediction of a final grade.

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Integrity of Evidence and Assignments

Each young person in S4-6 will be asked to complete 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 people's work as your own is called '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.

SPERO MELIORA - I HOPE FOR BETTER THINGS

Exam Conditions

When you sit an assessment or complete an assignment 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/assignment – 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.
- SQA use software to detect plagiarism
- Centre marking means that all assignments from a school are marked in the same place by the same group of markers to detect collusion

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