



**Soar Valley College**

A SPECIALIST MATHS AND COMPUTING COLLEGE

# Welcome to Key Stage 4

Sept 2022

**ASPIRE ENJOY ACHIEVE**



## Aims of this evening

- Key people
- Moving to Key Stage 4
- How we will support your child
- How you can support your child
- Important dates



## Key people

- Form Tutors and teaching staff Year 10
- Mrs Williams – Associate Head of Year 10
- Mr Pankania - Head of Year 10
- Mr Ridgeway – Assistant Principal KS4
- Ms Houlton - Careers Leader
- Mrs Patel – Careers Adviser
- Year 10- Parents/Carers
- Year 10- students





## Moving to Key Stage 4

KS4



KS3

- Expectations are still very high
- Demands and challenges are even greater
- GCSE subjects will require greater depth of study and new skills
- Every lesson, every homework, every piece of work – all will make a difference
- It's not all about results, but...
- Results will determine next steps, and that affects all future plans
- 100% **effort** will give the best results



## Some facts about the GCSEs

- All GCSEs are graded from 9 to 1
- More challenging content than the 'old' GCSEs
- A grade 4 and above is a 'standard pass'; this is the minimum level that students need to reach in English and maths, otherwise they will need to continue to study these subjects post-16
- The DfE has said to employers, universities and colleges that if a grade C was their minimum requirement, then the nearest equivalent is a grade 4.
- A grade 5 and above is considered a 'strong pass'. This will be used in measuring school performance.
- Fewer grade 9s will be awarded in each subject than A\*s previously, rewarding exceptional performance



# GCSE grading structure

**Grade 9 is above A\***

**Grade 4 is equivalent to grade C**

**Grade 5 is top of grade C/grade B,**

**and a considered a STRONG PASS**

Ofqual

Grading new GCSEs from 2017

New grading structure	Current grading structure
9	
8	A*
7	A
6	B
5	B
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



## Some facts about the GCSEs

- Majority have terminal exams
- A few have coursework DT, Art etc.
- Tiers in maths, science, MFL
- Science is worth 2 GCSEs and so receives two grades, from 1,1 to 9,9. The grades can be different, e.g. 5,6
- Some subjects are BTECs (vocational courses), e.g. music, performing arts, media studies,
- These are graded differently – Distinction\*, Distinction, Merit, Pass



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# In-school support for your child







## Academic curriculum

- High quality teaching
- Purposeful homework to enhance learning
- Participate in every lesson
- Establish the right habits now
- Encourage your child to review new learning and revise from the start. Little and often!
- Encourage resilience
- Targeted interventions for students that require extra support.  
Additional revision sessions, online tutoring



## Ongoing assessment and exam preparation

- Regular feedback for students and parents on targets and predicted grades, as well as effort, homework and attitude to learning
- Two formal assessment weeks during Year 10
- Mocks exams at the end of Year 10 to prepare for the final exams



## Pastoral Curriculum

Learning	Health	Careers
Develop students revision and learning skills	Equip students with tools to help maintain their wellbeing	Prepare students for life beyond Soar Valley



## Careers

- Use of online careers guidance
- Dedicated tutor periods during KS4
- Writing a CV and Personal Statement
- Post 16 options – different pathways beyond SVC
- Visits arranged to look at post 16 provision
- Interview practice
- Visits arranged to speak with experts in potential careers
- One to one interviews with our Careers Advisor
- WOW week



## Careers Education @ Soar Valley College Miss Houlton

HOME

OUR SCHOOL

CURRICULUM

PARENTS

STUDENTS

COMMUNITY

CONTACT US

**National  
Careers  
Service**®



### CAREERS EDUCATION

Careers Education, Information, Advice and Guidance

**Vision**

To ensure all young people who enter Soar Valley College are given sound Careers, Enterprise, Information, Advice and Guidance to improve life and work chances. Young people are exposed to the different sectors, occupations and organisations with future employment opportunities.

**Aim**

To give Careers Education, Enterprise, Information, Advice and Guidance to the young people of Soar Valley College from Year 7 through to Year 11. To increase meaningful encounters with business organisations for Year 7 through to Year 11.

**Objectives**

1. To provide meaningful encounters with business organisations. Embed CEIAG through the College.
2. Ensure every student leaving Soar Valley College is in employment, education and or training.
3. To increase and develop CEIAG for all students; to support subject choice in preparation for their future career pathways.
4. Raise aspirations and capitalise on opportunities for our students at Soar Valley College. This is underpinned by LMI (Labour Market Intelligence) information.



# prospects

Inspiring People: Developing Potential



connexions



## Independent study

- The library is open from 8am to 4pm each day, including in break and lunch times
- Quiet study time from 3pm to 4pm
- Study support is available in F56 on the following nights from W/B 19<sup>th</sup> September





## Online support and resources

In the 'PARENTS' section you will find key information on the following:

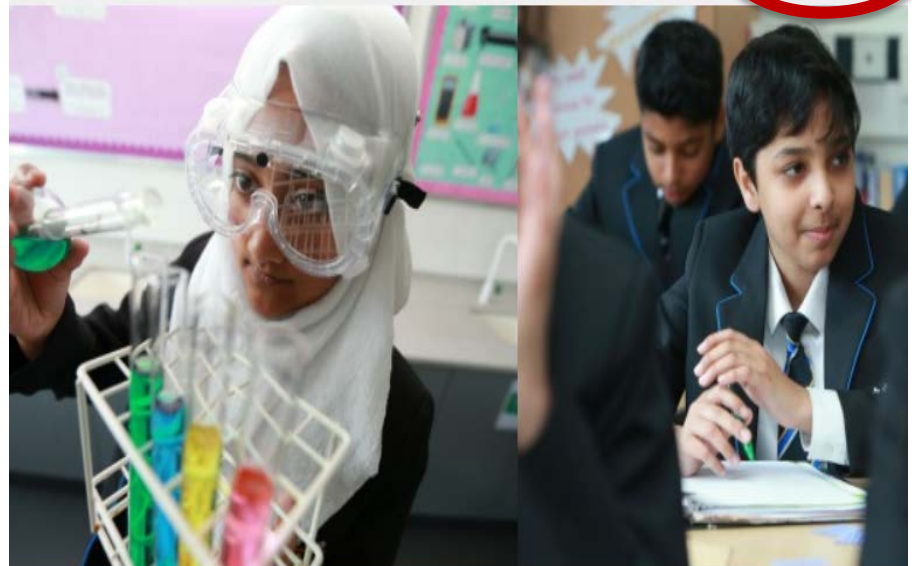
- Subject specific websites to support revision
- Whole school apps e.g. GCSEpod
- Tips to support your child during key stage 4

HOME

OUR SCHOOL

CURRICULUM

PARENTS



HOW TO SUPPORT  
YOUR CHILD



## GCSEpod

- All Year 10 students have been given access to the online learning platform
- Higher GCSEpod users (5 a day) achieved **at least** one grade higher in those subjects
- Demonstrations of GCSEpod in the Library







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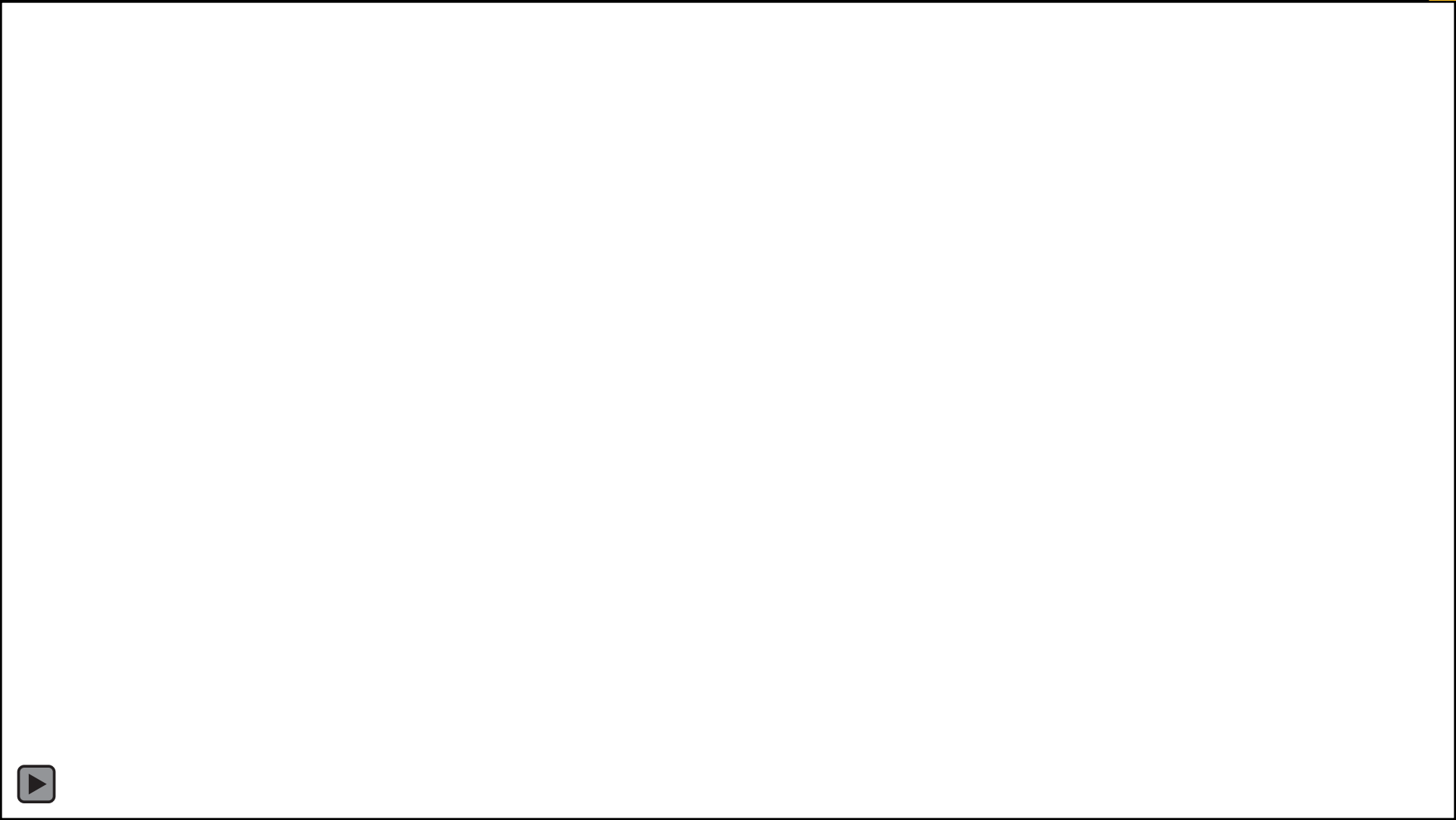
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New for Key Stage 4...



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## GCSEpod in the library

Opportunity for you tonight:

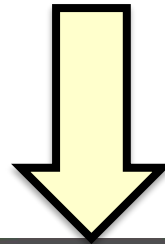
- Logging on
- Building playlists
- Monitor your child's usage





## Whole School Apps

- Show My Homework (Satchel one)
- GCSE pod (Demo available in library)
- SAM learning





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# How you can support your child



## Attendance

- Excellent attendance is crucial in supporting your child with their learning goals and achieving their highest grades.
- **90%** attendance over a school year = **4** whole weeks of lessons **MISSED!**
- Research suggests that **17 missed school days** a year = **1** GCSE grade **DROP** in achievement.

**The greater the attendance the greater the attainment.**



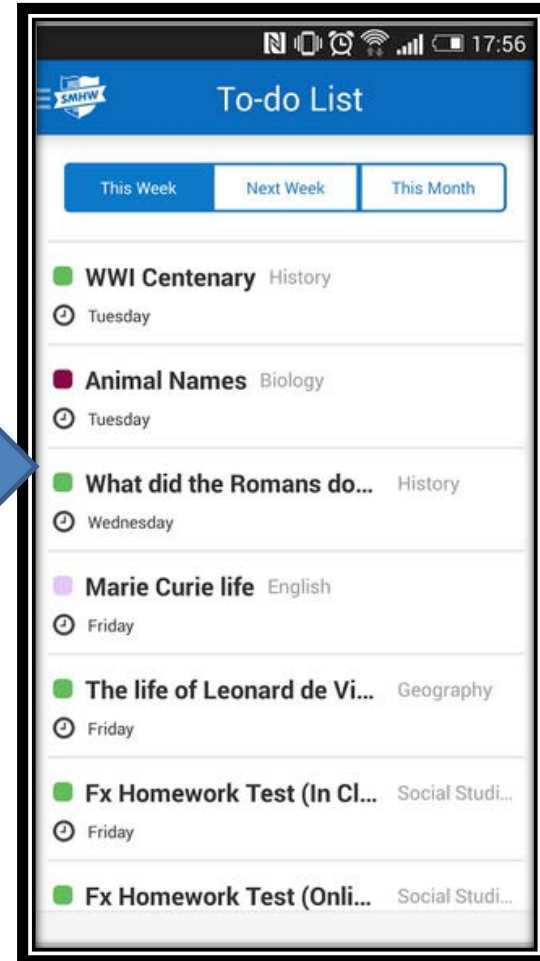
## Punctuality

- Equally important is PUNCTUALITY – to registrations and to all lessons
- Being late for a total of 15 minutes a day is the same as missing **2 whole school weeks of lost learning!**
- Support your child in getting to school on time by ensuring they:
  - Get enough sleep
  - Organise their bags the night before
  - Get up with plenty of time in the mornings
  - Discuss any lates with them



## Satchel One (Show My Homework)

Log in and see all outstanding homework and when it is due :







## The best conditions

- Diet, hydration, exercise, sleep
- Interest in school work, talk through Progress Checks, ask about homework, etc.
- Encourage a positive mind-set
- Encourage your child to ask if unsure
- Encourage them to make the most of opportunities available
- Encourage ongoing revision, from DAY ONE!
- Have key dates visible, and refer to them regularly



## Reading is crucial

- 10 to 16 year-olds who read for pleasure do better at school.
- Parents are the most important reading role models for their children.
- Across the country, boys read at a lower level than girls. This affects their ability to pass English GCSE and lowers their success in other subjects.
- Where boys read for just 15 minutes a day, the impact on all of their learning has been shown to be **transformational**.





## Key Dates

<b>Year 10 Parent KS4 Transition</b>	<b>13<sup>th</sup> September 2022</b>
<b>Autumn Assessment Week</b>	<b>W/B 10<sup>th</sup> October 2022</b>
<b>Progress Check 1</b>	<b>18<sup>th</sup> November 2022</b>
<b>Spring Assessment Week</b>	<b>W/B 2<sup>nd</sup> January 2023</b>
<b>Progress Check 2</b>	<b>6<sup>th</sup> February 2023</b>
<b>Year 10 Parent's Evening</b>	<b>23<sup>rd</sup> March 2023</b>
<b>Year 10 mock exams</b>	<b>W/B 24<sup>th</sup> April 2023</b>
<b>Progress Check 3</b>	<b>9<sup>th</sup> June 2023</b>
<b>World of Work (WOW) Week</b>	<b>W/B 10<sup>th</sup> July 2023</b>



# ASPIRE ENJOY ACHIEVE

- We have high **aspirations** and high **expectations** for your child and will provide them with lots of support
- We want your child to have high **aspirations** and high **expectations** of themselves
- We thank you for showing your support at the start of the GCSE journey by viewing this short presentation

## Good luck to the class of 2024!



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