

GCSE SURVIVAL GUIDE 2022

FOR PARENTS AND CARERS



THE HAMBLE SCHOOL

ACHIEVING EXCELLENCE TOGETHER

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BEING A PARENT/CARER ISN'T EASY...

A parent has to be an attendance officer, school partner, provider of the tools for Home Study, banker, chef, laundry maid, study buddy, project manager, sounding board and advisor. You have to listen, ensure there is a quiet area for your son or daughter to work, help with organisation and Home Study, know important dates, give encouragement and rewards and not nag! Difficult... we know.

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PARENTS WERE ONCE STUDENTS...

It is important to remember that being a student is not easy. A student/parent partnership is the best way to help. A sensible balance of work and play should be negotiated between the partnership and it should be stuck to. It is essential that students have a revision plan, this will help stop putting things off. The partnership should negotiate some rewards regarding work plans and improvements in attitude to learning, attendance and achievement. Keep talking to each other – ask to see examples of work and work plans.

Remember that there were not the distractions there are now, when you were a student. Mobile phones, games consoles, Facebook, Twitter and the internet are part of the student life now and can be huge distractions. Bedrooms should be a mobile free zone at bedtime, leave it on the landing, to give the brain a break from being on call 24 hours a day.

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW...

- What subjects are being studied.
- How the assessments work for each subject.
- When the coursework and controlled assessment dates are - key dates booklet.
- **Attendance must be at the level of 95% or above, if it drops to 90% students statistically only have a 35% chance of gaining 5 GCSE's 9-4 including English and Maths.**
- Attitude to Learning is key.
- There are plenty of intervention and support sessions available – interventions are on a Tuesday and Thursday, intervention sessions over the holidays, literacy and numeracy support, maths one-to-one and regular assessment and feedback in class.
- Target grade and predicted grade information.
- Individual GCSE Exam timetables are given to students in April. It is essential that these timetables are checked and any clashes of exams are highlighted to the Data and Exams Office.
- Support is available at all times from: Tutors, Subject Teachers, Mrs Emmett- Callaghan and Miss Cambridge
- Parents can telephone the school between 8:00am and 4:00pm.
- Parents can email the school using: general@thehambleschool.co.uk
- It is a known fact that revision should be in short bursts of around 30 minutes with a break of 15 minutes and repeated.
- Subject revision books are available - BBC GCSE Bitesize, GCSE POD, MyMaths – students are used to using these resources for revision.

THE EXAMS

- Establish a routine and stick to it. Make sure your son/daughter has proper meals and that they sleep well and keep to their work plan.
- Encourage your son/daughter to have plenty of exercise – this stimulates the brain and if they are more alert, the revision will be just that little bit easier. Exercise also helps relaxation and beats stress.
- Do not let your son or daughter revise with loud music playing, the TV on, their mobile phone switched on or whilst connected on Facebook or Twitter.
- A good night's sleep is essential before each exam.
- Ensure that your son/daughter knows when their exam is. A morning exam requires the students to be in school at 8:20am and an afternoon exam starts at 1.30pm.
- Uniform must be correct to be allowed into the exam – this includes no jewellery, nail varnish or improper shoes, trousers or skirts.
- Ensure that they have the equipment they need – all exam papers require the use of black pens, therefore a couple of black pens are essential alongside sharp pencils, an eraser and ruler. These should be in a clear pencil case, plastic bag or held together with an elastic band. A bottle of water (without the label) is also essential for exams.
- Sometimes your son/daughter will also need a calculator, protractor, a pair of compasses, set square and coloured pencils.
- If your son or daughter is ill on the day of the exam it is essential that you phone the school office on **023 8045 2105** as soon as possible.
- Some exams may finish after 3pm.

Wish them well, tell them that they have worked hard and that they can only do their best and that you are proud of them.

GOOD LUCK