

S6 Parents' Information Evening

September 2017



Agenda: -

Welcome and SQA

Mr Hamilton

Expectations of S6

Mr McClellan

Support for S6

Mr Hollis

Speakers from

- The University of Edinburgh:
J Holland, Senior Student Recruitment Officer
- Skills Development Scotland:
C Graham, Careers Adviser

Exceptional Circumstances Consideration Service



- Takes place before results are published
- Applies only if we believe a candidate has suffered as a result of an exceptional circumstance (bereavement, serious illness, etc.)
- School informs SQA immediately
- Alternative evidence (e.g. coursework, classwork, assessments) is submitted to SQA
- SQA will consider evidence (and results of other pupils) in determining whether to change/award grade



Post Results Service

- Available after results are issued
- Specific criteria on whether request is submitted
- Requires reasonable evidence that SQA has made a mistake
- Two types of request can be made:
 - **Clerical Check**
 - **Marking Review of the Script**
- Mark/grade can go **UP OR DOWN**



The S6 Experience – depends on the starting point

- Attained sufficiently well in S5 to get where you want to go and now adding value.
- S5 attainment not what was expected and need to spend S6 getting the results you need.
- Somewhere in between.

But every case has the same end point – this is your child's last year in school and he she must make the most of the time and the opportunity. Committed and working, not coasting.



If S5 did not deliver Why not?

- Reflect on last year and pinpoint the pitfalls.
- Be committed to all courses and work hard.
- Complete all homework/look over work daily.
- Attend all classes including Tutor, PSE, Study.
- Be organised and plan ahead.

Your child has made a commitment to stay for S6. AH courses are expensive to run. In N5/H classes your child may have been given priority over S5 pupils because it is his/her last year.



Partnerships with parents

S6 Expectations – please support

Senior School Agreement – signed by pupils & parents:

- Leadership: Ambassador for school, positive role model
- Commitment to learning & life of the school
- Respectful
- Attendance & punctuality
- Dress Code (Prefects in Blazers for duty & events)
- Equipment – fully prepared
- Homework – set work, coursework, ongoing revision, past papers



Partnerships with parents

- SQA Website sqa.org.uk: advice for Learners and Parents/Carers
 - Subject pages
 - *Your coursework* page – gives overview of coursework tasks and rules
 - Specimen & Exemplar Question Papers
 - *Exam Tools* app - create personal exam timetable and study plan
 - Register with *MySQA* – Results Day text
- National Parent Forum Scotland:
 - www.npfs.org.uk/highers-in-a-nutshell
- Success Guides eg. Leckie & Leckie course notes



Pupil Support Structure

Pupil Support Leaders – main point of contact

- 6A1: Mr Hollis
- 6A2: Mr Hollis
- 6B1: Mr Brodie
- 6C1: Mrs Dunn
- 6C2: Mrs Dunn
- 6D1: Mrs Kerr

Support for Learning: Mrs Adams

**SQA Alternative Assessment
Arrangements (AAA)**

House Heads

- Allermuir: Miss Statham
- Braidlaw: Mrs Porter
- Caerketton: Mr McClellan
- Darrach: Mr McClellan



Senior Pupil opportunities

- P7 Induction programme continuing into: -
 - Mentoring S1/2 in subjects
 - Paired reading programme
 - Helping Hands
- Senior Student Council, House Council, School Council
- Prefects
- Committees (Interact, Prom, Yearbook, Newspaper etc.)
- Supporting junior sports clubs and activities
- Work Experience Placements
- Links with Braidburn school and associated Primaries.



Pupil Support – Study

- PSL will liaise with CL/Teacher
- 2-4ppw supervised Study
- PSE – study techniques
- Homework Diaries – record H/W and assessment deadlines
- Course outline
- *Edmodo* – course notes/assignments
- *OneNote* e.g. Graph Comm
- Message boards e.g. English
- Scholar
- Mentoring meetings – 1 to 1 with PSL
- Lunchtime/after-school Study support



Pupil Support – Tracking progress

- Reporting: 27th October 2017
19th January 2017
Working Grade (current performance)
Target Grade (expected by now)
Next Target Grade (aspirational & realistic)
- Assessment weeks: 27th November – 7th December 2017
Range of Prelims, unit assessments,
coursework
- Parents' evening: 24th January 2018
- If you or child have concerns please contact PSL – don't wait!



Parent support – study at home

Effective study arrangements at home:

- Timetable
- Calendar of key dates/deadlines – set reminders
 - Include planning for next year
- Storage for school work
- Quiet space to work
- Revision timetable linked to SQA exam timetable
- Food! Healthy snacks & water
- Rest – turn off the Wi-Fi at night?

The Teenage Brain needs more support with organisation



Information and advice

- PSE programme
- UCAS planning and personal statements
- Higher Education Convention and Open Days
- Skills Development Scotland
- Websites – Edinburgh Guarantee, Edinburgh College, UCAS, individual universities, Careers Scotland
- LEAPS (Lothian Equal Access Programme for Schools)
- Twitter account @FHS_SfP

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Guest Speakers

The University of Edinburgh:

- Jonathan Holland, Senior Student Recruitment Officer

Skills Development Scotland:

- Caroline Graham, Careers Adviser



Pathways

College

- NC access courses– N4/5 (English/Maths)
- Entry to HNC - 1 to 2 Highers
- Entry to HND - 2 to 3 Highers
- Articulation from Edinburgh College to degree courses at Napier, Heriot Watt and Edinburgh

Employment

- Modern Apprenticeships – Edinburgh Guarantee



Pathways – University or not

- A degree is not automatically a passport to a high salary or lifelong career
- Weaker results need careful decisions
- Examine other options – HNC/D, employment, training
- Getting to university involves work, research, commitment from the pupil.



UCAS Timeline

August

Early applicants meetings held – medicine, vet, dentistry, Oxford, Cambridge.
Pupils register, get timeline, begin research.

September

Complete reference request forms, staff references gathered, choosing courses, completing applications.

Sept - Oct

Work takes place in PSE on UCAS, College and other application processes, focussing on personal statements, CVs etc.

10th Oct

Final deadline for pupil to complete early entry applications for sending by the 13th of October
(end of term)

End of Oct

Final deadline for other pupils to complete personal statements.

Mid Nov

Final deadline for other pupils to complete applications.