A carers guide to.....

Year Eleven

Year 11 is a really important year in the life of all young people. It is the year when they finish their secondary education and take the exams that will open doors for them in the future.

This short guide will help you support the young person during this year.

Some general points:

- Your school will have a website with useful information on it. Make sure you check it weekly.
- Important assessments will happen all year – it isn't just the summer term exams that are important.
- All children in year 11 will be set homework. If they tell you they don't have any or they have done it – challenge them!
- Mock exams need to be taken seriously!
- Young people need plenty of sleep. Be wary of the distractions that keep them awake late: mobile phones, TV's, computers and caffeinated drinks!
- The Virtual School monitors the progress of all children looked after. Where appropriate we can arrange for extra tuition for the young person to help boost exam grades.
- We also monitor attendance and the quality of the Personal Education Plans (PEPs).
- Every school has a 'Designated Teacher' who is responsible for the progress of children looked after in the school. Make sure you know who that person is and how to contact them.

Year 11		
Event	**When?**	**How you can help**
Parents evenings	Various	Attend! Ask the teachers how you can support the young person at home.
College / 6th form applications	December	Discuss with the young person. Visit the colleges / 6th forms together.
Mock exams	Usually December or January	Get the exam timetable from the school. Discuss a revision plan a month before they start. Talk about the importance of these exams constantly. Ensure the young person has plenty of sleep and hydration.
Mock results	About a month after the Mock exams	Discuss these with the young person – and with the school if necessary. Make sure they know what to do to improve the grades for the summer term exams.
Final exams	May / June	Get the exam timetable from the school. Discuss a revision plan two months before they start. Talk about the importance of these exams constantly. Ensure the young person has plenty of sleep and hydration before each exam.
PEP meetings	September and May	The school should be asking the young person about their views and setting targets for the coming year. Talk with your YP about the targets – and always aim high!

Frequently asked Questions

1. Where do I find out information on my child's school?
   a. The school will have a website. Google it!

2. What is a 'designated teacher?'
   a. The person in the school who is responsible for monitoring the progress of children looked after.

3. What is a PEP?
   a. The personal education plan which sets out short term targets for the young person. This plan is reviewed twice a year.

4. What is the Pupil Premium?
   a. The sum of money given by the Government to schools to support children looked after. This is administered by the Virtual School.

5. What are the choices for a young person at 16?
   a. Stay on at school / go to a sixth form college / get a job / start an apprenticeship

6. How do I know if the young person is making the expected progress at school?
   a. Expected progress is defined by the government as three National Curriculum levels of progress between Key Stages 2 and 4.The table below shows what GCSE grades are reached by most students in Key Stage 4 based on their grades at the end of Year 6. As you can see, students who had Level 4 in their Year 6 exams are expected to get at least a Grade C at GCSE.

		GCSE grade (Key Stage 4 level)									
		no result	U	G	F	E	D	C	B	A	A*
	Other or no prior available	x	x	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	✓	✓	✓
	B,N	x	x	n/a	n/a	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Key Stage 2 level	2	x	x	x	x	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
	3	x	x	x	x	x	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
	4	x	x	x	x	x	x	✓	✓	✓	✓
	5	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	✓	✓	✓