



Strathaven Academy S4 Next Steps Evening

November 2021



Aims of Next Steps Evening

- to maximise pupil progress by
 - ❖ promoting high expectations
 - ❖ encouraging pupils to take responsibility for their own learning
 - ❖ identifying early intervention strategies for pupils in need of additional support/encouragement
 - ❖ ensuring all pupils receive full support to get the best out of their time in S4
 - ❖ Working together with parents/carers as partners to help young people plan how to achieve their best including identifying support available within the school
 - ❖ exploring revision strategies and useful study techniques



Agenda

- Tracking Data
- Cause for Concern
- SQA Update
- Senior Phase Assessment
Diet (Winter Assessments)
and security of
assessments
- Study Techniques/Where
to access resources
- Supported Study
- Additional Assessment
Arrangements (AAA)
- Pupil Wellbeing
- Career Planning



Tracking Data

Tracking reports sent home Friday, 19/11/21. The report contains:

1. Grades for behaviour, effort and homework in each subject.
2. Working grade for each subject - this indicates the grade the pupil is currently working at in each of their subjects and is based on the evidence staff currently have available to them
3. Learner Profile: Completed during PSHE and is the pupil opinion of their progress - how does this compare to tracking report?



Cause for Concern

1. Not on track to pass - how can this change?
2. Pupil feels can achieve a higher grade - how can this be achieved?
3. Pupil is on track - how can this be maintained?
4. Behaviour/effort/homework grades
5. Demerits



SQA Update

Plan A for SQA is to have final exams in April/May

How to keep up to date with SQA information:

- School communication channels (Google Classroom/website/App/email)
- SQA Pupil Zone: <https://www.sqa.org.uk/sqa/84154.html>
- SQA Parent Zone: <https://www.sqa.org.uk/sqa/41312.html>



Senior Phase Assessments (Winter Diet)

- 1. Winter assessment diet for S4 pupils will run from Monday, 10 January 2022 until Friday, 21 January 2022.**
- 2. Some practical assessments (PE/music/art) will take place in December.**
- 3. Our plan A is for these assessments to replicate the conditions of SQA exams, e.g. under exam conditions, invigilation team, use of exam hall.**
- 4. Give pupils a valuable experience of sitting an assessment in exam conditions prior to the final SQA exams.**



Security Of Assessments

In all assessments (including final SQA exams), the following mitigations will be used to protect the security of assessments. Pupils and parents/carers should be aware that failure to comply with these rules is SQA malpractice which can have serious repercussions for young people:

1. **Mobile phones** and **all other smart devices including smart watches** should be placed in a bag at all times.
2. The bag should be left at the front of the assessment room. Pupils should only have the required equipment at their desk, e.g. pen, pencil, rubber etc.
3. Assessment papers and completed work should remain at the end of the assessment - no pupil can remove any assessment materials from the room.
4. If a peer asks for help, tell them to speak to the teacher/invigilator.
5. All work submitted must be own work.



Study Techniques/Guides

All S4 pupils were issued with a paper copy of the following in PSHE:

1. Strathaven Academy Study Skills Booklet: A guide to study, assessment and examination techniques
1. Strathaven Academy Study Planning Booklet

An electronic version will be placed on S4 year group Google Classroom and the school website under the 'study support' section:

<http://strathaven.s-lanark.sch.uk/study-support/>



Resources to support Revision

Scholar: available through Glow or
<https://scholar.hw.ac.uk/>

E-Sgoil: <http://www.e-sgoil.com/studysupport2020/>

SQA Past Papers:
<https://www.sqa.org.uk/pastpapers/findpastpaper.htm>

BBC Bitesize: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize>

Subject specific Google Classrooms



Supported Study

1. School based programme

- Significant offer of supported study. There are sessions before school, during lunch and after school.
- Also pre-recorded supported study available in some subjects.

1. SLC programme

- Significant offer of online live supported study sessions delivered by staff across the authority

Speak to class teacher and check Google Classrooms. Year group Google Classroom has overview.



Tips for success this session...

- Attend Supported Study where offered
- Distraction free study environment
- Study techniques and habits (identifying areas for development)
- Commit to a study timetable
- Past papers/revision materials
- Make use of supports
 - Websites: SQA, BBC Bitesize, SCHOLAR, e-sgoil
 - Google Classrooms
 - Friends, siblings, parents/carers, teachers
 - Attendance in classes - opportunity to speak to teachers



Additional Assessment Arrangements (AAA)

Pupils who receive Additional Assessment Arrangements such as digital papers, readers, scribes etc. will continue to receive these arrangements.

Different arrangements may be in place for different subjects for pupils depending on the nature of the assessment. Mrs Gallagher, our PT Support for Learning will speak to these pupils individually about this and contact home to discuss. Should you be concerned that your child is entitled to AAA and these are not in place, please contact the school office prior to the Senior Phase Assessment Diet.



Pupil Wellbeing

1. Important to have a balance of school work, leisure time and relaxing
2. Exam resilience techniques will be delivered through PSHE
3. Pupil Support staff available to help



Career Planning - Developing our Young Workforce (DYW)

Discussion about the pupil and parents/carers thoughts on the pupil's future career plan.

Things to consider:

- When does the pupil plan to leave Strathaven Academy (end of S4/5/6) – does parent agree and support this decision?
- Destination options – uni/college/apprenticeship/employment
- Does the pupil have a Plan A and a backup Plan B – we would always encourage this
- Thoughts on subjects for S5 – do they match entry requirements?
- Have they looked at qualifications needed for their post-school destination?



Career Planning - Developing our Young Workforce (DYW)

- S4 pupils will be spending the next 4 weeks in PSE doing research about their Plan A and Plan B. They will be creating presentations about their preferred career pathway and can share it with parents prior to options interviews (Feb/March 2022)
- Wealth of resources on the school website under Supporting Our Pupils - Developing The Young Workforce <https://strathaven.s-lanark.sch.uk/dyw/what-is-dyw/#>
- Other useful websites are
 - www.planitplus.net
 - www.apprenticeship.scot
 - www.myworldofwork.co.uk



School contact information

Should you require to speak to someone at the school please use the following contact details:

1. Telephone: 01357 524040 - your child's Pupil Support teacher is usually your first contact
2. Email: office@strathaven.s-lanark.sch.uk

Please remember updates will be posted on the school website and the school app (available on Apple and Android devices).