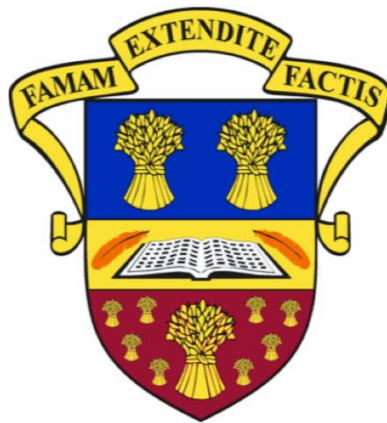
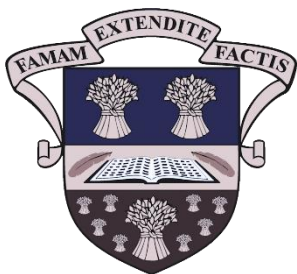


# Ellon Academy Community Campus



## Senior Phase Faculty Support 2018/2019





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Dear Ellon Academy Senior Students,

How fast the time flies! It seems like yesterday that I gave my ‘*start of year*’ assemblies to you all, talking about the first day, the last day and all the days in between. Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2019 marks the last day for your current academic year, and the start of the ‘final push’ towards your exams.

It’s so important that you give your all to your studies over the next few weeks, to ensure that the commitment and dedication you’ve given in all of the days in between pays off, so you can look forward to results day in August. You will never regret the time and investment you give at this crucial time, and the joy you will feel when you open that results letter, text or email, knowing that you’ve been rewarded for a job well done.

Pace yourselves, make sure you sleep and eat well and take some down time too. Your health and wellbeing will help to sustain you, and in my personal experience, having a plan and making a start is really motivating and helps you feel better about yourself and your preparation. The greatest stress is caused by not having a plan and not preparing.

I wish you all the very best for your exams and for those of you who are leaving school, I wish you every success for the future.

*“Do something today that your future self will thank you for.”*

With warmest wishes

Yours sincerely

*Pauline Buchan*

Rector



# Study Support

Study Support is what takes place outside "normal lessons" to help students achieve.

Faculties at Ellon Academy regularly offer after school help for pupil who are working towards SQA National Qualifications. There are also a variety of on line learning systems, such as MyMaths, BBC Bitesize and SQA that pupils can access from school and home. In addition, there are Study Support resources available in Faculty areas on GLOW

This booklet summarises the support available from individual Faculties along with generic study skills and tips.

However, the main piece of advice we can give is keep communicating! If you are unsure about something then ASK!

In this booklet you will find information from all the Faculties, Guidance and the Library to support you in your preparation for the exams.

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# Additional Support for Learning

[Details of Faculty support on offer...](#)

Websites:

<http://www.studygs.net/stress.htm>

<http://www.studygs.net/shared/testing.htm>

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/scotland/brainsmart/brain/#bbemp>

<https://getrevising.co.uk/make>

<https://www.understood.org/en/school-learning/learning-at-home/homework-study-skills/how-to-help-your-teen-develop-good-study-habits>

There are additional websites on Glow /ASFL/ Support Strategies/ Home.

Workshops on study skills and revision techniques will be offered via the bulletin.

## Business Education

Subjects: Accounting, Administration & IT, Business Management and Economics

- Attend ALL lessons and complete all set tasks to the best of the individual's ability.
- Revise all the topics required for the final examination and attempt past exam papers.
- Submit past paper questions for marking and feedback. Act on the feedback given, this will improve your work
- See past papers and subject specific advice on the SQA website.
- Leckie & Leckie and Bright Red revision guides available in school library. Copies also available to borrow during the school day in the faculty. See Mrs Ewen to access.
- Additional support materials available on GLOW.
- Use BBC Bitesize revision website.
- Use advice notes given in classes: It is essential that pupils follow **to the letter** advice given to them about how to answer examination questions. Many marks can be lost by not answering questions in the recommended way, with the correct terms being used accurately.
- Revise regularly during study leave and seek teacher support, as required.
- Faculty support sessions are in place for all courses – pupils to see their class teacher and access for additional support.
- Individual extra work will be set for particular pupils to complete at home. Incomplete work will be chased up.

# Creative Arts

Subjects: Art and Design, Drama, Music and Music Technology

Staff have encouraged their pupils to come to the Faculty areas at various times. Staff have been on hand to offer advice and teaching points. All subjects in the Faculty have offered support.

1. During Study Leave
2. Lunchtime sessions – drop in
3. After school sessions – drop in
4. Study periods
5. Working in specialist areas e.g. the Theatre, music practice rooms, recording studio, art areas.

# English

Subjects: English, Media

English and Media are skills based subjects. As such, you will need to work on them little and often over a period of time. Try to plan time for regular, and active, revision over the next few weeks rather than attempting to intensively revise in the days leading up to your exam.

## **On-line resources:**

There are a number of useful websites to consider looking at as part of your revision.

- Use the Understanding Standards website to review the quality of answers rewarded by SQA. You could do a past paper and then compare your answers to the examples provided to see if you would be awarded the mark.
- Use BBC Bitesize and Scholar sites to support your revision at home. You can revise the content and take interactive tests.
- Log on to Glow and check that you have materials from your teacher, as well as the generic Faculty issued materials, to support your revision.

## **Reading for Understanding, Analysis and Evaluation:**

- Do past papers/model papers and then ask a friend to check your answers using the marking scheme. You could coordinate which papers you do with classmates and then swap.
- Read good quality newspaper articles. This will increase your familiarity with the type of text you will face and increase your general knowledge
- Revise the different question types and how you need to answer them

## Scottish Texts

- Read over your texts and check that you have all the annotations (materials available on GLOW)
- Create a theme scheme – put the titles of the texts down one side of paper and the possible focus areas for the final question across the top and create a cross-reference chart so that you know where you might find evidence for different types of questions
- Revise the structure for answering the final question – Commonality2 /Extract2/Other 6/8-C2E2O6/8
- Look over the past/model papers and focus on the final question. Make a plan for answering the different types of questions
- Learn at least 2/3 quotations from each poem to give you a good spread

## Critical Essay

- Re-read your text
- Revise critical essay structure
- Make a critical terminology word bank
- Revise essay plans/approaches to different types of questions. Try to reproduce essay plans without any support, this will highlight for you which areas of the plan you already know and which areas you need to focus on.
- Use exemplars issued/Understanding Standards site to compare your essays and mark against SQA criteria
- Look at past paper questions and discuss with classmates/peers how you would tackle the question
- To learn quotations:  
Write the quotations you want to learn on a piece of paper and put a blank sheet on the other side of the room. Look at the quotation then walk across the room and write it down on the blank sheet  
Make flash cards with the quotation on one side and the analysis on the other – test that you can remember both  
Make quotation quizzes – write down three quotations which show that Lady Macbeth doubts Macbeth's ability...for example

## Drop-In Sessions

- Remember that drop-in sessions are on offer every lunchtime (apart from Mondays) and after school every day.

Try to attend if there is something you are concerned about and would like extra help with or if you would simply like somewhere to study in peace!

# Guidance

Guidance staff are on hand throughout the period leading up to the exams and during study leave in order to support pupils as appropriate.

We can offer general advice and support about study skills, study planning and combatting stress.

Pupils should make an appointment with their PTG during study leave if individual support is required.

# Health & Wellbeing

Details of Faculty support on offer...

**Lunchtime drop-in sessions** for catch-up and completion of assignment/portfolio:

Tuesday lunchtime F51 (PE portfolio)

Thursday lunchtime F51 (PE portfolio)

Thursday lunchtime G71 (HFT assignment)

**Websites:**

BBC Bitesize (N5/H)

SQA N5 PE portfolio / N5 Hospitality recipes / Higher past papers

Glow – All course notes and revision tasks available on the appropriate Health and Wellbeing pages

The Health and Wellbeing staff also offer one-to-one support by arrangement. Pupils should speak to their teacher to arrange.

# Humanities

Details of Faculty support on offer...

**Subject: Modern Studies**

After school drop-in sessions. These will be mixed National 5 and Higher.

Tuesday 1.00 - 1.50 S28

Thursday 3.00 - 4.00 S28

Websites:

BBC Bitesize (N5/H)

SQA - pastpapers

Glow – lots of materials available via school Modern Studies site

**Subject: History**

After school drop-in sessions. These will be National 5.

Wednesday 3.00-4.00 S34

Websites:

BBC Bitesize (N5/H)

SQA - pastpapers

Glow – lots of materials available via school History site

## **Subject: Geography**

After school drop-in sessions. These will be National 5 and Higher.

Thursday	N5	3.00 - 4.00	S18
	Higher	3.00 – 4.00	S19
Wednesday	Higher	Periods 5 and 6 informal drop in during Study Periods – S18/S19	

Websites:

BBC Bitesize (N5/H)

SQA - pastpapers

Glow – lots of materials available via school Geography site

## **Subject: RMPS**

Drop-in sessions. These will be for Higher.

Any lunchtime or study period, including Wednesday Period 5, by arrangement with Mr Paterson. S24

After school revision sessions. These will be for Higher.

Thursday	3.00 - 4.00	S24
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## **REVISION MATERIALS**

Departmental revision notes available, electronically and in booklet form, for all units in the Higher courses.

Websites;

BBC Bitesize (H)

SQA – pastpapers

GLOW

# Library

## **Study Support Resources available from Ellon Academy Community Campus Library and Aberdeenshire Libraries**

Pupils have access to a wide range of general revision, exam and study skills resources from the academy library. For example: -

- “Get Better Grades” by M Agnew
- “Study Skills and Strategies” by M McNally
- “The Good Study Guide” by A Northedge
- “How to Pass Exams: accelerate your learning, memorize key facts and revise effectively” by D O’Brien
- “Study for Success” by T Phipps
- “Learn to Learn: a comprehensive guide to effective study for secondary learning and exam preparation” by S Cochrane (Bright Red Publishing)



- “N5 and Higher Study 1234” by D Brown (Leckie & Leckie)
- “Brilliant Study Skills” by B Kirkton

## Subject Support

N4, N5, Higher and a selection of Advanced Higher subject specific study guides are located in the Study Support Area of the academy library. These include the Hodder Gibson “How to Pass” Revision Guides, Leckie & Leckie “Success Guides” and a wide selection of Bright Red Study Guides.

These resources are available for pupils to access in the library and to borrow for use at home.

## Online catalogue



<https://www.livelifeaberdeenshire.org.uk/libraries/>

Choose LIBRARY CATALOGUE and enter search terms/keyword in the “search by keyword” box.

Pupils can search the online catalogue to check for items available in Ellon Academy Library and across Aberdeenshire Libraries. Items available at other libraries can be reserved online and collected from Ellon Academy Library or nearest branch library. **Any pupil unsure of his/her library borrower or pin number should speak to a member of the library team.**

## SPYDUS MOBILE APP

You can also search the catalogue from your MOBILE PHONE or TABLET.

Spydus mobile is your anywhere 24/7 library.

The app is available on



## DAWSONERA



Get access to hundreds of study guides and past papers via our Dawsonera e-book collection. Detailed instructions are included as a separate attachment to this booklet.

# Mathematics

## Subjects: Mathematics; Applications of Mathematics

4 drop-in sessions available per week, 2 after school and 2 at lunchtime, plus topic revision sessions for National 5 Applications, National 5 Mathematics & Higher Mathematics on specific dates (see posters/Facebook/Twitter @ellonmaths for details).

Day / Time	Teacher(s)	Room	Notes
<b>Monday</b> Lunchtime 1325 - 1350	Mrs Jackson	F12	all year groups & levels
<b>Wednesday</b> After School 1450 - 1600	Mr Carey/ Mrs Macdonald	F23	all year groups & levels
<b>Thursday</b> Lunchtime 1225 - 1305	Mrs Kennedy	F20	all year groups & levels
<b>Thursday</b> After School 1450 – 1600	Mr McClarence/ Mr Lees	F21	all year groups & levels

Quiet Study Area – lunchtimes, after school & ‘free periods’	n/a	Maths Opening Learning	all year groups & levels
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- Pupils can see a member of staff for help at an agreed time (with given warning).
- All pupils provided with a post prelim profile sheet highlighting strengths and areas requiring revision and further practice.
- Pupils provided with a schedule of SQA past papers to complete.
- Glow Maths website – pupils use to access revision work and practice papers as well as links to other useful sites.
- Google Classroom – pupils can access revision work, course information & peer support.
- Faculty Facebook/Twitter: @ellonmaths
- Mr Lees has a You Tube video channel with step-by-step of how to do examples & past SQA papers.
- All pupils have access to “My Maths” website for notes & examples.
- BBC Bitesize revision site for notes & examples.

# Modern Languages

## Subjects: French, German & Spanish

National 5 French and German pupils should refer to the following web sites to revise vocabulary to help them prepare for the Reading and Listening comprehension papers.

<http://www.quia.com/jg/475227.html>

Above = National 5 French Exam revision.

<http://www.quia.com/jg/538662.html>

Above = Nat 5 German Exam vocabulary

Higher French and German pupils may refer to the following web sites to practise their

<http://www.quia.com/jg/1468044.html>

Above = Higher French Exam preparation

Below = Higher French Directed Writing

<https://www.quia.com/fc/2359587.html>

<http://www.quia.com/jg/2135969.html>

Above = Higher German Exam vocabulary

Below = Short essay writing for Higher German

<https://www.quia.com/fc/2223369.html>

Higher Spanish pupils can practise their vocabulary on this site :-

<https://www.quia.com/fc/2841485.html>

National 5 Spanish pupils can practise their writing exam by using this site :-

<https://www.quia.com/fc/2815354.html>

Advanced Higher French pupils should refer to the substantial web site below

<https://www.quia.com/jg/2704322.html>

Advanced Higher German should refer to the web site below :-

<https://www.quia.com/fc/2365375.html>

Pupils wishing help should contact MFL teachers during study leave in May or can attend after school help classes in S46 every Wednesday after school.

Languages teachers will also be available to assist pupils at times convenient to pupils. Possibly during lunch times or on certain days after school. Speak to your MFL teacher to arrange a help session.

# Science

## **Subject: Biology**

The Biology staff offer support at lunchtimes by arrangement. Pupils should ask their teacher for details.

Websites:

BBC Bitesize (N5/H)

Scholar (H/AH)

Glow – lots of materials available via school Biology site

Twig video clips – available via Glow/EllonAcademy/Twig

<http://nat5biopl.edubuzz.org>

Advanced Higher – summary notes and Scholar notes

## **Subject: Chemistry**

The Chemistry staff offer support at lunchtimes by arrangement. Pupils should ask their teacher for details.

Websites:

BBC Bitesize (N5/H)

Scholar (H/AH)

Evans2chemweb.co.uk (N5/H/AH) username: ellon password: mole

Twig video clips – available via Glow/EllonAcademy/Twig

## **Subject: Physics**

The Physics staff offer support at lunchtimes by arrangement. Pupils should ask their teacher for details.

Websites:

BBC Bitesize (N5/H)

Scholar (H/AH)

Twig video clips – available via Glow/EllonAcademy/Twig

"Mr Smith's Physics Online" <http://physics-podcast.co.uk/>

"fizzics with mr mackenzie" <http://mrmackenzie.co.uk/>

"Scottish Physics" <https://scottishphysics.com>

School Network: Virtual Physics available at all levels

# Technical

## **Subject: Engineering Science**

Timelines issued to all pupils so they know what stage they should be at – texts will be sent home if pupils are not meeting deadlines

Nat 5 - Supported Study Sessions each Monday lunchtime

Higher – Supported Study Sessions each Thursday lunchtime

Drop in sessions available every lunchtime and after school

Glow site – Course notes, revision notes, links to past papers, links to useful websites

Text Books by Bright Red Publishing

N5 Engineering Science Study Guide

## **Subject: Graphic Communication**

Timelines issued to all pupils so they know what stage they should be at – texts will be sent home if pupils not meeting deadlines.

Nat 5 - Supported Study Sessions each Tuesday lunchtime

Higher – Supported Study Sessions each Wednesday & Thursday 3.00 – 4.00pm

Adv Higher – Supported Study Sessions each Monday, Tuesday and Thursday lunchtimes or after school

Drop in sessions available every lunchtime and after school

Glow site – Course notes, revision notes, links to past papers, links to useful websites

Text Books by Leckie & Leckie

N4 & 5 Graphic Communication Course Notes

Text Books by Bright Red Publishing

Higher Graphic Communication Course Notes

# Top 10 Exam Revision Tips

## Create a Revision Timetable

Building a revision timetable can add structure to your revision and help you **identify which SQA Courses you need to prioritise to get better marks**. Creating a revision timetable is a great way to organise your study time, plus it also helps boost your motivation to revise for your exams.

GoConqr's Calendar tool is the ideal way to create a revision timetable online which you can easily access at any time. Create your first [Online Revision Timetable here](#).

The screenshot shows the GoConqr Calendar tool interface. At the top, there is a search bar labeled 'Search Examtime' and a 'CREATE' button. Below the search bar are navigation tabs for 'Subjects' and 'Calendar'. The main area displays a calendar for May 2014, with a sidebar on the left listing subjects and their total revision hours. The calendar grid shows study sessions for each day, color-coded by subject.

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN
Mind Map competition	Online Marketing	Irish	Biology	English	HSC Exams	Business
Irish	English	Tutorials	Physics	Maths	Mind Map competition	Irish
Biology	Physics	Business				
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Physics	Languages	Irish	Languages	Maths	A-level Exams	HSC Exams
GCSE Exams	HSC Exams	Tutorials	Maths	Online Marketing	Mind Map competition	
HSC Exams	Business	Physics	English			
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
9am Biology	Irish	Mind Map competition	Business	Physics	Online Marketing	English
10am Maths	Earth Day 2014	9am English	Maths	Tutorials		
1pm Physics	Languages					
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
Languages	HSC Exams	GCSE Exams	English	Business	Mind Map competition	Tutorials
Tutorials	A-level Exams	Business	Maths			Languages
Business						
26	27	28	29	30	31	
English	Mind Map competition	GCSE Exams	Irish	A-level Exams	Languages	Maths
Online Marketing	Online Marketing	Biology	Maths		Irish	
GCSE Exams		Physics				

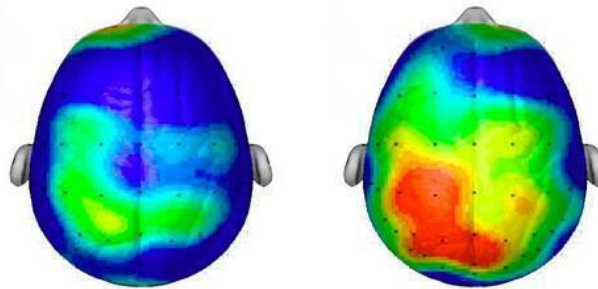
2.  
Take  
1.

## Regular Study Breaks

Do you feel **stressed, tired and that no new information is entering your head**? There is no point forcing yourself to study for hours upon hours as this will not result in a positive outcome. Taking regular study breaks and exercising is proven to engage your brain in studying and improve your exam performance in the long-run.

See the proof below:

Composite of 20 student brains taking the same test



After sitting quietly

After 20 minute walk

Research/Scan compliments of Dr. Chuck Hillman University of Illinois

## Use Mind Maps to Connect Ideas

If you find it difficult to remember tons of new study notes, Mind Maps may be the key to improving your memory. The [theory behind mind mapping](#) explains that making associations by connecting ideas helps you to memorise information easier and quicker. Mind Mapping has many other benefits for students, [try our free online tool here](#).

Click the **play button** on the interactive Mind Map below to see it in action!

Want to make Mind Maps like this one to boost your exam revision? Get started here:

[Create Mind Maps Here. It's Free!](#)

## Understand Your Learning Style

Everyone thinks that there is a **best way to study** but the reality is that each person is different. Once you understand whether you are a [visual, auditory, reading/writing or kinesthetic learner](#), then remembering and recalling new information will become much easier. Practice will also tell you if you work better [studying during the night or in the morning/daytime](#).

# Practice, Practice, Practice

One of the biggest recommendations that past students recommend is to **do as many SQA past papers as you can**. Practicing past papers will help you get familiar with the exam format, question style, time pressure and overall improve your ability to retrieve information quicker.

Practice SQA exam questions by [creating an Online Quiz using GoConqr](#) to make sure you are fully prepared for your exams.

## Collaborate with Classmates

If you find your coursework to be too much, why not **divide the course study notes between trustworthy classmates** and share your notes with each other. This will reduce the amount of workload you need to do to prepare for your SQA Exams plus you will gain an insight into how other students learn.

GoConqr provides a quick and easy way for students to collaborate using our Groups feature. Work on a class project by hosting discussions and sharing study resources and notes with each other.

## Variation

Mix up your study habits and methods by listening to **podcasts, watching videos or documentaries, moving to new study area or even something as simple as using different colours for your study notes**.

This is different to the other SQA revision tips mentioned here as it encourages you to try a few different things to see what fits for you. Your brain will recall where you were or how you revised for a topic which will help you remember more information. Give it a go!

## Day of Your SQA Exam

The day of your exam can be the most stressful of the entire examination experience but there are ways which you can **minimise your anxiety** such as avoiding panicking friends, giving yourself plenty of time to get to the test centre plus don't underestimate the power of eating a healthy breakfast the day of your exams!



Boost your SQA exam performance with these [tips for the day of your exam](#).

## Adapt for Different Subjects

It may seem obvious but many students try to study for different subjects using the same study methods. **Your revision should take account of the difference between your subjects** and the challenges they represent.

For example, Flashcards are an ideal study aid to help you prepare for a Spanish, French, German and exam such as Science where you need to remember key definitions. An Online Quiz is a great way to test your Maths skills while you would highly benefit from using a Note to study English.

Once you understand that your subjects need to be approached differently, there is no stopping you!

## Apps for Students

If you want to **stay ahead of your friends with the latest technology**, get the best student apps before anyone else. Not only will they help you show off to your friends, some apps such as GoConqr are designed to improve your learning.

## Useful Links

[www.sqa.org.uk](http://www.sqa.org.uk)

[www.mymaths.co.uk](http://www.mymaths.co.uk)

<http://scholar.hw.ac.uk/>

## Study Kit

Highlighter Pens

Post-It Notes

Flash Cards

A3 Paper for Mind Maps

Coloured Folders

Coloured Index Tabs