

Yr 10 Parents' Information Evening

23rd June 2016

Next week – English and Maths PiXL GCSE exams

- What is PiXL?
- Why are students doing these exams?
- Are they important?

Partners in Excellence

- PiXL is a club we belong to, along with 1500 schools, who are all focused on doing what is necessary to raise standards
- It is a powerful club as we share info and resources and, together, we have considerable influence over policy and practice

The Exams..

- Yr 10 will sit the new GCSE specifications in English and Maths next year – these are new qualifications that no-one has sat before
- You will not get grades A*- G, you will get a grade that is a number 9-1
- All your other subject exams next year are still on the 'old' specifications i.e. they are tried and tested

So... there is an element of the unknown

- Teachers across the country are having to quickly learn how to assess for this exam – there are example questions published, but because there have not been actual exams yet, there are no past papers to practice on etc
- PiXL have put resources and experts together – including people who are examiners – and have written practice exam papers for PiXL schools to use

We benefit because

- We get ahead of things, we have experience of what the new exams will look like and students and staff can practice
- Because 1000s of students will sit the same paper, it will be like the real GCSE and therefore, when we get the results, in SEPT, you will know how well you are performing
- We can then support and put intervention in place

In other words

- This process will give us as accurate data as we can possibly get about current performance in Math and English
- It is not reliant on your teacher's marking
- One person will mark all of FRA papers, a sample will then be requested from PIXL, these papers will be sent off to an examiner to check the standard of marking and marks will then be adjusted if necessary
- This will achieve a national standard

The outcomes matter

- You see how well you are doing (remember re-sits at College will be required if you do not get 5 or above)
- If too many people across the country fail to get to this standard then PiXL will challenge the exam boards to make the papers next summer fairer
- FRA will know in September how well we compare to other local schools and the national picture
- We then have 9 months to take action to secure even better results

What do I have to do?

- English and Maths teachers have been preparing students – do what your teachers have asked you to do
- Approach next week as formal GCSE exams, as if they were the real thing
- Revise. Take it seriously.
- Speak to your teachers. Ask questions. Learn terminology.



Any questions?

Year 10 Exams in other subjects

- We have decided to not do end of Year 10 Exams, so that the PiXL English and Maths exam is prioritised.
- However, we do need you to reflect on how much you have Mastered this year
- 39 weeks of teaching left until GCSE exams next year...

Fair compromise proposal

- We are going to give you exams for all other subjects in the 2nd and 3rd week of September
- HOWEVER... we are going to be very specific about what the exams will be on
- It will be on a section of this year's work, not all of it
- We want you to master the content by then and be successful in the exam
- We do not want to overwhelm you
- We do not want you ruin anyone's summer holiday!

The plan

- By the end of term you will be given a report, for each subject you study that will look like this....

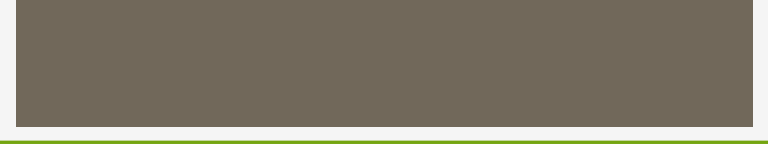
Personalised Learning Checklist for A Another

Subject: Ethics

	Description of Topic	RAG
1	I can define the term Euthanasia	G
2	I can explain what is meant by involuntary Euthanasia	A
3	I can outline what the UK law says about Euthanasia	G
4	I can argue on economic grounds that Euthanasia should be allowed	R
5	I can explain how the use of 'sanctity of life' can be used to argue against Euthanasia	G
6	I can outline a case-study	G
7	I can explain what a conservative Muslim believes about Euthanasia	R
8	I can illustrate the difference between Euthanasia and assisted suicide	A
9	#####	G
10	#####	R
11	#####	A
12	#####	G
13	#####	R
14	#####	A
15	#####	G
16	#####	R
17	#####	A
18	#####	G
19		
20		

What is this telling me

- The topics listed WILL be on the exam you sit in September
- All the topics that are coded GREEN are the topics your teacher feels you have Mastered and so you do not need to spend much time on them
- All the topics that are RED are, in your teacher's view, problem areas – you do not know that topic well enough and so you need to do something about it by the start of term
- YELLOW topics need less attention, but will need some work



ALM: minimise time and energy, but maximise impact, attainment and mastery

Mock Exams

- There will be two of these
- NOVEMBER and FEBRUARY
- These will be formal exam hall examinations, you will do full papers on ALL the content that you have studied up until that point i.e. Year 10 and Autumn Term Year 11 (and Year 9 content if you started your GCSE then)

Organisation now will help

- Where are your notes and exercise books going to be kept
- What topics do you know NOW that you didn't understand when you did them?
- What did you 'get' at the time, but can't now remember?
- Time spent over the summer holidays getting things like this clear in your mind will really help you

Managing time is the key to managing stress/ anxiety

- Little and often
- Start now
- Be honest with yourself
- Ask

How we will help

- RAG sheets July 2016
- Secured knowledge and success in Sept exams
- PiXL results communicated with you and parents and action plan drawn up with you
- Full PLCs after September exams to help you prepare for your November Mocks

- Website created specifically for your Year Group with all the topics and content you need
- Planned programme from November of interventions, Masterclasses, exam technique workshops, revision training
- Full analysis of November mock performance, new action plan in bite sized chunks
- You will re-sit the same Mock paper in January, by which time you will have had the help you need to significantly improve your grade

New IT systems

- VLE created
- Email system and one drive – access from anywhere in the World
- Showcase products on the open market that you can access
- New 2 week DIRT and improvement cycle
- New communication system

New calendar

- 7 weeks of learning
- Pre-test
- 2 weeks of intervention
- Assessment
- PROJECT WEEK