

Abingdon School 5th Year Mocks

January 2017

January Results

- * Encouraging – contenders to beat record.
- * Often tests just part of GCSE – may not have coursework or other papers as part of grade.
- * Have a tentative predictive value.
- * Mocks now form valuable revision document – reveal gaps and issues with technique. Still time.

January Results

- * Criteria for 6th form used to identify those not doing so well (3A,4B). Letters & Learning Support.
- * Each year c. 25-30 boys at this stage, reduces to c.5 by August.
- * Most boys improve their grades significantly (by working!).
 - * E.g. 2016 real vs (mocks) 87.5%A*-A (65.1%), A*-B 98.1% (88.2%)
 - * Average score moved from 6.8 (A/B) to 7.45 (A/A*)
 - * +1 grade perfectly 'achievable' (but doesn't come by magic)
- * Supervised Study on Tuesdays & Thursdays.

Next Steps

- * 2 weeks to half term, 6 weeks to Easter, 2 weeks of Summer = 10 teaching weeks. Study Leave begins 5th May.
- * Make use of this time – identify and plug gaps; USE teachers.

Easter Break

- * Crucial for revision – boys decide their grades at this time.
- * Recommendation of 90 hours of revision
 - * 24 days = 576 hours. 16% of time.
 - * 8 hours sleep! = 384 hours. 23% of time.

For the most important set of exams they have so far taken.
First set that appear on CVs, UCAS forms etc. No AS in L6th.

Organising Easter Revision

- * Must plan what will work for you – but must plan.
- * How to get to 90 hours? E.g. for three weeks of holiday
 - * Take weekends off
 - * Weekdays have 3x3hr sessions with breaks (9-12.30, 2-5.30, 7-10.30)
 - * Do 2 per day.
 - * 2 sessions x 3 hours x 5 days x 3 weeks = 90 hours
- * This may not work for you, so replace it with something that will. Failure to plan ...

Nature of revision

- * It's an **active** process. Just sitting and turning the pages of a book is almost useless.
- * **What works:**
 - * Re-reading source material *whilst re-making notes*.
 - * Consolidating and boiling down notes to triggers.
 - * **TESTING** knowledge and skills against PPQs, TEST, TEST and then TEST again.
 - * Keeping a list of things to clear up on return – use of teachers/clinics etc.

Nature of revision

- * Attention span of c.1 hour for any one topic/activity?
- * 3 hour session should therefore have multiple elements to it with a small break in between. Note-taking, test question, note-taking.
- * Either in one subject, or multiple subjects.
- * Avoid distractions – where is the TV, the phone, the iPad? Is bedroom the right space?

Summer Term

- * 2 weeks of teaching. Get your remaining questions answered.
- * 3 weeks of clinic support:
 - * Voluntary
 - * Matches times of working day
 - * Can come in and out at break times
 - * Can also be in supervised study

Exams

- * Train and Pace yourself – it's a marathon not a sprint.
- * Ideally do nothing the evening before exams – let your brain rest and re-order things. Maybe look over some key prompt cards.
- * RTQ, ATQ. Know what the success criteria are.

Post Exams

- * No formal requirements once exams are finished (except book return!)
- * Many will take on work experience.
- * Have a break.
- * Perhaps have an eye on AL subjects – do some reading?
- * Make sure that Abingdon is the place you want to be at for 6th form. Volunteers.