

Dear Parents/Carers

Friday, 10<sup>th</sup> October 2024

### Assessment at Newquay Tretherras

This academic year we are approaching assessment by structuring the year into distinct Learning Cycles. Each cycle will consist of:

1. Sharing the Learning Cycle knowledge with the students so they are clear on what they will be learning
2. Teaching high quality lessons where students learn and retain key ideas and knowledge
3. A formal Pre-Public Examination (PPE) experience
4. Opportunities to reflect and improve their work

The cycles will give all students clarity on when their assessments are, and precisely what knowledge or skills they will be assessed on. At the beginning of the school year all students were issued with a Learning Pack, which contained the essential stationery required and a Learning Journal. Each journal contains Personal Learning Checklists (PLC) for each subject on the key ideas and knowledge that are currently being taught, along with comprehensive knowledge organisers. Year 11 students have also been issued a PLC booklet, which lists all the knowledge and skills they will be assessed on during the PPEs, and a revision timetable to complete.

Students are expected to always have their Learning Packs with them. If a student loses their packs, stationery, or journal they can be purchased from Parent Pay or the school shop. Please can we ask you to support by ensuring your child is ready to learn every lesson by always having the essential equipment with them every day. The dates of the PPEs and examinations are:

	Date
<b>PPE 1</b>	18 <sup>th</sup> November – 4 <sup>th</sup> December
<b>PPE 2</b>	3 <sup>rd</sup> – 14 <sup>th</sup> March
<b>GCSEs</b>	7 <sup>th</sup> May – 20 <sup>th</sup> June

You can find an overview timetable for the first PPE, as well as further details on examinations on our website [Examinations - \(tretherras.net\)](http://www.tretherras.net). Alongside these examinations, students will complete their Non-Examined Assessment (NEA) and practical elements of their courses.

### **SORT**

At Newquay Tretherras we want to embed a culture of effective study where students are prepared with essential skills for their GCSEs and beyond. We have a whole school revision strategy that will support every student being able to recall the key ideas and knowledge they will be assessed on throughout their time at school. There are four stages to effective study/revision:

Summarise	Organise	Recall	Test
Summarise and condense any class notes, revision guides and revision.	Organise your revision materials by topic/subtopic. Traffic light your PLC sheets to identify areas of weakness or gaps (Red/Amber) that need to be prioritised.	Use active recall and spaced repetition to memorise your knowledge organisers until you can recall the information eg. Look, cover, write or self-testing	Use low stakes online tests/quizzes and answer high stakes past paper/sample questions to check and apply knowledge and understanding
<b>Strategies</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cornell Notes</li> <li>• Flash cards</li> <li>• Mind mapping</li> <li>• Revision clocks</li> <li>• Dual coding</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How to use your PLC</li> <li>• How to schedule your home learning and stick to it!</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Look cover &amp; test</li> <li>• Leitner system</li> <li>• Blur it</li> <li>• Transform it</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Low stakes</li> <li>• Self-quizzing</li> <li>• Quiz each other</li> <li>• Online quizzes</li> <li>• High stakes</li> <li>• Exam style questions</li> </ul>

Students will be taught how to use each SORT strategy and they will start working out which ones work the best for their learning style. There are numerous supporting resources available to students on the SORT page on the student shared student area. There will also be workshops detailing each strategy throughout the school year that both students and parents can attend.

### How can parents support?

- Help to provide your child with a suitable place for them to complete their home learning
- Support your child in creating and sticking to a home learning and revision timetable so all work set is completed to the best of their ability
- Support your child with their home learning activities, especially help to quiz them on the recall of key ideas and knowledge
- Encourage your child to complete independent revision by using the PLCs to identify priority topics and SORT to summarise, recall and test their understanding.
- Communicate with your child’s tutor if you have any questions or concerns

For further information and support there will be an online webinar on Thursday, 17<sup>th</sup> October 2024 6-7pm. The session will cover:

- How to use the Learning Journals
- How to use the SORT strategies for Learning Cycle 1

To join the webinar please use the link below:

[https://teams.microsoft.com/l/meetup-join/19%3ameeting\\_MTk00GI0MzYtMGZiZC00YmY3LTg0ZjUtMWZkZTM1YmY4MGZm%40thread.v2/0?context=%7b%22Tid%22%3a%2201213432-b82b-41e0-b59a-4ddb0d0cbf5a%22%2c%22Oid%22%3a%22d56af4d6-1d28-4327-943f-534546fd8d61%22%7d](https://teams.microsoft.com/l/meetup-join/19%3ameeting_MTk00GI0MzYtMGZiZC00YmY3LTg0ZjUtMWZkZTM1YmY4MGZm%40thread.v2/0?context=%7b%22Tid%22%3a%2201213432-b82b-41e0-b59a-4ddb0d0cbf5a%22%2c%22Oid%22%3a%22d56af4d6-1d28-4327-943f-534546fd8d61%22%7d)

If you ever have any questions, then please do contact your child’s tutor on [enquires@tretherras.net](mailto:enquires@tretherras.net)

Yours faithfully,

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Jo Lloyd King

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Director of KS4