



Year 11 PPE2 and Summer Exam
Preparation Evening
January 2026



Raising Standards

The Purpose:

- A summary of GCSE examination key points and context
- An overview of the upcoming Year 11 PPEs and support available in school
- An overview of the Year 11 external examination period and support available in school
- An insight into how to support your child in their different subjects
- Practical strategies for revision and the best ways to prepare
- Supporting your child at home



Our Results:

- Last year, our outcomes were the best in our history in both GCSEs and A Levels, which shows that what we have been doing, does work.
- What students do from this point onwards, or have been doing so far this year, will dictate their overall results, and we want to help them maximize their potential.
- **Have you maximized your output this year so far?**



Maximizing Results:

- There is still time to make a difference.
- There is till 2 weeks left before half term, we will be running some intervention sessions during the holiday to help prepare for PPE2, and then there is still a number of weeks left afterwards before the “real” exams start.
- What students do from this point onwards will dictate their final, overall results. One mark more, can tip into the next grade.
- Do not be a statistic – buck the trends! E.g. Generally girls out perform boys





Year 11 PPE2 Window
Mr Tibke



Raising Standards

Three Key Factors:

- Through research and national studies, three key themes are identified about why Year 11 students and their parents / carers should be exposed to PPE:s
- 1. Students tend not to see the urgency of how close they really are to GCSEs (11 school weeks until the first exam on May 7th)
- **2. Parents / carers are sometimes unsure of the demands and how they can help and support.**
- 3. Some students thrive off them and have a confidence boost as a result.



Key Points:

- The PPE Window will begin on Monday 23rd February 2026, and will officially end on Friday 13th March (there is only one written exam in the final week)
- Exams will take place in either the Sports Hall , 1.11 or 2.14 - 2.16 depending on Access arrangements
- There will be a maximum of three examinations a day.
- If students are not in an exam, they will go to normal timetabled lessons.
- Before a morning exam students will have an **8.30am** Exam Briefing in the Hall – this emulates the real exam period.
- School doors will open at **8.20am** during PPEs and summer examinations.



The Structure:

- Morning Session (P1 and P2):
Longer exams
- Mid-Session (P3 and P4):
Longer exams
- Afternoon Session (P5):
Shorter exams



Locker Keys

- Students will be given a locker key on Monday morning (23rd February).
- They will need to sign for their locker key.
- Students are expected to keep the key safe during the exam period and bring it into school every day they have an exam.
- Students will need to return their locker key to their tutor after their final exam of this PPE window.
- If the key does not work, please inform Miss Probert/Mr Tibke.
- If students lose their locker key, it won't be replaced and they will be charged £5. They will then be expected to leave their belongings in the corridor by the lockers during exams, and place valuable items in a friend's locker.
- The lockers will only be used for the exam periods,



Exam Rules:

- PPEs have the same rules as final exams, as they are governed by the same JCQ conditions.
- Black pens
- Pencils
- Ruler
- Highlighters
- Maths equipment
- Water (clear bottle)
- Pencil case (clear)
- Calculator (Maths/Science)
- No phones or smart-watches are allowed in the exam hall.
- **Locker keys need to be kept safe!**





Week 1: Monday 23rd February 2026



Year 11 Pre-Public Examination Schedule



Doors open for Year 11 students from 8.20am

	Monday 23rd Feb	Tuesday 24th Feb	Wednesday 25th Feb	Thursday 26th Feb	Friday 27th Feb
Registration 8.40am - 8.45am	Main Hall Register in the Main Hall	Main Hall Register in the Main Hall	Main Hall Register in the Main Hall	Main Hall Register in the Main Hall	Main Hall Register in the Main Hall
Morning session 8.55am - 11.05am	Maths Paper 1: Non-Calculator 1 hour 30 minutes Meet: Main Hall Return to lessons	English Language Paper 1 1 hour 45 minutes Meet: Main Hall Return to Canteen/break	Biology Combined & Triple 1 hour 15 / 1 hour 45 minutes Meet: Main Hall Return to lessons	Maths Paper 2: Calculator 1 hour 30 minutes Meet: Main Hall Return to lessons	Chemistry Combined & Triple 1 hour 15 / 1 hour 45 minutes Meet: Main Hall Return to lessons
Break 11.05am - 11.25am					
Mid session 11.30am - 1.25pm	Sociology Paper 1 1 hour 45 minutes Meet: Straight to lockers Return to Canteen/lunch	Physical Education Paper 1 1 hour 30 minutes Hospitality and Catering 1 hour 20 minutes Meet: Straight to lockers Return to lessons	Geography Paper 1 1 hour 30 minutes Meet: Straight to lockers Return to lessons	Sociology Paper 2 1 hour 45 minutes French Writing 1 hour 20 minutes Meet: Straight to lockers Return to lessons	Spanish Writing Foundation & Higher 1 hour 15 / 1 hour 20 minutes Meet: Straight to lockers Return to lessons
Lunch 1.25pm - 1.50pm					
Afternoon session 2.00pm - 3.10pm	Sports Studies 60 minutes Meet: Straight to lockers Remain in the Exam Hall	Spanish Listening Foundation & Higher 45 / 60 minutes Meet: Straight to lockers Return to lessons	Spanish Reading Foundation & Higher 45 / 60 minutes Meet: Straight to lockers Remain in the Exam Hall	History Paper 2 55 minutes Meet: Straight to lockers Return to lessons	Home languages Reading 60 minutes Meet: Straight to lockers Remain in the Exam Hall



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Secondary School

Week 2: Monday 2nd March 2026

	Monday 2nd March	Tuesday 3rd March	Wednesday 4th March	Thursday 5th March	Friday 6th March
Registration 8.40am - 8.45am	Main Hall Register in the Main Hall	Main Hall Register in the Main Hall	Main Hall Register in the Main Hall	Main Hall Register in the Main Hall	Main Hall Register in the Main Hall
Morning session 8.55am - 11.05am	English Literature Paper 1 1 hour 45 minutes Meet: Main Hall Return to Canteen/break	Computer Science Paper 1 2 hours Drama 1 hour 30 minutes Psychology Paper 1 1 hour 45 minutes Meet: Main Hall Return to Canteen/break	Physics Combined & Triple 1 hour 15 / 1 hour 45 minutes Meet: Main Hall Return to lessons	Maths Paper 3: Calculator 1 hour 30 minutes Meet: Main Hall Return to lessons	Creative iMedia Paper 1 1 hour 30 minutes Food and Nutrition Paper 1 1 hour 45 minutes Design and Technology (RM & Textiles) Paper 1 2 hours Meet: Main Hall Return to Canteen/break
Break 11.05am - 11.25am					
Mid session 11.30am - 1.25pm	Business Studies 1 hour 30 minutes Meet: Straight to lockers Return to lessons	Geography Paper 2 1 hour 30 minutes Meet: Straight to lockers Return to lessons	Computer Science Paper 2 1 hour 45 minutes Music 1 hour Psychology Paper 2 1 hour 45 minutes Meet: Straight to lockers Return to Canteen/lunch	Health & Social Care 1 hour 15 minutes Meet: Straight to lockers Return to lessons	Physical Education 1 hour 30 minutes Meet: Straight to lockers Return to lessons
Lunch 1.25pm - 1.50pm					
Afternoon session 2.00pm - 3.10pm	Portuguese and Russian Listening 60 minutes Meet: Straight to lockers Remain in the Exam Hall		Polish and Cantonese Listening 60 minutes Meet: Straight to lockers Remain in the Exam Hall	Arabic and French Listening 60 minutes Meet: Straight to lockers Remain in the Exam Hall	



Week 3: Monday 9th March 2026

	Monday 9th March	Tuesday 10th March	Wednesday 11th March	Thursday 12th March	Friday 13th March
Registration 8.40am - 8.45am	Main Hall Register in the Main Hall	Main Hall Register in the Main Hall			Main Hall Register in the Main Hall
Morning session 8.55am - 11.05am	History Paper 3 1 hour 30 minutes Meet: Main Hall Return to lessons	Art & Design Practical Assessment 5 hours Spanish Speaking (20 minutes per student – allocated times throughout the day)			Physical Education Practical Assessment 5 hours
Break 11.05am - 11.25am					
Mid session 11.30am - 1.25pm		Art & Design Practical Assessment Spanish Speaking (20 minutes per student – allocated times throughout the day)			Physical Education Practical Assessment
Lunch 1.25pm - 1.50pm					
Afternoon session 2.00pm - 3.10pm		Art & Design Practical Assessment Spanish Speaking (20 minutes per student – allocated times throughout the day)			Physical Education Practical Assessment



Year 11 Summer Exams
Mr Tibke



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The Final Countdown is on too ...

- Tonight is also about making you feel the most well-informed of what to expect in the examination period and explaining how we can support Year 11's through their final weeks.
- Thank you for being here, and for listening to what we have to say, so that we can work in collaboration. This is so important to us.
- **Quiz time: How long do we have left of Year 11 before the final exams?**
- **What are we going to be doing in that time?**



Examination Window:

- The GCSE examination window takes place between Monday 4th May 2026 and Friday 26th June 2026.
- This includes a one-week break during May half-term.
- This is a lengthy examinations window, but we will be as prepared as we can be support you.
- An observable difference to PPEs is the Exam *Boosters* – this is where we run revision lessons on the day, or previous day, of each exam



Exams, Boosters, and Briefings:

Year 11 & Year 13 Exams Boosters and Briefing Timetable - Summer 2026

Key:

Year 11:

Exams Briefings are in Blue. These start from 8.20am in the Main Hall.
Exams Boosters are in Red.
Exams are in Green.

Year 13:

Exams Briefings are in Pink. These start from 8.20am in the Sixth Form Study Centre.
Exams Boosters are in Black.
Exams are in Gold.

Week 1							
Date	Before School	Period 1	Period 2	Period 3	Period 4	Period 5	After School
Monday 4th May 2026							
Tuesday 5th May 2026							



Interventions on Offer Miss Probert



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Helping to Prepare:



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After School Revision 3.15pm - 4pm

HT3 WEEK Count	HT3 WEEK Dates w/c	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI
1	05/01/2026					
2	12/01/2026	Sociology Media	Maths	Geography Comp Science Music H&SC	English	Business
3	19/01/2026	Science	Spanish Psychology Food Hospitality	History	PE Sports Studies Drama	Art Textiles Res Materials
4	26/01/2026	Sociology Media	Maths	Geography Comp Science Music H&SC	English	Business
5	02/02/2026	Science	Spanish Psychology Food Hospitality	History	PE Sports Studies Drama	Art Textiles Res Materials
6	09/02/2026	Sociology Media	Maths	Geography Comp Science Music H&SC	English	Business

Helping to Prepare:

A number of subjects have said they are willing to run intervention/support sessions during the February half-term break.

These include:

- Maths
- Science
- Drama
- Design & Technology
- MFL
- Health & Social Care

More information regarding these sessions, and a timetable for them, will be shared very soon.

Helping to Prepare:

Creating a revision timetable

Date	Day	Week	Lessons I have today at school	Subjects / topics I will revise in the evening (30-45 MINUTES EACH)	Commitments I have	Exams
20/10/2025	Monday	2				
21/10/2025	Tuesday	2				
22/10/2025	Wednesday	2				
23/10/2025	Thursday	2				
24/10/2025	Friday	2				
25/10/2025	Saturday	W				
26/10/2025	Sunday	W				
27/10/2025	Monday	1				
28/10/2025	Tuesday	1				
29/10/2025	Wednesday	1				
30/10/2025	Thursday	1				
31/10/2025	Friday	1				



Supporting Progress in
Core Subjects



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Mathematics

- Exam board and specification – AQA 8300
- Sets 1, 2 & 3 – Higher tier entry
- Sets 4, 5 & 6 – Foundation tier entry
- 3 Exams, all 1 Hour 30 Minutes:
- Paper 1 - Non-Calculator
- Paper 2 & 3 - Both Calculator



Mathematics – What will help success

- Doing some Maths every day (where possible!)
- Using the Corbett 5-a-day worksheets and completing your weekly homework on Dr Frost Maths.
- Working through past exam papers when guided to by your teacher.
- Having your own calculator and knowing how to use it properly.

Mathematics – Exam information

- Exam tiers will be reviewed again, if required after this set of PPEs.
- We will, once again, be using full past papers for the PPEs. There will be a small number of topics that students might have not seen, but it is good for them to see all the questions as a full paper.
- For general GCSE Maths queries, please email Mr Telfer (Gerald.Telfer@rugbyfreesecondary.co.uk) or Mr Edmonds (Samuel.Edmonds@rugbyfreesecondary.co.uk)



Corbettmaths

Welcome Videos and Worksheets Primary 5-a-day More Revision Cards

Welcome

5-a-day

Videos

Worksheets



Corbettmaths Revision Cards

Designed for the new 9-1 GCSE

GCSE Higher or
GCSE Foundation

5-a-day GCSE 9-1

5-a-day GCSE 9-1

Numeracy 5aday – broadly designed for students aiming for Grades 1, 2 and 3.

Foundation – broadly designed for students aiming for Grades 3 and 4.

Foundation Plus – broadly designed for students aiming for Grades 4, 5 and 6.

Higher – broadly designed for students aiming for Grades 6 and 7.

Higher Plus – broadly designed for students aiming for Grades 8 and 9.

January

1st January [Numeracy](#) [Foundation](#) [Foundation Plus](#) [Higher](#) [Higher Plus](#)

2nd January [Numeracy](#) [Foundation](#) [Foundation Plus](#) [Higher](#) [Higher Plus](#)

3rd January [Numeracy](#) [Foundation](#) [Foundation Plus](#) [Higher](#) [Higher Plus](#)

4th January [Numeracy](#) [Foundation](#) [Foundation Plus](#) [Higher](#) [Higher Plus](#)



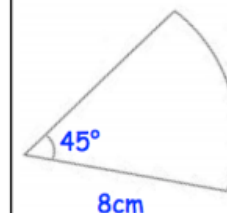
Rugby Free
Secondary School

Name: _____ 5-a-day

20th February

Expand and simplify

$$(y + 3)(y - 5)$$



Find the area of the sector.

A camera is reduced in a sale by 12%.
In the sale it costs £123.20

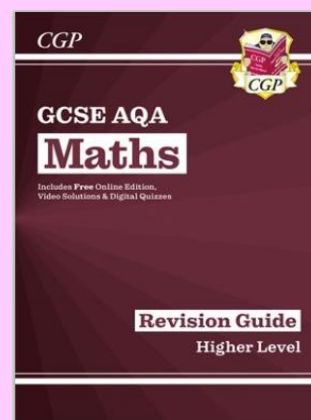
Work out the normal price of the camera.

The speed limit on a road is 50 mph.
A car drives 19 miles in 22 minutes.

Is the car breaking the speed limit?
You must show your workings.

Maths Genie

dfm



English Language Paper 1 (AQA)

Summary of what is required in each question on English Language

Q1

English Language is a skills test, and as such, the single most important thing is practice.

The reading questions don't change; all that changes are the texts they write about.

Q2

The writing questions give different stimulus, but are again testing the same skills.

Q3

It is essential that your child knows exactly what skills are being tested for each question.

Q4

We encourage your child to divide a page into 5 sections and write in each box the skills that pertain to each question.

Q5

English Literature Paper 1 (AQA)

On this paper, the students will have to write 1 essay on a Shakespeare text and 1 essay on 'Jekyll and Hyde' by Robert Louis Stevenson.

Shakespeare (Macbeth or Romeo and Juliet)

Students need to know:

- The overall plot
- The key characters
- The main themes
- Quotations (memorised)
- The context of the Jacobean/Elizabethan time period
- The message with the play

19th Century (Jekyll and Hyde, A Christmas Carol)

Students need to be aware of:

- The meaning within the story
- The context of Victorian Britain
 - The key characters
 - Any main themes
 - The overall plot
- Quotations (memorised)
 - The Writer's message

English Language Paper 2 (AQA)

Summary of what is required in each question on English Language Paper 2

Q1

English Language is a skills test, and as such, the single most important thing is practice.

Q2

The reading questions don't change; all that changes are the texts they write about.

Q3

The writing questions give different stimulus, but are again testing the same skills.

Q4

It is essential that your child knows exactly what skills are being tested for each question.

Q5

We encourage to get your child to divide a page into 5 sections and write in each box the skills that pertain to each question in Paper 2. If they are unable to do so, then they will not be ready.

English Literature Paper 2 (AQA)

On this paper, the students will have to write 1 essay on *An Inspector Calls* by J.B.Priestley and 1 essay on 1 of the 'Power and Conflict' Poetry Collection, chosen by the examiner.

An Inspector Calls

Students need to know:

- The overall plot
- The key characters
- The main themes
- Quotations (memorised)
- The context of both 1912 and 1945
- J.B.Priestley and his views on responsibility and inequality as the key message in his play

Power and Conflict Poetry Collection

Students need to be able to:

- To identify and comment on the effects of poet's choices of language
- To understand the message of the poems in relation to power or conflict
- Link the poems to another suitable choice
- Quotations (memorised)

Unseen Poetry (2 poems) – 2 questions, 24 marks on Q1 (Poem 1), 8 marks on Q2 (Comparing Poem 2 to Poem 1)

English Language Revision Resources

Paper 2 Question 5 focuses on writing a persuasive argument. We encourage students to read online news articles and watch persuasive speeches (such as 'Ted Talks') on YouTube.

Online Resources:

Bitesize

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/examspecs/zcbchv4>

Revision World

<https://revisionworld.com/a2-level-level-revision/english-language-gcse-level/english-language-gcse-past-papers/aqa-gcse-english-language-past-papers>

English Literature Revision Resources

YouTube offers a plethora of revision resources on all of the literature texts.

An Inspector Calls

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zqxc7hv>
<https://www.sparknotes.com/drama/an-inspector-calls/>

Power and Conflict Poetry

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zprysg8>



Download our
GCSE
Literature
Podcast
'LitHeads'



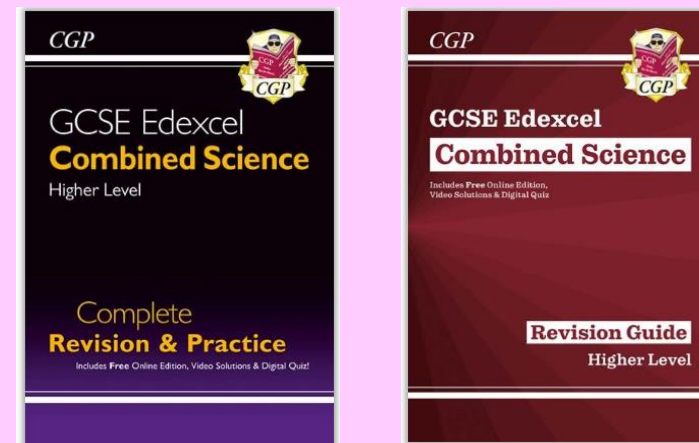
Revision Resources

Science

- Exam board – Edexcel
- Set 1 – Triple Science Higher
- Sets 2 & 3 – Combined Science Higher
- Sets 4 to 6 – Combined Science Foundation (although some students in set 4 will do Higher)
- Paper 1 revision checklists have been shared on Class Charts to support students in preparing for the November PPEs.

Science

- Revision guides are available to purchase from Amazon, Waterstones, WH Smith etc. Please ensure that these are for the Edexcel exam board and the correct tier for your child. If you are unsure which type of guide to choose, we recommend the CGP guides.



- There are lots of online resources available: Seneca Learning, Cognito Science (on YouTube), Isaac Physics, Physics & Maths Tutor and Save My Exams are all free to use and offer high quality learning materials.

Science

- Subject-specific questions should be directed to the subject leader in the first instance:
- Miss Owen for Chemistry
(robyne.owen@rugbyfreesecondary.co.uk)
- Miss Griffiths for Biology
(joanne.griffiths@rugbyfreesecondary.co.uk)
- Mr Lall for Physics (ilall@rugbyfreesecondary.co.uk)
- For general GCSE Science queries, please email Mr Fairbrother
(robert.fairbrother@rugbyfreesecondary.co.uk)

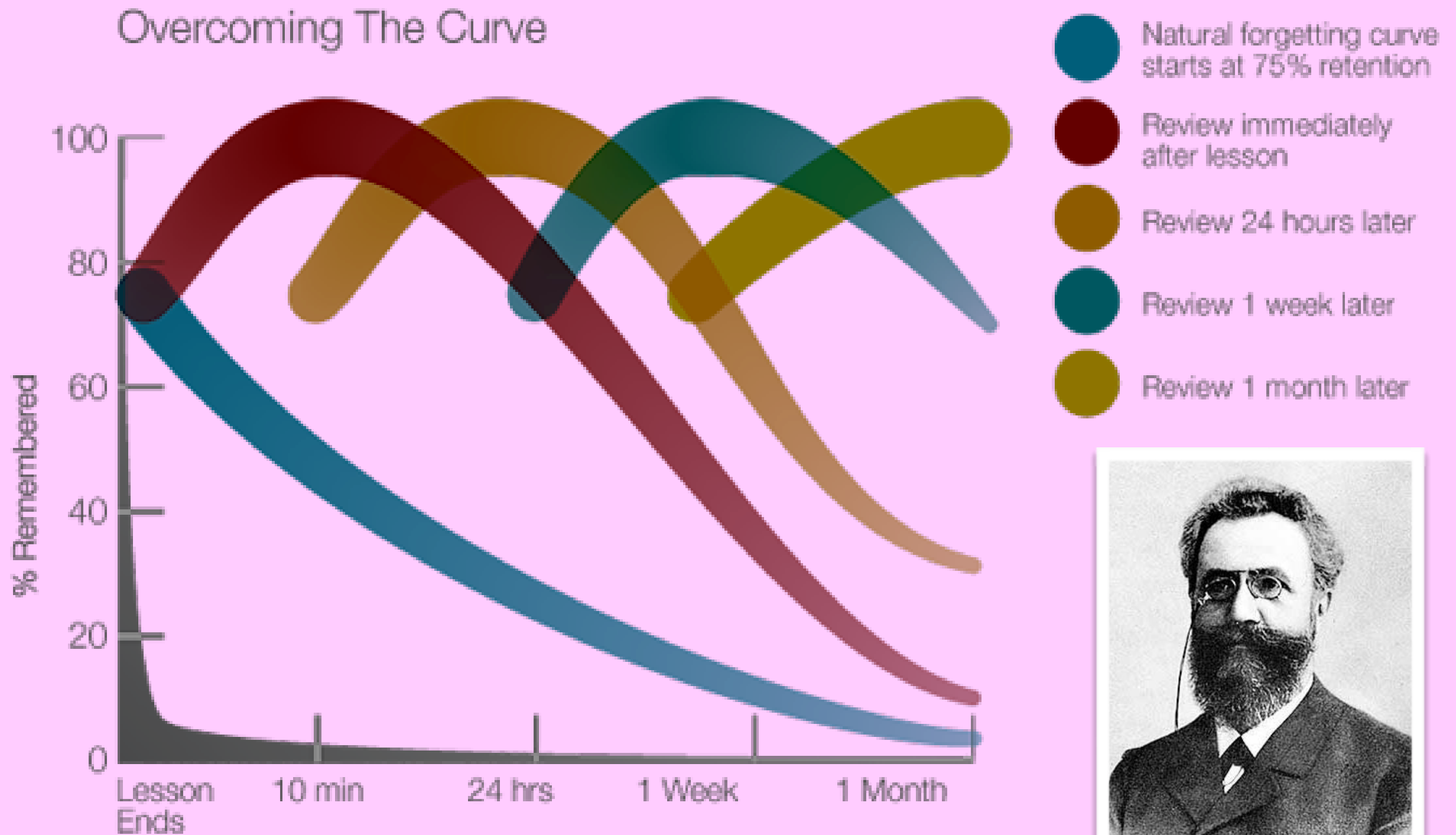


Revising Practically &
Effectively



Raising Standards

Why Is Revision Key? Ebbinghaus' Curve:



Your Space & Time:

1. Get rid of any clutter.
2. Keep distractions away.
3. Be comfortable (but not too comfortable).
4. Let there be light!
5. Reduce the noise levels.
6. Personalize it.
7. Make it easy to manage their time.
8. Keep supplies to hand.

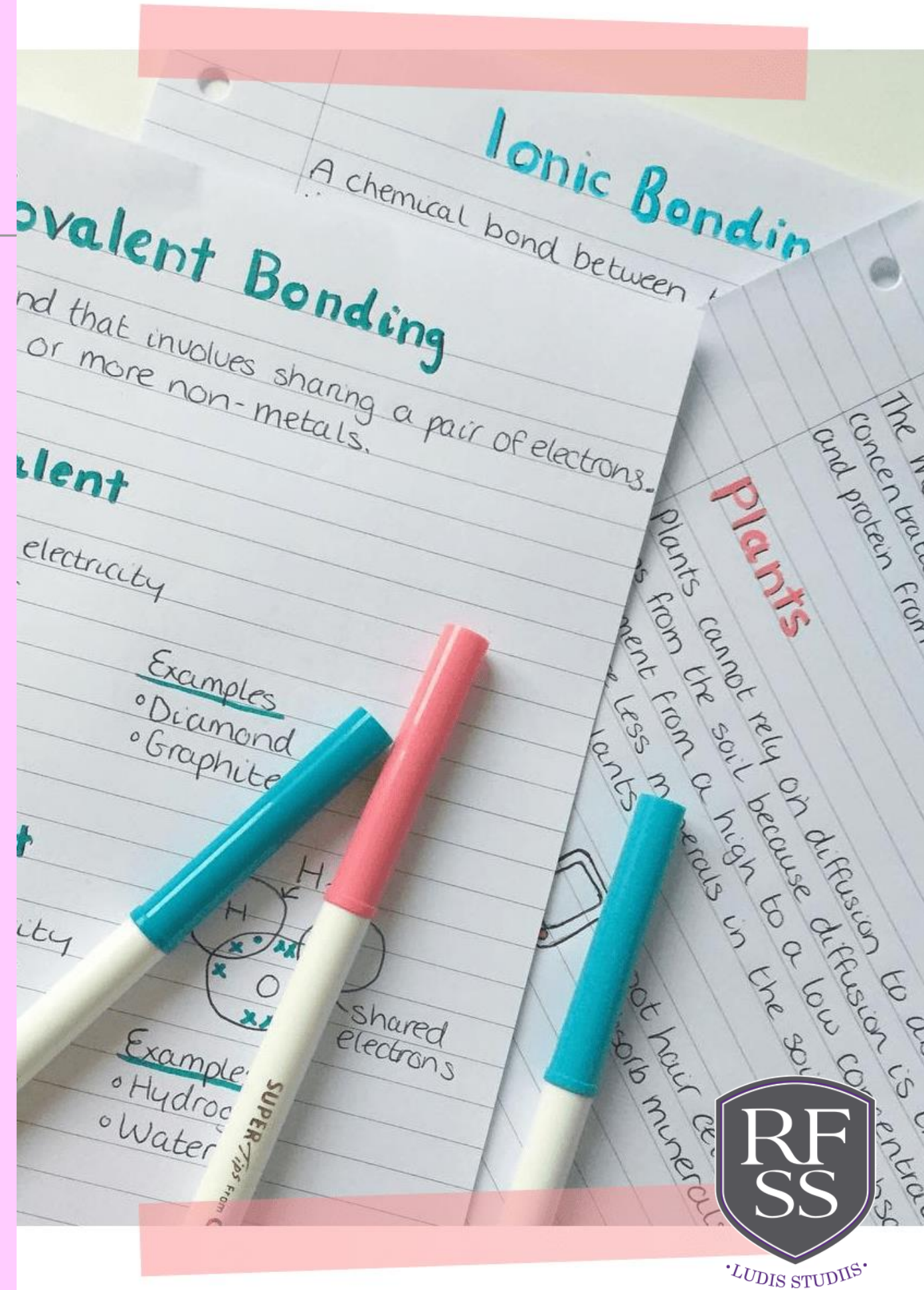




Common Misconception: Most people think that simply reading through their notes will be enough to prepare them for an exam. **It won't!!**

What Not To Do:

- Don't imagine you can learn everything you need to know the week or so before an exam.
- *Your memory cannot cope and it's an impossible task.*
- *On the other hand, do not worry!*
- Don't spend hours and hours in one go
- Don't forget to plan in breaks and down time





POMODORO TECHNIQUE

5 BASIC STEPS



1

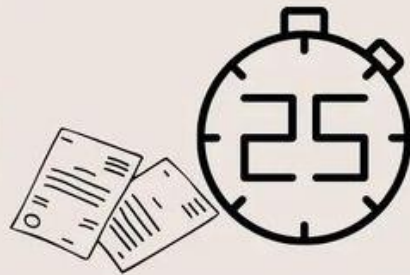
PICK A TASK

Pick a task, a project or an activity that takes at least 25 minutes to complete

25 MINUTES WORK

Start the 25-minute timer and give your full attention to the task at hand

2



3

5 MINUTES BREAK

Take a 5-minute break when the time is up and give yourself a few minutes to relax



4

REPEAT 4 TIMES

Repeat each Pomodoro 4 times.
(25 minutes + 5 minutes) X 4



5

LONGER BREAK

After 4 Pomodoros, take a 15 to 30-minute break before starting all over again



- Get prepared first – know EXACTLY what you are going to do for your 25-minute block

- Use a timer or an app

- Minimize distractions

- TAKE THE BREAKS!

- Line up the rewards!

- Get ready to go again

- Communicate the plan and fit it into your daily plan/the family plan



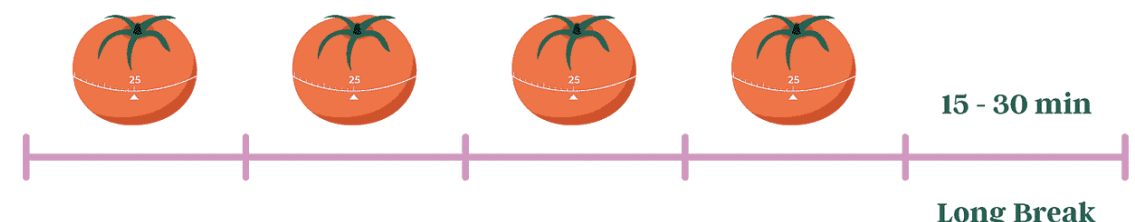
•LUDIS STUDIIS•

One pomodoro: 25 minutes + 5 minutes break

LifeHack



Complete 4 Pomodoros then take a longer break



Tips:

- Make sure your child is aware of exactly what it is that they need to be revising. Their teachers will help you/them with this.
- Students need to avoid the temptation to focus on what they are good at or what they most enjoy. We all do this to make ourselves feel successful - it's human nature, but it won't have the most impact on improvement
- Students need to devote extra time to those areas they find more difficult and, possibly, less interesting. Often, it is these things that appear on an exam paper!



The Truth:

- Exams are not designed to catch students out.
- They provide an opportunity for students to demonstrate their abilities.
- Examiners like giving marks to people who do what is asked of them.
- Exams can *always* be completed in the allotted time (and generally with a little to spare!)
- Everyone's memory is sufficient.





Supporting at Home



Raising Standards

The 4 Key Ideas to Supporting:

1. Identify and acknowledge potential distractions to students such as television, music, social media, games, mobile phones etc.
2. Limit access: For the revision period, support them to turn off their phone or put it in a different room, for example.
3. Work in chunks: Allow them a set and specific time (20 minutes is the most effective) and then check-in to make sure they have a break for 10 minutes. Allow students to reward themselves in this ten minute interlude.
4. Engage others: Make sure others do not distract them during this working period. Try to resist the temptation to distract them yourself too!

RUGBY FREE SECONDARY SCHOOL

GCSE EXAMINATIONS

SUPPORTING AT HOME 2025-26



Rugby Free
Secondary School



Rugby Free Secondary School: Year 11 & Year 13 Examination Final Key Points (2026)

Key Times: School opens for Year 11 and Year 13 students at 8.20am. Breakfast will be provided. Morning examinations begin at 9am, whilst afternoon examinations begin at 1pm. Students must be in school at least twenty minutes before each designated start time.

Essential Equipment: Clear pencil case, multiple black biro, multiple blue biro, multiple sharp pencils, pencil sharpener, rubber, scientific calculator, clear plastic ruler, clear water bottle with no labels (only water is allowed into the exam room).

Supporting Sleep: Scientists and sleep experts believe that teenagers undertaking exams should have at least 9 hours of sleep per night. They also stress the importance of making sure that items such as mobile phones and tablets are not used immediately before bed. Listening to some calming music does support the brain to 'switch off' before sleep.

Food to eat and food to avoid:

Food to Eat	Food to Avoid
Bananas and other slow-release fruits such as peaches and apples	White bread is harder to digest
Salmon and other fish to help the lubrication of the brain	Sugary items such as sweets and chocolate only offer an artificial boost
Eggs provide protein and boost stamina	Energy drinks lead to a sugar-spike which leads to a sugar-crash
Spinach is high in fibre and boosts the body's immune system	Turkey contains chemicals that causes tiredness
Pasta provides slow release energy	Sugary breakfast snacks such as pancakes

Questions?

Rugby Free Secondary School – Query Form

 **Rugby Free**
Secondary School

Name: _____

Contact Number: _____

Contact Email: _____

Child's Name: _____

Query: _____

Please fill in a query form if it's easier, and give it to a member of staff before you leave, and we will get back to you

Key Contacts:

If you have any questions or concerns, then please contact:

Mr Tibke: simon.tibke@rugbyfreesecondary.co.uk

Miss Probert (HoY11): rachael.probert@rugbyfreesecondary.co.uk

Mr Rupal (HoKS4): gurjit.rupal@rugbyfreesecondary.co.uk

