

English & Maths

Tips for success & how parents/carers can help



How can parents/carers make difference?

Parental support is 8 times more important in determining a student's academic success than social class. The Campaign for Learning found that parental involvement in a child's education can mean the difference between a top grade and an 'also-ran'.

One of the hardest demands on students is that of understanding the long-term importance of doing the best they can, and learning to shelve short-term fun at times in the interest of long-term benefits (not easy even for adults).

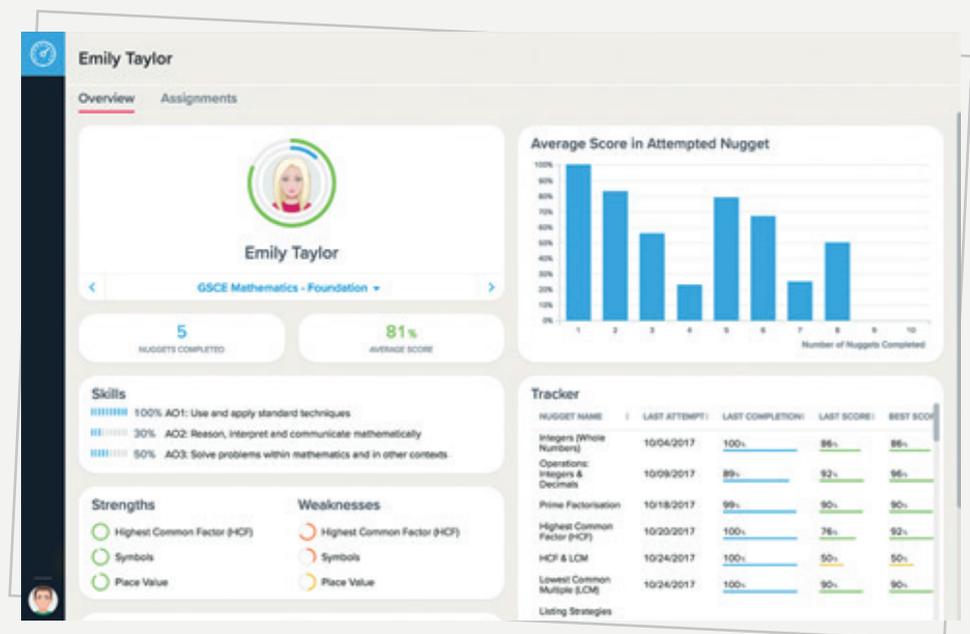
This is where parents come in. Your support, encouragement and interest can make a spectacular difference to motivation, and the ability of your young person to cope with the academic and organisational demands of study programmes and the exam period.



Your child's studies are supported by our new online learning platform - Century Tech

All students will have a personalised learning path made up of micro-lessons called nuggets. The Artificial Intelligence technology understands how an individual learns best and is constantly adapting to provide the support or challenge each student needs to improve performance in English and maths.

Timetabled online sessions, in addition to lessons, provide the opportunity for students to benefit from this platform, **but you can support them too.** There is a guardian portal which enables you to view live data to check progress, encourage home learning and be more involved with your young person's education. Century Tech can be accessed easily on any internet-enabled device.



Do you know at which level your child is studying?

English Language

Qualifications on Entry

Qualification to be Enrolled onto at BDC

Learners with **Grade 1/F** or below

Entry Level Functional Skills

Learners with **Grade 2 / E**

Level 1 Functional Skills

Learners with **Grade 3 / D or L1/2 FS**

GCSE English Language

Learners with **Grade 4 / C in English Language**

EPQ*

*Learners completing courses aligned to the Institute of Technology will be expected to study EPQ and Core Maths

Maths

Qualifications on Entry

Qualification to be Enrolled onto at BDC

Learners with **Grade 1/F** or below

Entry Level Functional Skills

Learners with **Grade 2 / E**

Level 1 Functional Skills

Learners with **Grade 3 / D or L1/2 FS**

GCSE Maths

Learners with **Grade 4 / C in Maths**

Core Maths*

*Learners completing courses aligned to the Institute of Technology will be expected to study EPQ and Core Maths





Attendance

To score 85% in an exam is a great result, but in terms of attendance it means that the student has missed many crucial days of study – over a period of a year this can be equivalent to several weeks of college and it will ultimately affect their final result. **Make sure you know your young person's timetable – when do they have maths and English? – insist they are on that bus in plenty of time so they do not miss the start of any lesson.**

Wellbeing

For Students

Don't stop going to, or working in, lessons – talk to someone about any difficulties you are having – there is always a solution. Speak to parents/tutor/personal coach/peers.

Arrive to lessons on time – you risk missing key points which may cause confusion.

Developing your English and maths skills will improve your chances of employment. That is reason enough!

Ignore what friends and others are doing or saying – you are working for an easy life for YOU now and later – let your friends have the hassle of catching up on work and missed opportunities to make progress.

For Parents

Know your child's weekly timetable. When are they timetabled for English and Maths class?

Know the name of your young person's tutors. We are happy to communicate with you.

Agree the balance between work and social life and stick to the agreement.

Be flexible – use the 80/20 rule. If your child is sticking to what they are supposed to be doing 80% of the time, they will be doing alright.

Advice for students - Getting ready for exams

Know the exam dates – ask your tutor if you are unsure.

Start revision early. The sooner you start the less you will have to do each day and the less stressed out you will be

The most important thing is to make a realistic revision timetable that you will stick to

Get one good revision book or aid for each subject. Ask your maths and English tutors for their recommendations. These guides do much of the initial work for you by breaking the subject down into 'do-able' chunks

Use Century Tech – an excellent personal revision tool

Go to all lessons and make them work for you

Attend revision workshops during half terms



Exam Boards

Functional Skills – PEARSON'S
GCSE English – AQA (9-1 Grading)
GCSE Maths – Edexcel (9-1 Grading)

Advice for students - Getting ready for exams

Make sure you know your timetable and venue for the exam

Get there early – only fools leave it too late and rush – catch the earlier bus

Allow time for your brain to wake up – have a shower, eat breakfast – take water (label removed) with you

Make sure you have EVERYTHING you need – do not cause yourself stress having to ask for things you should have brought with you

Take a pen you enjoy writing with – take 2 just in case

Advice for students - Getting ready for exams

Don't forget that it is natural to be nervous. It actually gives your brain the extra adrenalin it needs to make the final effort

If your mind goes blank, don't worry. Look at the question again, write down some notes – it'll get your brain ticking over again

Don't start writing until you know what the instructions are and you are ready to write sense

Make and keep to a time scale for each question depending on the number of marks (you will have done this in revision classes – stick to it). If you only have 3 minutes left for a question, write the answer in note form – the examiner will give you marks for it

Allow a little bit of time at the end to check through your work to see if any changes need making. Examiners have said that this can make the difference between a higher and lower grade

Do you think you have left it too late to revise?

One of the biggest mistakes that students make is not allowing enough time for revision. This usually results in demotivation and the attitude that there is no point in doing anything as the task is too big

However, it is never too late until you enter the exam room

One of the biggest mistakes that students make is not allowing enough time for revision. This usually results in demotivation and the attitude that there is no point in doing anything as the task is too big

Safety and security

The examination windows for FS / ESOL are as follows:

- October w/c - 14/10
- November w/c - 11/11
- December w/c - 09/12
- January w/c - 27/01
- March w/c - 16/03
- April w/c - 27/04
- May w/c - 11/05
- June w/c - 08/06 & 15/06

(2 week window for any outstanding achievements)



GCSE Learner?

Resits 2019

Resit - Mathematics Examinations

Tuesday 5th November - Paper 1 - Non Calculator

Thursday 7th November - Paper 2 - Calculator

Monday 11th November - Paper 3 - Calculator

Resit - English Examinations

Monday 4th November - Paper 1

Wednesday 6th November - Paper 2

Exam Dates 202

Mathematics Examinations

Tuesday 19th May - Paper 1 - Non Calculator

Thursday 4th June - Paper 2 - Calculator

Monday 8th June - Paper 3 - Calculator

English Examinations

Tuesday 2nd June - Paper 1

Friday 5th June - Paper 2

Remeber!

Bring your ID Card, Pens, Pencils, Highlighters, Ruler, Eraser, Calculator

Arrive promptly at 8:30am

Parents' & Carers' Evenings 2019/20

Wednesday 25 September 2019 (Rush Green)
Thursday 26 September 2019 (Technical Skills Academy)
Tuesday 3 December 2019 (Technical Skills Academy)
Wednesday 4 December 2019 (Rush Green)
Tuesday 10 March 2020 (Rush Green)
Wednesday 11 March 2020 (Technical Skills Academy)
Wednesday 17 June 2020 (Technical Skills Academy)
Thursday 18 June 2020 (Rush Green)



College Themed Weeks

Safe college week – 23 - 27 September 2019
Healthy college week – 20 - 24 January 2020
United values week – 10 - 14 February 2020
Employability week – 2 - 6 March 2020
Disability awareness week – 27 April – 1 May 2020
Next steps – 11 – 15 May 2020

We welcome any feedback and recommendations from parents and carers to help us develop and improve our college further.

Whether you have comments about course content, suggestions for student placements where you work, concerns about safety and security, or queries as to how you yourself can learn at the college – we're all ears.

The college also has a number of facilities that are open to the public. Benefit from our Learning Resource Centre, on-site gym, beauty salon, Coffee Shop and Bistro restaurant. Feel free to use them!

We've also got a wide range of FREE courses for adults. Have a look on our website for more information. You can also brush up on your English & Maths for FREE too.

