

A decorative graphic in the top-left corner consisting of a network of interconnected nodes and lines. The nodes are represented by circles of varying sizes and colors, including light grey, dark grey, and blue. Some nodes are highlighted with a blue outline. The lines connecting the nodes are thin and light grey.

Y11 GCSE Ready for Success Information Evening

Starting at 6:00pm

A decorative graphic in the bottom-right corner, mirroring the one in the top-left. It features a network of interconnected nodes and lines, with nodes in light grey, dark grey, and blue, and some nodes highlighted with a blue outline.

Welcome...

1. How to succeed –getting the basics right.
2. Successful strategies to help prepare for examinations;
3. Understanding the student data from Y10 and an update on data releases for 2024-25;





**How to succeed;
getting the basics right.**

Know that there is a wealth of experience in school...

- ◎ Form tutors – Academic forms
- ◎ SEND department – Miss Davies (SENDCo)
- ◎ Pastoral team
- ◎ Teaching staff
- ◎ Support staff

Excellent attendance is essential...

- Clear statistical evidence between good attendance and good outcomes – if you are in school, you are learning.
- 96% is the target.
- Holidays will not be authorised.

Attendance Matters



Know that the engagement and completion of 'Assignments' (homework) is essential to making progress..

Y11 will be set regular assignments;

Assignments are defined as work set by the teacher to be completed independently at home, in a school setting or quiet space (for example a library);

Assignments can be completed in the 'Assignment Club' which is supervised by a member of the Biddulph High School team Monday 2.30 – 4pm and Tuesday - Friday 3:15pm - 4pm;

There is a timetable of when each will subject will set assignment (next slide);

Students will have up time to complete it – should be no overnight assignments;

It will normally be a “learning” revision style homework;

It will be set on the Arbor portal;

Pupils will be completing up to 5 hours of independent study through assignments per week.

Assignment Schedule

Week 1	Week 2
English Maths Science History Business Music Design and Technology (Food, Graphics & Product Design) BTEC PE	English Maths Science Computer Science Geography PE Art Textiles DIT (Sept – Dec only) German
RE, PSHE and core PE will be set at the teachers' discretion	

Realise the importance of attitude to learning...

- ◎ Engagement in the classroom is essential.
- ◎ Too many students have 'good' behaviour but low effort and motivation.
- ◎ Completion of the homework – planned completion and thorough.
- ◎ Successful students will:
 - Be proactive, engaged, curious and resilient.
 - Take extra opportunities – support classes, revision classes.

Know that the teachers are the experts...

- Lessons at BHS are structure to help students to embed their knowledge and understanding.
- Opportunities in all lessons to complete retrieval work.
- Ongoing work to consolidate knowledge and understanding.
- Careful consideration and planned opportunities of how gaps in student knowledge can be closed.
- Continual assessment of students and their needs.

Realise that the completion of homework assignments is not enough alone for success at GCSE

- ◎ Too many students think that just doing the class work and/or homework will 'be enough'.
- ◎ Success requires independent learners and proactive learners.

Understand the role of private subject tutors...

- Private subject tutors do not compensate for engagement in learning on a daily basis, completion of assignments or independent ongoing revision.
- If you are supporting your child by buying private tuition then realise it is a small part of the package and not always the key to success that we can be lead to believe.
- Where the student engages at school with their subject teachers the impact can be greater.

Utilise the opportunities beyond the classroom...

- ⦿ Revision classes - some optional, some compulsory for some.
- ⦿ Targeted supported groups.
- ⦿ Access to online revision and support e.g. Sparx Maths and English, Seneca, Everlearner.
- ⦿ School website – exam boards and specifications, mock exam timetables.
- ⦿ Revision guides – on Arbor to purchase.
- ⦿ Class Teams channel – resources to support.
- ⦿ Mentoring.

Week 1 & Week 2

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Lunch	English All classrooms, all welcome	Music Composition Dr Shuff 130 Geography revision Y10 and Y11 Mrs Horton-Smart 101 Product Design Y10 & Y11 Mrs Halfpenny 122 Business 'Tailored Support' (Phase 1-3 revision) Mrs St Clair in 217 (Open to all Business students)	Science Various teachers 112 Graphics Y10 & 11 Mr Halfpenny 121 Business 'Tailored Support' (Phase 1-3 revision) Mrs Jones in 217 (Open to all Business students) Art Mrs Carroll-Wright 127 Textiles Mrs Hall 120 Computer Science Theory Revision Mrs Sharrock 134 Computer Science "Shooting Stars" (Invite Only) Miss Deavall 217	GCSE History Mrs Ireland 103 Graphics Y10 & Y11 Mr Halfpenny 121	German Higher Tier Revision MBA Room 202 Collect a pass from MFL Graphics Y10 & 11 Mr Halfpenny 121
After School 3.15 - 4pm		English (Invite Only) English revision in all classrooms.	Computer Science Mrs Sharrock 134 Theory Revision Maths (Invite Only) Mr Thorley 215	GCSE PE Mrs Taylor Room 205 GCSE History Miss Harkin 102	

Y11 Extra Opportunities
(reviewed each half term)

Understand the importance of engagement with Careers, Information, Advice and Guidance...

- ◎ Students need to consider carefully their future pathway and aims and ambitions during Year 11 can often help to focus student's on their GCSE studies.

During Year 11 create a Vision...

- All year 11 students will be offered a 1-1 careers interview.
- Assemblies/events/form activities throughout the year will look at post 16 options.
- Access to Unifrog, students can research career ideas, routes into specific careers and much more.
- Careers fair/events across the academic year to support decisions.
- CV/applications sessions if needed.

A vision can help to drive success.

At home encourage your child to...

- Talk to your child about their career ideas and where they may wish to study.
- Use the National Careers website to look at job profiles and subject recommendations.
- Attend open events for Post 16 studies with your child – ***BH6 Open Evening 26th September, 2024 (6-8pm).***

Understanding the importance of all subjects...

- We know that English and Maths graded at 4+ are essential to post 16 steps and beyond.
- However, success in only English and Maths alone will not be enough to access post 16 steps or future opportunities.
- Students must have a holistic approach to their studies.



Never underestimate the difference that parents and guardians can make...

- Your support is crucial in every aspect.
- Creating a work environment beyond school to encouraging home learning.
- Accessing regularly the Arbor App to check for messages and information.
- Checking in on behaviour for the week.
- Support the school and education.
- Attending parents evenings (Thursday 9th January, 2025).
- Helping to create a calm environment especially around exam periods. Expect to encounter uncharacteristic outbursts leading up to exams!
- Be the motivator.
- Keep perspective.
- Equip them for the exams – clear case, 2 pens, ruler, compass, calculator, rubber.
- Be aspirational but keep expectations realistic according to their abilities.
- Know that some exam anxiety is normal; give support and reassurance.
- If things aren't going too well in a subject contact the teacher.
- Look out of signs of unhealthy levels of stress and contact your GP or the school for support.
- Promote healthy sleep patterns.

Know the dates for key assessment points...

- Mock examinations wc 11/11/24 and wc 18/11/24.
- Core mocks and in class assessments wc 10/2/25.
- Summer exams begin 7/4/25 for practical subjects (before Easter) and then written exams from 28/5/25.
- Realistic exam conditions.
- Prepare for these and use them to identify weaknesses – use the guidance form question level analysis.
- Exam timetables are always posted on the school website.

Planning for success

**6 top tips for better
exam preparation**



1. Set goals and implement behaviours for improvement

- Know the grades you are working at and where you want to be at the end.
- Set targets for improvement.
- Implement behaviours for improvement.

Set Goals

- 1.....
- 2.....
- 3.....
- 4.....

Behaviours for improvement...

1. Increase my concentration by switching off from my main distractions.
2. Challenge myself when topics are hard by working carefully and revisiting them myself.
3. I will do past paper questions regularly in my out of school study time.
4. I will put in extra work at the weekend using effective techniques discussed with my subject teachers.
5. Plan what I need to work on and ensure I focus on this when I sit down to complete a revision session.
6. Each week I will make an out of school study plan to fit in my clubs, hobbies, fitness and ensure that I have time to complete homework and study. I will stick to this.
7. Make a list of questions for topics I find difficult and ask the teacher for support.
8. I will plan my out of school study around my I will focus on the feedback given to me rather than the grade alone.
9. I will challenge myself to improve when I have a set back rather than blaming others.
10. I will seek help and support from teachers and peers when needed; this is not embarrassing or a sign of weakness.
11. Attend support classes in at least the subjects listed as my priority subjects.
12. Select study techniques which are effective and suggested by my subject teachers.

2. Create a realistic study timetable

- Building a study timetable will add structure to your studying and allows you to organise your time in the way that best suits you and your schedule.
- It's also important to create a realistic schedule and know there are limits to how much work can effectively be completed in a day.
- Balancing leisure and revision means you'll be much more productive and motivated in the long run and be able to revise more effectively.
- Create no more than a 2 week plan at any one time.
- Don't impose a revision plan on your child as it is unlikely to work.
- Encourage breaks in revision - effective revision session should be a reasonable length of time with regular short breaks.



	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
3.30-4.15	Dance		Netball		Nan's Birthday	Stoke	
4.15-5.00						Stoke	
5.15-6.00						Stoke	
6.00-6.30				GCSE Info eve			
6.30-7.15							
7.30-8.15							

	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
3.30-4.15	Dance		Netball	Physics revision	Nan's Birthday	Stoke	
4.15-5.00	Homework	Homework	English Revision			Stoke	
5.15-6.00	Maths revision	History revision	Geography Revision			Stoke	
6.00-6.30	Tea	Tea	Tea	GCSE Info eve			
6.30-7.15	History Past paper 2 questions (medicine)						
7.30-8.15	Quick Quiz	Quick Quiz	Quick Quiz	Quick Quiz			

Home support – tackling the difficult situations

🕒 **Difficulty 1: TV or no TV?**

- Insist they do not revise in front of the TV

🕒 **Difficulty 2: Phones or no phones?**

- Time away from phones stops distraction and procrastination. If they need their phone to revise (use websites etc.) discuss ways they can avoid other distractions such as social media.

🕒 **Difficulty 3: Silence**

- Some students find it beneficial to listen to music or other sound as it aids concentration.
- If sounds is desired it should be low volume. Encourage them to be selective with what they listen to.
Don't make a battle out of whether they listen to music or not.



3. Prioritise closing the gaps...

- Prioritise the closing the gaps in your knowledge and understanding as shared with you in class; subjects will help support students with lists of the gaps that need to be closed.
- What we don't know or where we are less confident is the hardest to work at.



4. Make revision productive

- Find a **quiet** space free from distractions.
- Use the 3 stage model for effective revision...



Phase 1 - Content Learning

Focuses on acquiring information

Information alone does not pass exams. Make sure you don't get stuck in this phase.



Phase 2 – Skill development

Test yourself against the demands of the exam

Use the information and it becomes knowledge. Knowledge can be adapted.

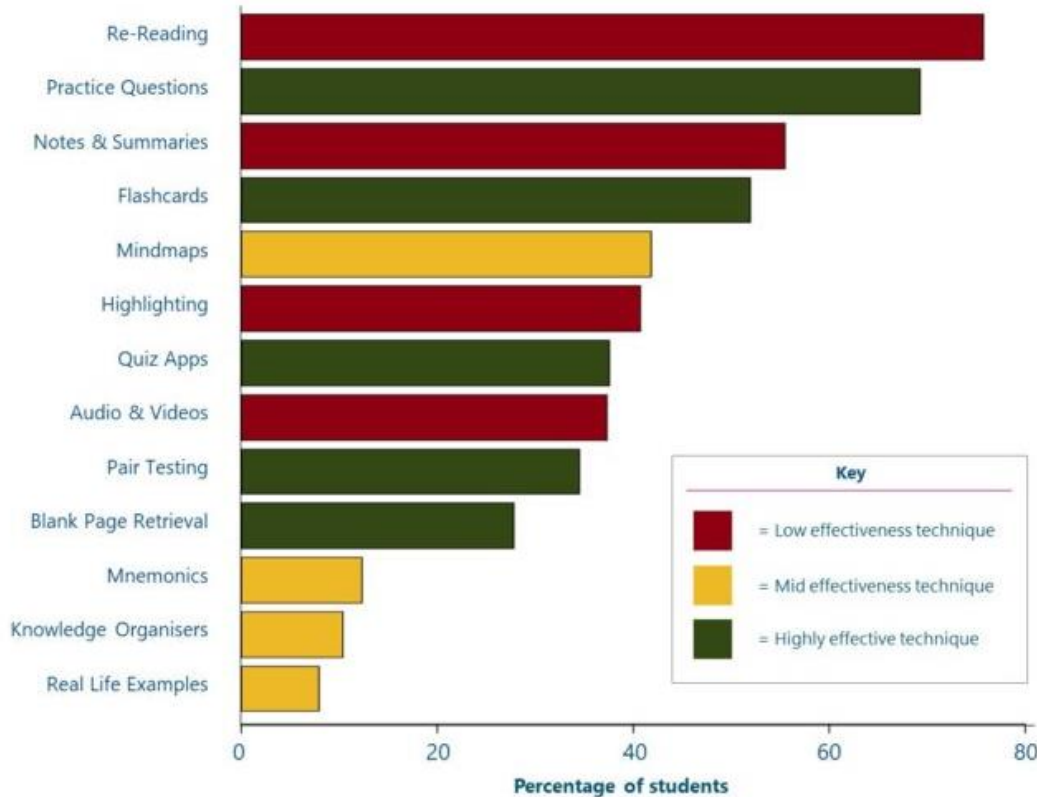


Phase 3 – Feedback

Check your phase 2 work

This phase is only part of the process to enable reflection and development.

Students reported which revision strategies they used when preparing for their most recent set of exams



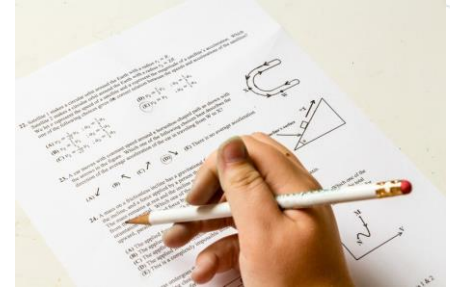
Choose techniques which are high effectiveness techniques?

There are statistically significant gender differences, with female students spending more time making their revision materials, and male students spend more time testing.



5. Practice papers are your new best friend!

- One of the best revision tips to help you prepare for your GCSE exams is to do as many exam papers as you can.
- Exam papers help you become familiar with the exam format, question style and time restraints, so when it comes to the real thing you'll already know what to expect.
- Completing old exam papers is also a good way to test your current knowledge and help you identify any areas you're struggling with.
- Ask your teachers where you can access papers and schedule one or two a week into your revision timetable.

**WARNING****KNOW YOUR EXAM BOARD AND SPECIFICATION
FOR EACH SUBJECT!!**

6. Work in study groups

- If revision is too much to tackle on your own, then working in a study group is a great way to find support.
- Collaborate with your classmates and create an after-school study club or join a GCSE revision group online.
- Quiz each other, share notes, discover new ways of memorising things and explain topics in new ways to each other that may be easier to remember. Sharing knowledge is powerful!

A decorative network diagram in the top-left corner, consisting of various sized grey circles (nodes) connected by thin grey lines (edges). Some nodes are solid grey, while others are hollow with a grey outline. The connections form a complex, interconnected web.

Learning from other students

A decorative network diagram in the bottom-right corner, similar to the one in the top-left. It features a cluster of grey nodes of different sizes connected by thin lines, with some nodes being solid and others hollow.

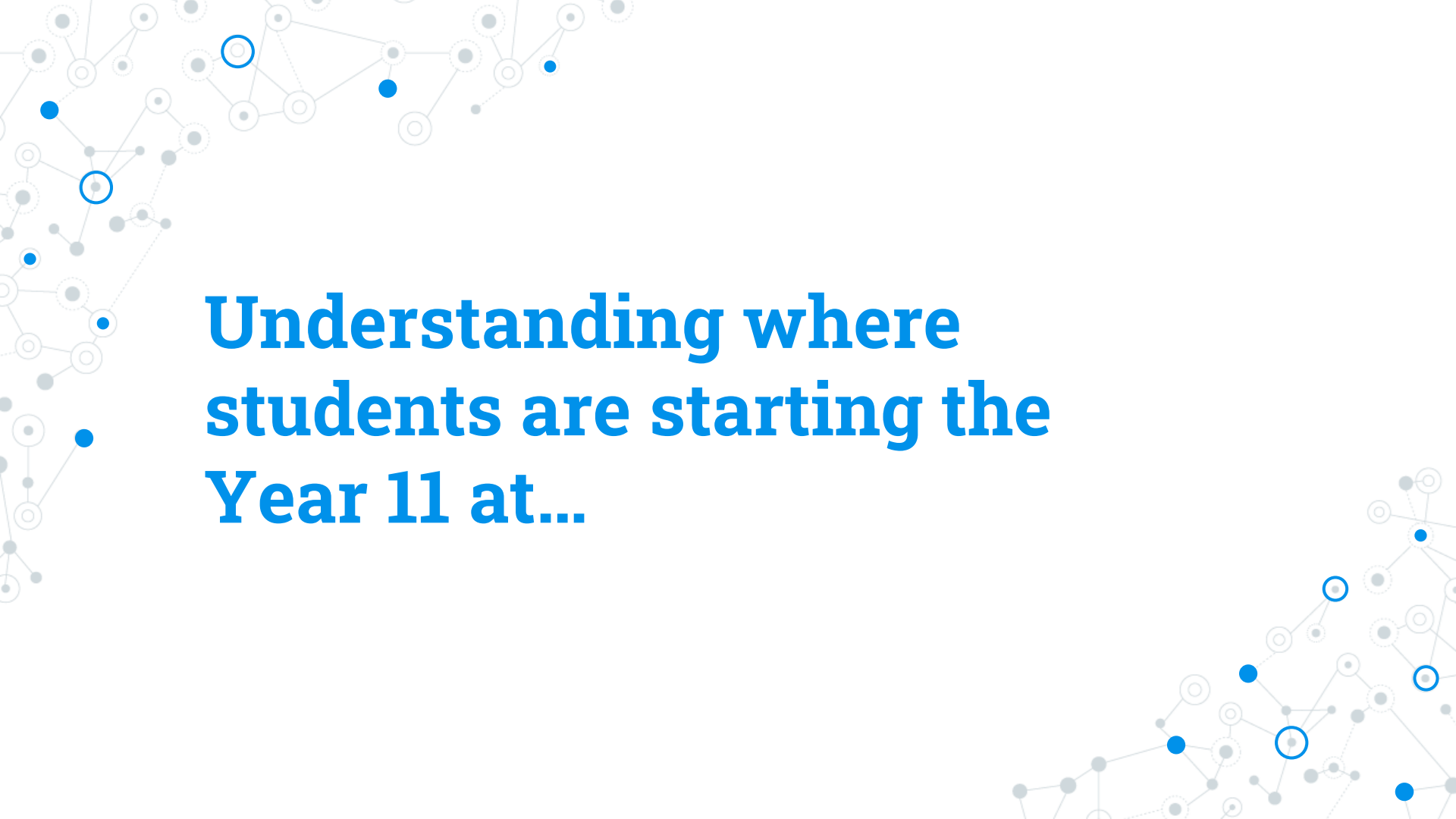
I would say to stay organised by writing down any work you have to do where you will be able to see it. Give yourself breaks when revising you are more likely to keep revising that way. Have a flexible revision timetable, that includes time for yourself.

Start revising as early as possible, so you aren't revising 2 weeks before your exam.

I would say that pupils in Year 11 should ensure that they maintain a strong steady stream of revision starting from the beginning of year 11. In my opinion, it is better to set yourself set times to revise every day which is available without causing an overload of work such as 1 or 2 hours a night whilst varying the subjects they are revising, particularly focussing on work which they find the hardest. I also think it is important to year 11s to remember that exams are not the be all and end all and that they should not spend 6 hours a night revising whilst sacrificing wind-down and personal time. It is important to relax and do what you enjoy whilst also ensuring you are maximising your time to enable you to achieve greater prospects 😊.

- 1) To start making revision as soon as possible, because making the revision and actually doing the revision are two different things.
 - 2) try to stay as organised as possible to make you feel less stressed.
 - 3) Don't panic so much! If you have revised and try your best you should do great!
 - 4) go through past papers and go over them and look at mark schemes / examiners reports.
- Hope this helps!


One thing I did was revise for about half an hour and then take a 5 minute break and did this a few times, I did this so I could revise but also do what I wanted in between. I felt this was better than hours of revising and no break since I took a step back and chill before diving in again.



**Understanding where
students are starting the
Year 11 at...**



At the end of the summer term of Y10...

- ◎ We sent home via BromCom the Y10 mock exam results and scores for attitude to learning.
 - ◎ Did you see it?
- 

Where are we going next..

- ◎ We believe that if you are to support outcomes for your child you need to know where they are at as we begin the final journey to GCSE completion.
- ◎ We will be sending home on Friday 20th September, via email an update of where your child is starting their Y11 journey from.

What you will receive...

Minimum Expected Grade (MEG)

- This refers to the minimum grade we expect you to be striving to achieve in each subject.
- Usually based on KS2 data, however for Y11 it is based on statistics from MidYIS benchmark testing completed in Y9.

Professional Predicted Grade (PPG)

- This refers to the grade that the teachers think they are currently on track to achieve. This is based on the work, assessments, coursework, attitude to learning and mock exams completed in Year 10.



What needs to be considered from the information that you receive...

- ⦿ How many 'grades away' are they from the MEG?
- ⦿ Are the PPGs going to enable them to access their preferred next steps?
- ⦿ Where do they need to improve?
- ⦿ What are they going to do to improve?

If you have any queries, concerns or want to discuss how to improve, please contact subject teachers and Curriculum Leaders.

Next update...

- ◎ Y11 Mock Results Day Thursday 9th January, 2025.
- ◎ Results information emailed home.
- ◎ Parents Evening to discuss next steps with teachers.

Thank you

Any questions?

Mrs Taylor

Assistant Headteacher

ctaylor@bhs.potteries.ac.uk

Y11 Journey to Success Evening



Please leave feedback or
follow ups.