

Welcome

To all parents and carers of our A1 students

Lisa Richards

Centre Principal

Tonight

- Important general information about what is coming up soon and into the A2
- Vital next steps information and advice
- 2 chosen specialised sessions (but we will send you the information and presentations from all of these)

Our ambition

All our students to leave ASFC with the best possible grades in at least three A Level/equivalent courses.

Plus...



The experiences and skills to progress with confidence to their **chosen** next steps

9 precious months...

**But 11 months if we include
the summer.... so let's do
that!**

How are things looking?

- Mocks 1 - on the good side of what we expect at this stage
- BTEC, T Level and Criminology work is on-track
- Expecting good results from our Core Maths cohort
- Already above the national average for success in resit Maths and English – huge well done to the many students who have now secured these.
- Over 300 of your sons and daughters completed the Realising Aspirations Programme
- High levels of participation in leadership and enrichment opportunities.
- Excellent engagement in *Be Ambitious* last week...

But...

We recognise that the journey through sixth form is not always a smooth or linear one...

That's normal!

A 2025 leaver's two year journey

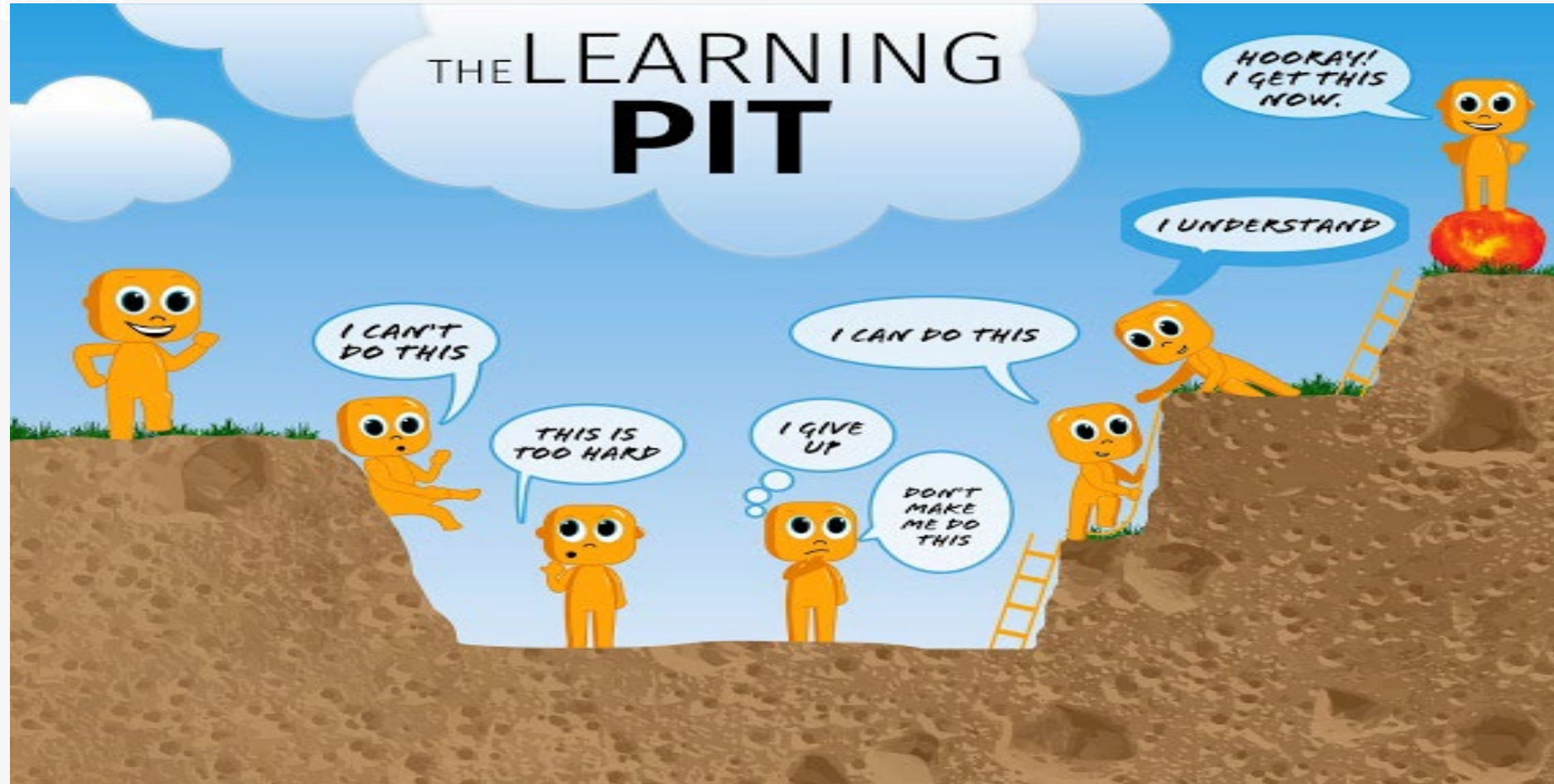
MEG: BBC

MEG: BBC MEG: BBB

	Grades over 2 years									Final Grade
Chemistry	B	A	B	B	D	C	A*	A*	A	A*
Biology	C	B	B	A	D	A	B	A*	A*	A*
Business	D	C	E	C	A	C	B	A	A*	A
EPQ										A* (50/50)

Be ready for the 'learning pit'

MEG DDC



Good learners go into the pit.... they'll need support but will come out stronger!

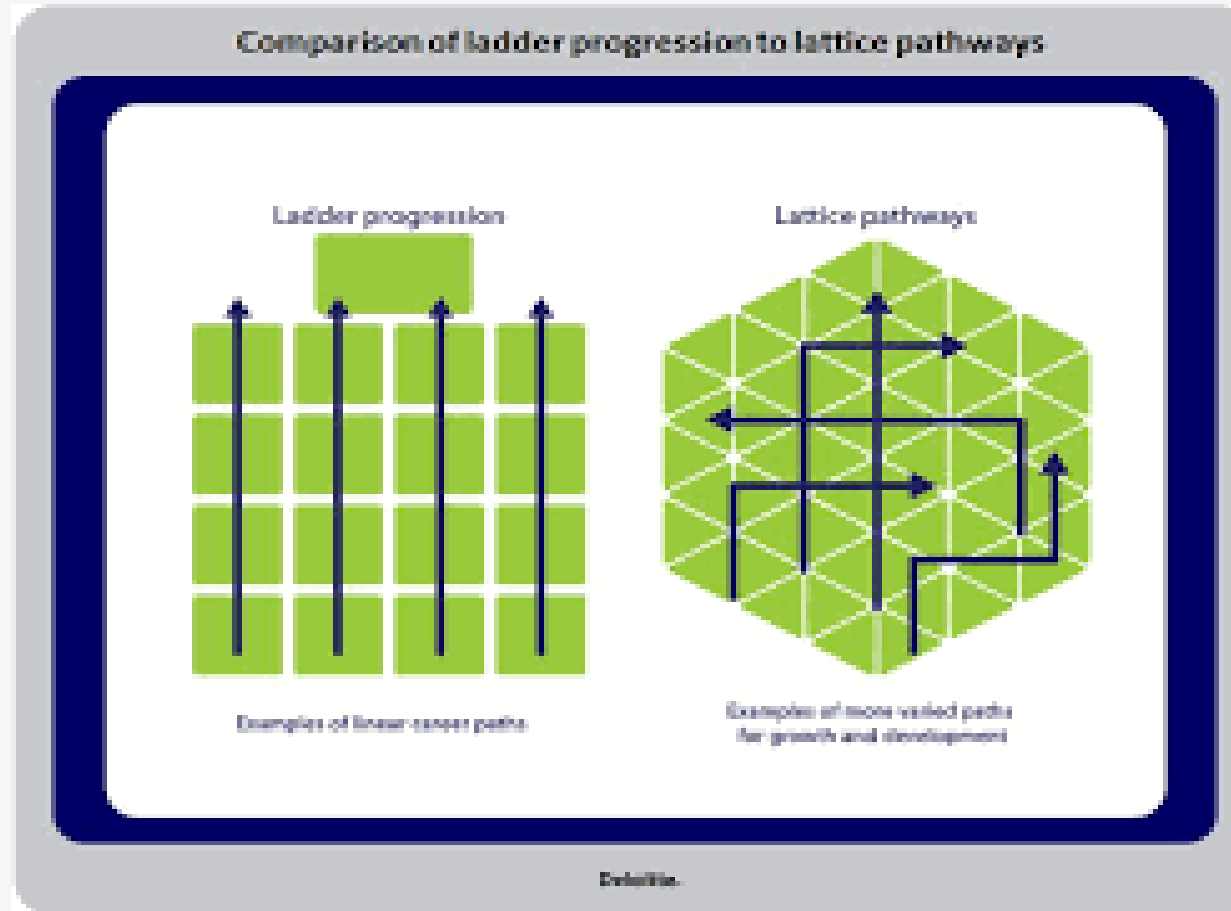
We used to speak of a career path...

MEG: BBC



The employment sector now distinguishes between 'career path' and 'career grid'...

MEG: BBC



So, our aim must be to develop in students the skills and qualities that can be transferred from industry to industry

In addition to qualifications and job-specific technical ability:

- Interpersonal and teamwork skills
- Emotional skills
- Adaptability
- Creativity and initiative
- Digital literacy (including AI to enhance work output)
- Organisational skills

Squeeze every bit of value out of ASFC:

Please encourage additional activities...

- Engagement with our careers planning activities
- Speaker of the Month
- EPQ
- Leadership
- Ashton Explore (enrichment)

We are here to work with you...

- Carry on communicating
- Continue to talk about college
- Discuss ambitions and dreams
- Provide support and encouragement
- Expect ups and downs/ 'learning pit'
- Attendance is critical –proven links to achievement
- Work with us if you son or daughter veers a little off track – together is better!





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Concluding A1 and Starting A2

Sheridan Lewis
**Vice Principal Curriculum and
Planning**



Concluding the A1 year:

- Criminology controlled assessment w/b
Monday 22rd June
- A1 Awards morning and final day of the year
Tuesday 30th June
- A1 Reports with 3 targets emailed to parents/carers
Wednesday 8th July
- Summer work set by subject teachers

Starting the A2 year:

- Timetables released Wednesday 2nd September
- Any timetable queries contact college Thursday 3rd and Friday 4th September
- A2 students start Monday 7th September
- A2 Study days:
 - **Voc Extended Diploma - Tuesdays**
 - **A level/mixed programme - Fridays**

Focusing on Progress:

- **Minimum Expected Grades (MEGs)**
- **Current Working at Grades (WAGs)**

MEG – the lowest grade they should achieve, but we want and expect them to aim higher

Working at Grade – the grade they have achieved in the latest assessment

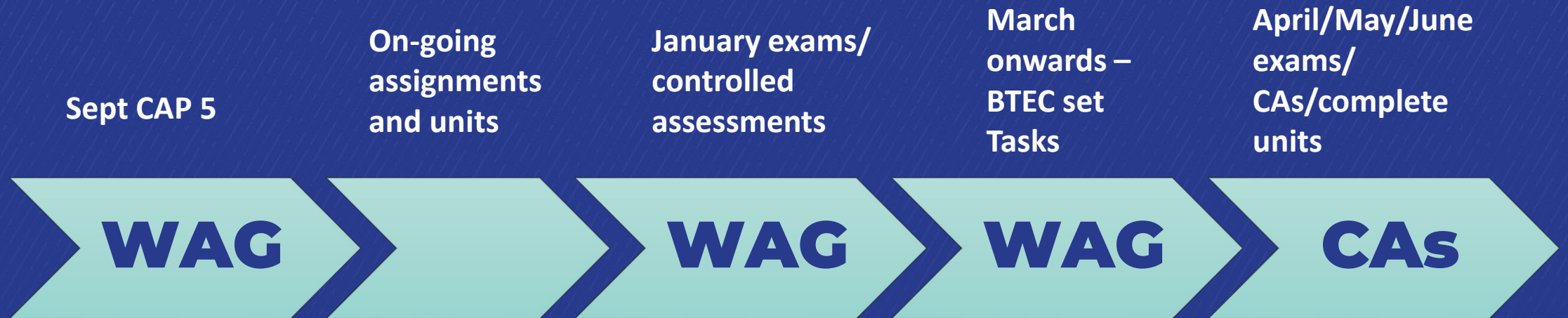
How will you know how they are doing?

- Students will have regular assessments in all subjects
- College Assessments will take place under timed conditions
- Vocational and Art students get WAG grade based on current progress
- **Results** from CAs will be available on Cedar for parents/carers:
 - College Assessment Point 6 – Thursday 15th October
 - College Assessment Point 7 (**MOCK 2**) – Wednesday 20th January
 - College Assessment Point 8 (**MOCK 3**) – Tuesday 27th April
- A2 Online Parents/Carers Evenings Thurs 5th Nov or Wed 11th Nov
- A2 Reports to Parents/Carers Wed 10th Feb

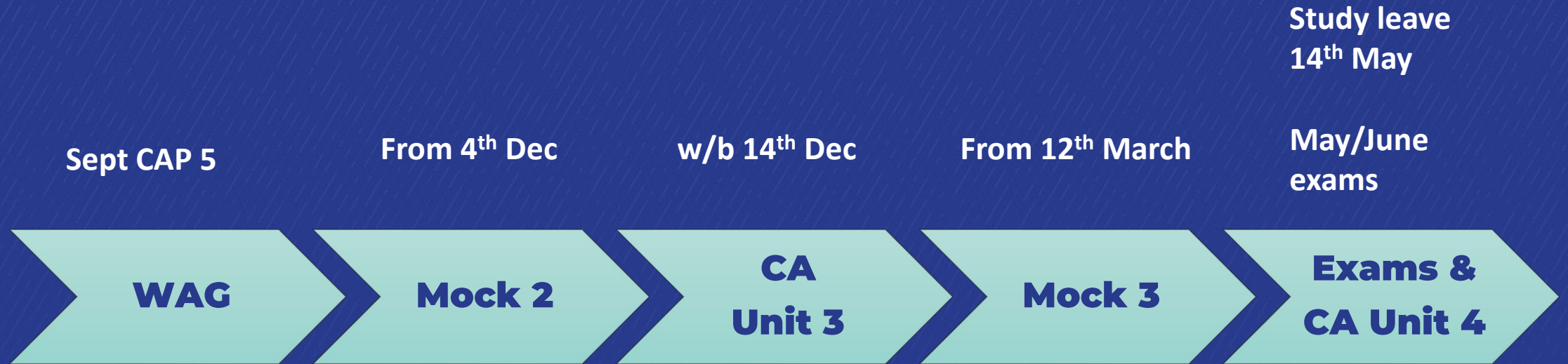
A2 Rhythm of the year – A Level/Mixed Programme Students:



A2 Rhythm of the year – Extended BTEC and T Level Students:



A2 Rhythm of the year – Criminology Students:





A2 Students Term Dates 2026-2027

Start of Autumn Term – Mon 7th September 2026

Autumn half term holiday – Mon 19th October – Sun 1st November

End of Autumn Term – Friday 18th December

Start of Spring Term – Monday 4th January 2027

Spring half term holiday – Mon 15th – Sun 21st February

End of Spring Term – Thursday 25th March

Start of Summer Term – Monday 12th April

Study Leave - Friday 14th May

Vocational last day of teaching – Friday 18th June

Exam contingency day (A Level official last day) - Wednesday 23rd June

Attendance and Support

- **Average attendance by A level grade**
- **Attendance makes a significant difference to final outcomes**

Grade	Average Attendance
A*	95.5%
A	94.6%
B	93.0%
C	91.4%
D	89.6%
E	87.7%
U	84.4%

A few final reminders:

- We will send you a link to tonight's PowerPoints
- We will also send you a Parents' handbook with further key information about the A2 year
- Please ensure you have a CEDAR login so you can access your child's College assessment grades, reports, attendance and other key information
- Kate is on hand in SB2.2 to help any parents/carers with Cedar login issues



Scan here for Cedar guidance:





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So as a parent/carer what can I
do to support my young
person?

Rachel Smirke – Assistant Principal Curriculum & Progression



Making the most of the summer:

- 9 week summer break – risky!
- Part-time work
- Volunteer opportunities
- Summer Schools
- Attend/Plan Uni Open Day visits
- Summer work set by subject teachers to prepare for A2
- Consolidate first year – ensure all revision materials are prepped
- Study skills
- Virtual Work Experience opportunities – Teaching, NHS, BBC
- MOOC – Open Online Courses – if unsure of what they would like to study at University
- University and Apprenticeship research – compare options
- Book a Careers Appointment

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"In education, meaningful progress comes from hard work guided by thoughtful planning. Effort matters most when it's aligned with clear goals and purposeful direction."

Session 1: 6.50 – 7:20pm

Early applicants (UCAS), Oxbridge, Medicine, Dentistry, Veterinary **SB 2:3**

Ensuring Success in A Level/Mixed Study Subjects (effective study habits and revision techniques) **GH 10 & GH11**

Ensuring Success in full time Vocational and T Level subjects (Effective Study Habits for Vocational courses) **SB 3:3**

Extended Project Qualification (EPQ) **SB 2:4**

Securing quality apprenticeships/employment **GH 1:18 & GH 1:19**

Support for University applications (UCAS) **Sports Hall**

Promoting positive mental health and wellbeing **SB 3:2**

Essential Skills for A2 and Beyond **SB 1:1**

Session 2: 7.25 – 7:55pm

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