Jordanhill School
Strive for the Highest

National Qualifications in S4
September 2025

KINDNESS GRATITUDE PERSEVERANCE INTEGRITY RESPECT

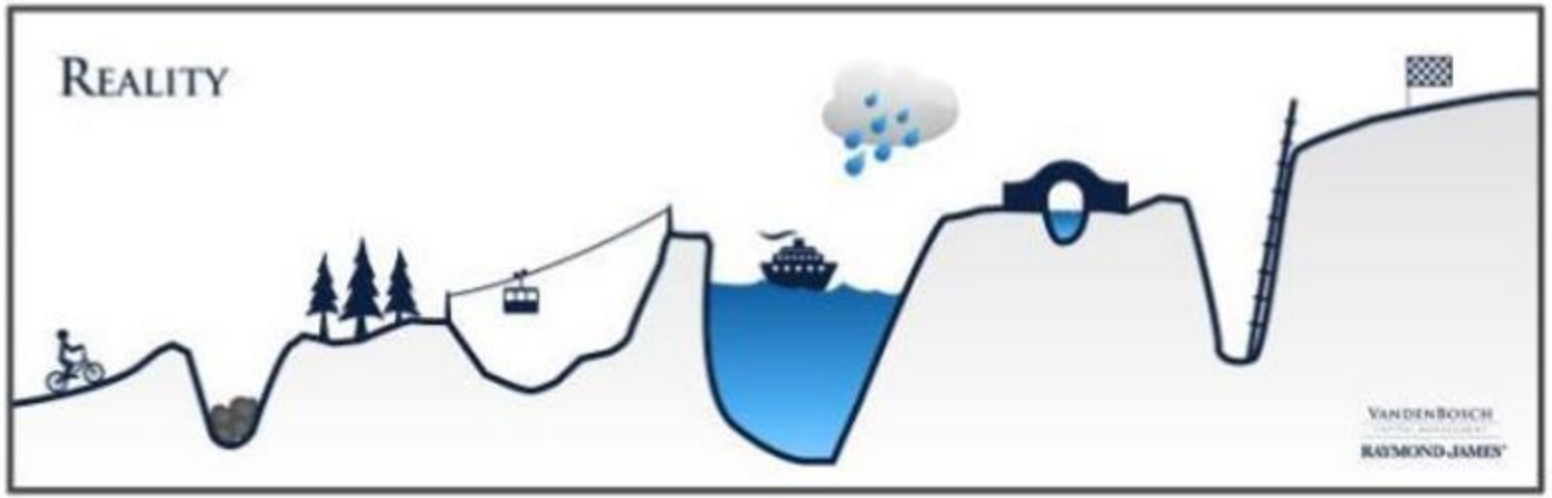
Purpose of tonight

GIVE YOU AN INSIGHT IN TO NQS IN S4

EMPHASISE THE IMPORTANCE OF PREPARATION FOR SUCCESS

GIVE YOU AN OVERVIEW OF SQA PROCEDURES.

YOUR PLAN


REALITY
VANDENBOSCH
RAYMOND JAMES

Where are we on the NQ journey?

8 National Qualifications

National 5

National 3 or 4

National 5

- Almost all have an external SQA exam
- Likely to have an assignment

National 3 and National 4

- Internal assessments
- May include some form of assignment

More on assignments later!

Reports

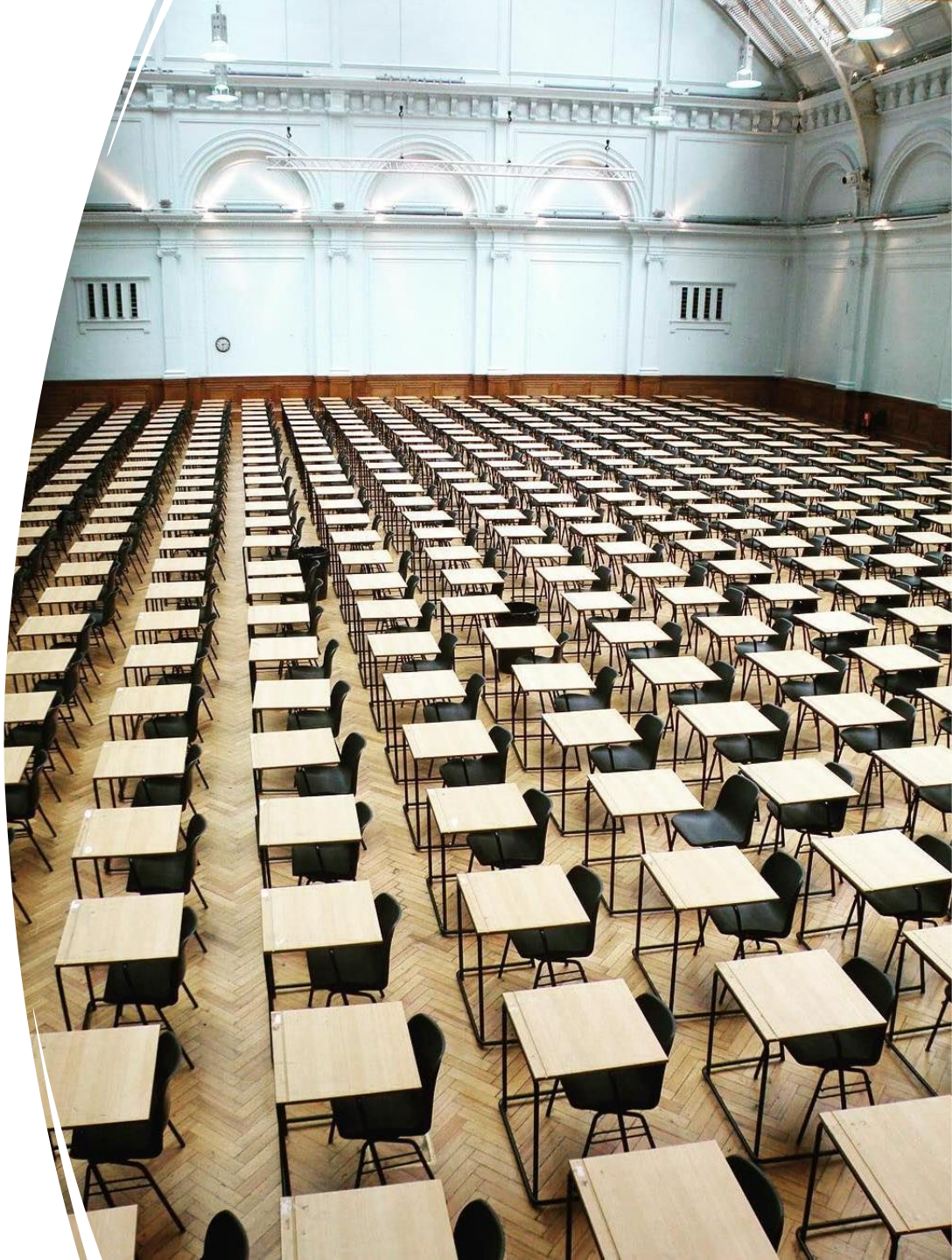
- S3 Final (May)
  - Level of work
  - Likely pathway in S4
- S4 Level Update (Oct)
  - Likely progression route
- S4 Final (Dec)
  - Recommended pathway in S4
  - Possible progression route in S5

S4 Mock Examinations

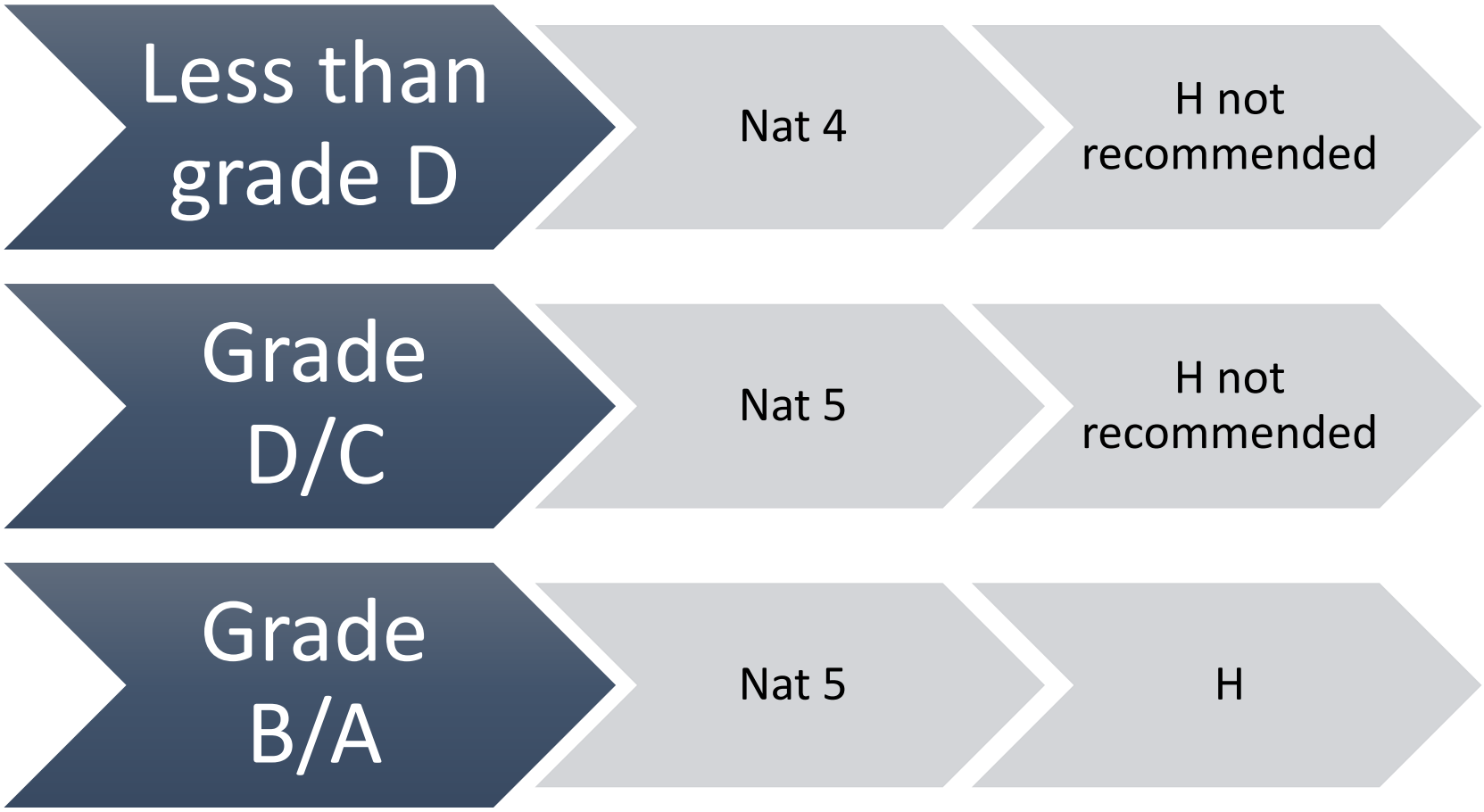
- November
- **National 5 only**

Purpose

- How is the pupil coping with the demands of N5
- Contribute to estimated grade



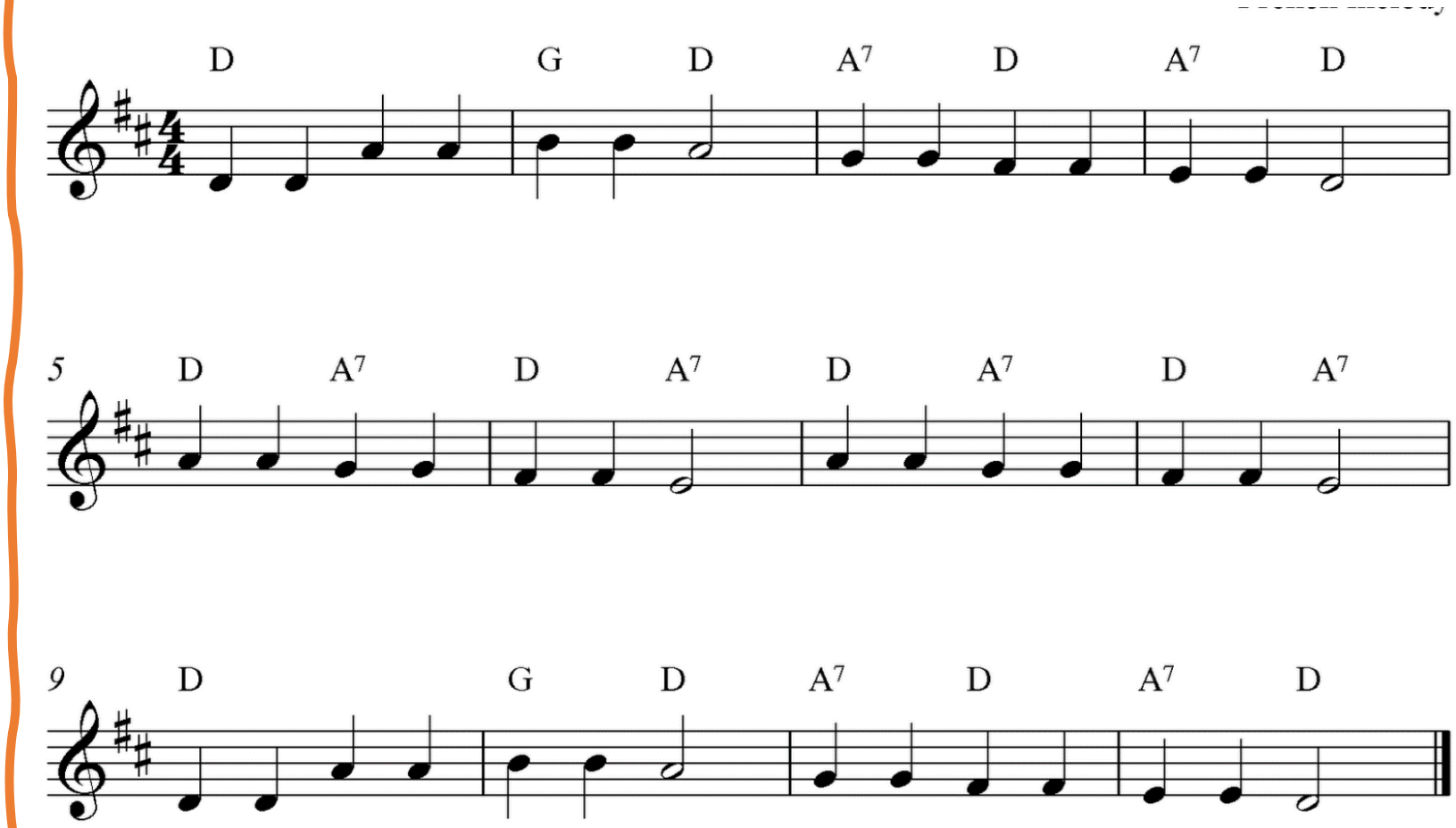
S4 Mock Examinations



Studying for success

Engage early

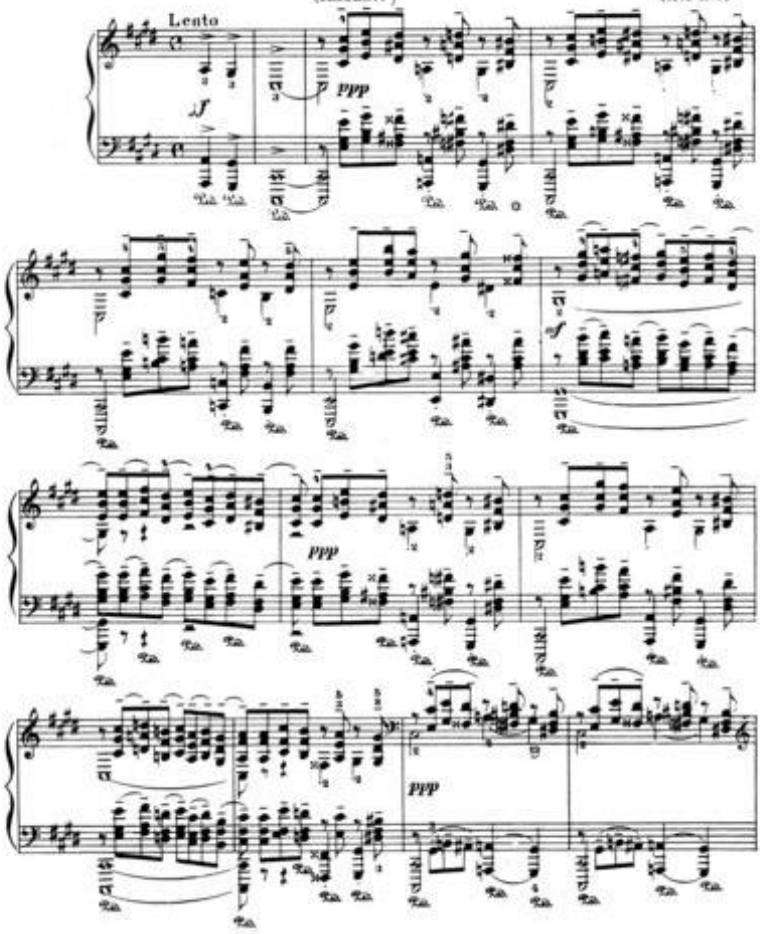
Do your best from the outset

Last minute approach = high risk strategy

D G D A7 D A7 D
5 D A7 D A7 D A7 D A7
9 D G D A7 D A7 D

PRELUDE IN C SHARP MINOR

(Opus 3. No. 2)

(Andante)

Sergei Rachmaninoff
(1873-1943)

Practice Tips for MUSICIANS

1. *Practice.*
2. *Practice* MORE.
3. *Practice* EVEN MORE.
4. *Practice* EVEN MORE THAN THAT.
5. *Practice* WHEN YOU DON'T WANT TO.
6. *Practice* WHEN YOU DO.
7. *Practice* WHEN YOU HAVE WORK TO DO.
8. *Practice* WHEN YOU DON'T.
9. *Practice* REGULARLY.
10. KEEP *practicing.*

MusicReadingSavant.com

Effective studying

1. Review regularly
2. Deliberate practice
3. Self-test

Mr Toal study skills sessions

Review the day

Period 1	Period 2	Period 3	Period 4	Period 5	Period 6
Maths	Geography	Biology	French	PE	PE

- What did I learn? (Review regularly)
- Can I answer the questions I did in class ? (Deliberate practice/self-test)
- Approx 15mins per subject

Welcome to Achieve

What would you like to do?

Sign Up

Create a new Achieve account

Sign In

Access your Achieve account

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Hello, Helen!

- Biology — National 5
- Business Management — National 5
- English — National 5
- Geography — National 5
- Mathematics — National 5
- PE — National 5
- Physics — National 5
- Mathematics — Higher

Recent Activity

No recent activity.

View All Activities

SEPTEMBER 2025

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
31	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11

View Full Calendar

Home My Courses Learn Assess Self-evaluate SUCCEED

Learn

National 5 Physics

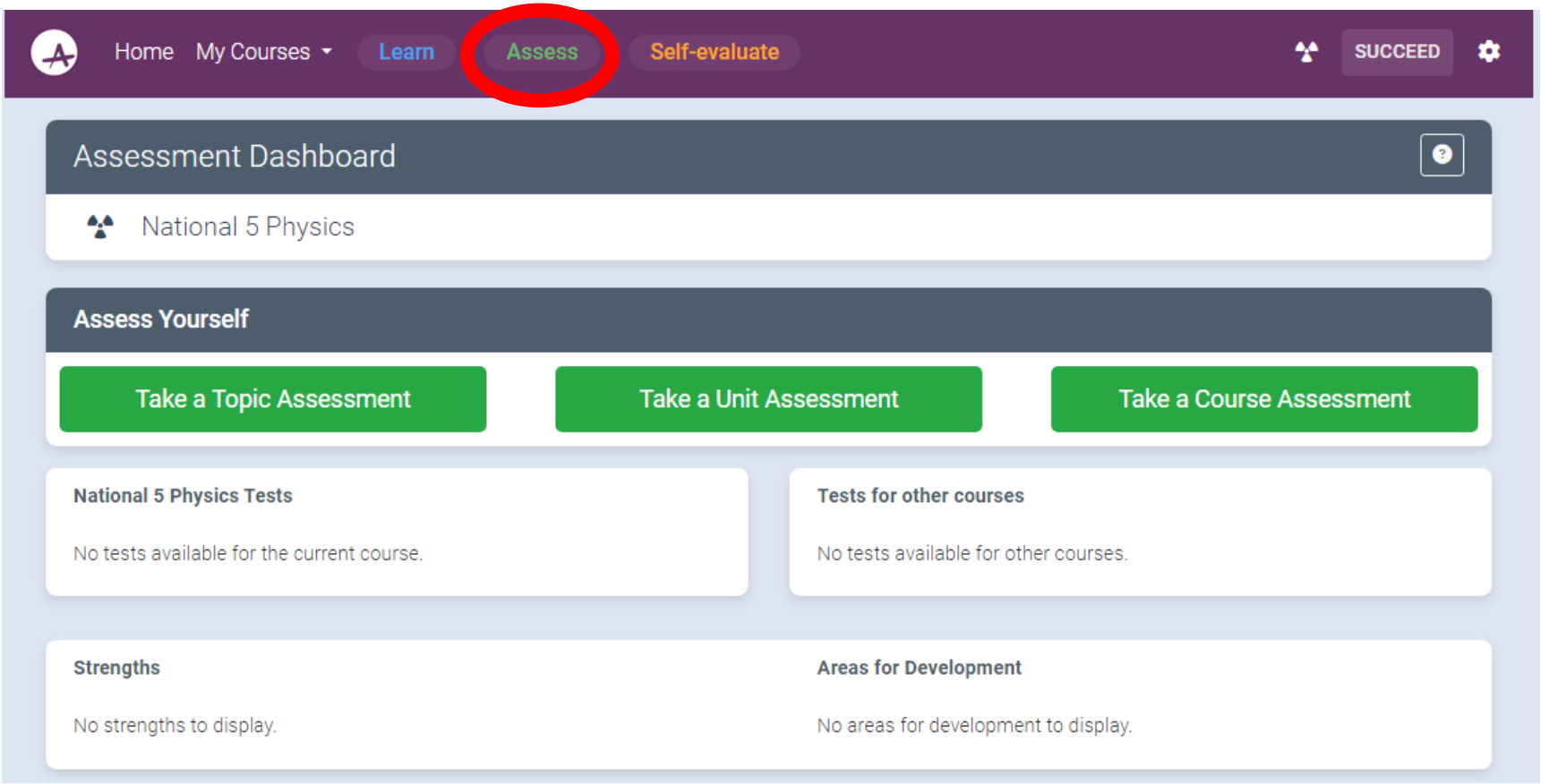
Dynamics | Space | Electricity | Properties of matter | Waves | Radiation

Vectors and scalars

- Distinguish between vector and scalar quantities
- Identify scalars and vector quantities
- Calculate the resultant of two vector quantities in one dimension or at right angles
- Determine displacement and/or distance using a scale diagram or calculation
- Determine velocity and/or speed using scale diagram or calculation
- Solve problems involving velocity, speed, displacement, distance and time
- Describe an experiment to measure average and instantaneous speed

Velocity–time graphs

- Draw velocity–time or speed–time graphs from data
- Interpret a velocity–time graph to describe the motion of an object


Home
My Courses
Learn
Assess
Self-evaluate
SUCCEED
Assessment Dashboard
National 5 Physics
Assess Yourself
Take a Topic Assessment
Take a Unit Assessment
Take a Course Assessment
National 5 Physics Tests
No tests available for the current course.
Tests for other courses
No tests available for other courses.
Strengths
No strengths to display.
Areas for Development
No areas for development to display.

Home My Courses Study Skills Study Tools Help ACHIEVE

Navigating the Exam Year

Understanding the Learning Process

Effective Study Strategies

Motivation and Resilience

Stress Management and Wellbeing

Exam Time

Learner Profile

Flashcards

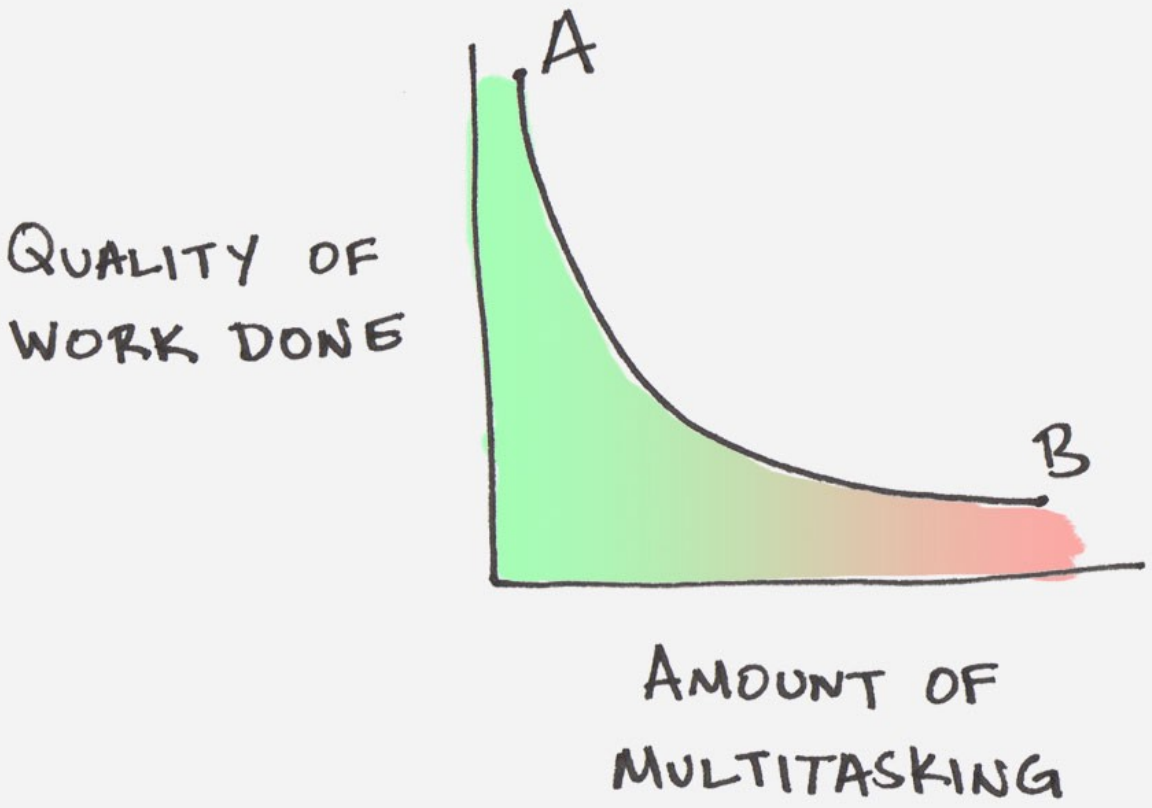
Study Log

Revision Timetable

Journal

Take away the distractions

The Myth of Multitasking



A = Looks simple, but actually gets results.

B = Looks busy, but actually wastes time.

What should I do now?

Organise all resources

Make up a study plan

Start the process NOW!

Create your weekday and weekend plan

Remember: little and often.

Get the balance correct.

SQA Assignments

- Almost all National 5 subjects have an assignment
- Final write-up often completed in class time
- Strict limits on help from Teachers
  - Tutors
  - Parents
  - AI

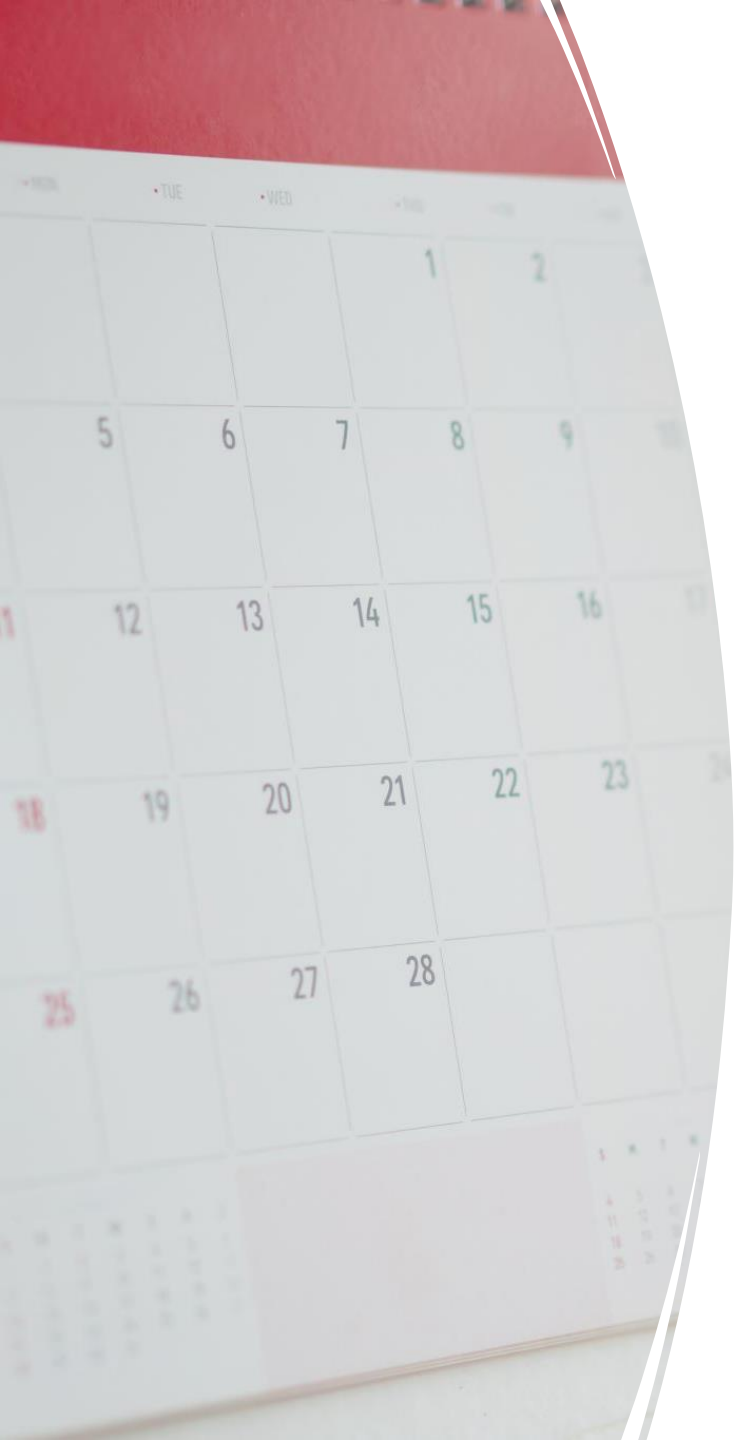
Malpractice

Learners' assessed work must reflect their own knowledge, skills and understanding, demonstrating independent competence. Inappropriate use of GenAI tools may undermine this and mean the learners' assessed work fails to meet the marking criteria.

Additionally, learners must not submit AI-generated outputs or ideas as their own for assessment tasks that contribute towards an SQA qualification. Doing so would constitute malpractice and may result in awards being cancelled.

Assessment Calendar

- Will share when available
  - eg N5 English Set Text Assessment W/B 6 October
- Visiting Examiners
- Additional timed assessments



Supported Study

- Will begin shortly
- After school (3:45pm – 4:45pm)
  OR evening (7pm - 8pm)
- Details will be shared with pupils and emailed home
- Often targeted by invitation only

Additional Arrangements

As per SQA guidelines:

"Assessment arrangements must be considered in the context of ongoing support the learner needs to access teaching and learning. There should be continuity between the learner's need for support in learning and need for support in assessment. Assessment arrangements that are put in place should, where possible, reflect the ongoing support given to the learner in a learning environment."

SQA

Mrs Atkinson will contact parents and carers.

Mock Exams

- Are used to measure progress and identify areas requiring further attention.

- Contribute towards SQA Estimate.

- May be required for Exceptional Circumstances.
  - Where your child is unable to attend an exam or

  - Where your child's performance in an exam may have been affected by a personal circumstance or an unplanned incident **on the day of the exam**.
    SQA

  - Grades are determined by SQA and may differ from pupil expectation.

Exceptional Circumstances

- If the school believes that a candidate has suffered as a result of exceptional circumstances we will inform SQA of the circumstances immediately.

- If SQA agrees that the exceptional circumstances procedure should apply, the school can submit alternative evidence of attainment demonstrated by the candidate, which SQA will consider.

- Unexpected circumstance never before encountered that fundamentally affects ability to perform in the exam.

Valid circumstances

- Recent death of a close family member of friend
- Acute medical condition e.g. appendicitis
- Victim of violent crime
- Attending court
- Error by invigilator or in exam arrangements
- Severe disruption to exam **not compensated**

When?

- Applies only to exams after the circumstance arises and while still valid.
- MUST BE DISCUSSED WITH SQA COORDINATOR AT THE TIME
- Short time limit applicable.

Invalid circumstances

- Minor ailments – cold, hay fever, sore throat.
- Candidate or family member suffering from long-term illness which is unchanged
- Moving house
- Holidays, weddings etc.
- Auditions or trials
- Minor disruption to exam
- Candidate error
  - Not read instructions properly
  - Arrives late and loses time

Appeals

- There will be an appeals service.
- Has changed in past few years so hard to comment on future plans.

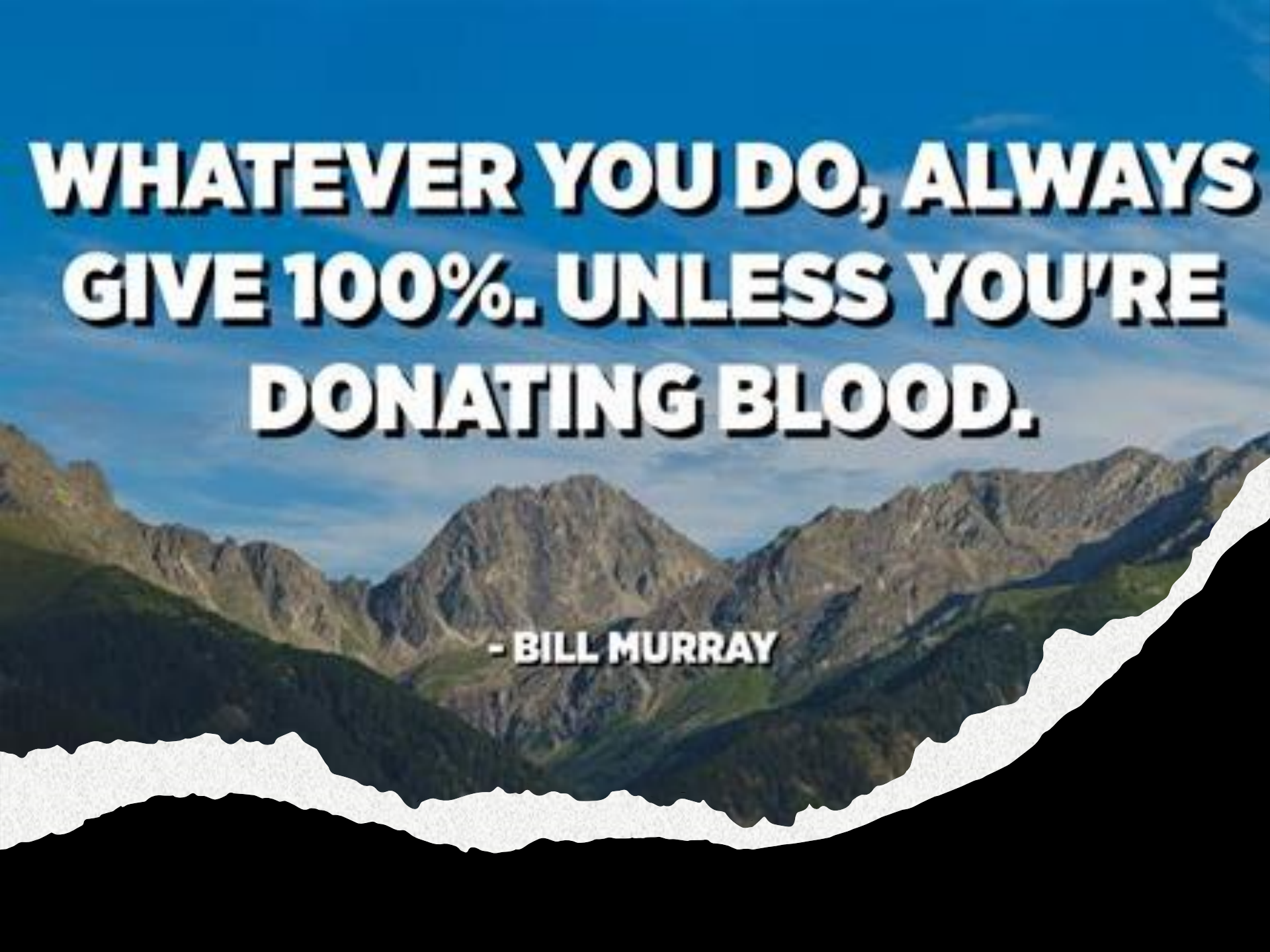
Appeals 2025

- Review of exam.
- Results can remain the same, improve or grades can go down.

Key Events

- Pathways event : 5 November 2025
- S4 Examinations: 17 November – 2 December
- S4 Work Experience: 3 – 5 December
- S4 Reports issued last week of term in December
- Course Choice information available all year round on Pupil page of the website
- S4 Parents' Evening: 8 January 2026
- Course Choice for S5: 16 January 2026
- SQA Examinations: 22 April – 1 June 2026
- Return to school – 29 May 2026 (TBC)
- SQA Results Day: 4 August 2026

My top tips for success this year!


WHATEVER YOU DO, ALWAYS GIVE 100%. UNLESS YOU'RE DONATING BLOOD.
- BILL MURRAY