

# WCSQM Student Character Campaign - Student of the Month

## Student submission form

Student name: Gracie Rolinson    Year group/form: 9    School name: President Kennedy School



### Instructions to teacher/school

Look through the completed sample form for ideas on how your students can prove any of the characteristics.

You can use copies of the form below or the sample form internally to work through the WCSQM characteristics framework with your students in any way you like.

However, to **nominate for Student of the Month** your student only needs to submit ONE characteristic on this form. You complete name etc. above and submit to [info@worldclass-schools.org](mailto:info@worldclass-schools.org) at any time. **Please ensure you have sought full permissions for the information submitted to be shared publicly by WCSQM.**

We are #worldclass **learners** and **leaders** with a **commitment to achieving** the best for our **community** and our best in the **work place**, by acquiring a deep **knowledge and understanding** of our world'



1. I am an **excellent learner, dedicated to life- long learning** because I...

### Characteristics

Description	Evidence
a...understand the importance of learning from mistakes, and build up intellectual and emotional resilience. As a member of the Student Council, I have developed many transferable skills involving emotional and intellectual resilience, particularly	

demonstrated through my problem-solving skills and resilience during our year-wide assembly presentation. For example, I assisted my peers when leading an assembly based on fear and children's mental health, supporting them and covering one of my classmate's roles as they were off school. Additionally, as a team, we overcame various technical difficulties, ensuring there were no barriers to our delivery as we presented our assembly online to students in school and at home.

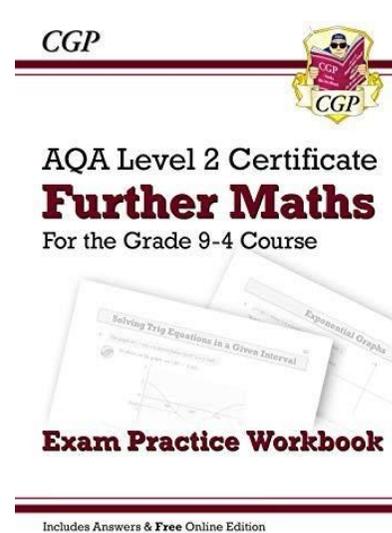
Description of evidence: the power point slide for my presentation on fear



b...exercise intellectual curiosity, and work independently, creatively and inventively

This year, I have expanded my passion for maths through growing the confidence to take my learning into my own hands and maturely ask my teachers for extra challenges and work. Through doing so, I have managed to cover the entire GCSE Further Maths content, a GCSE I wish to pursue in Year 11. Through exploring such a rigorous curriculum, I have evoked motivation, and have expanded leadership roles within the classroom, guiding my peers through extra support. Moreover, I have gained responsibility within my learning and have acquired people skills which I find incredibly useful within my day-to-day life, enabling me to reach my full potential as a World Class Student.

Description of evidence: the workbook I use for my further maths revision

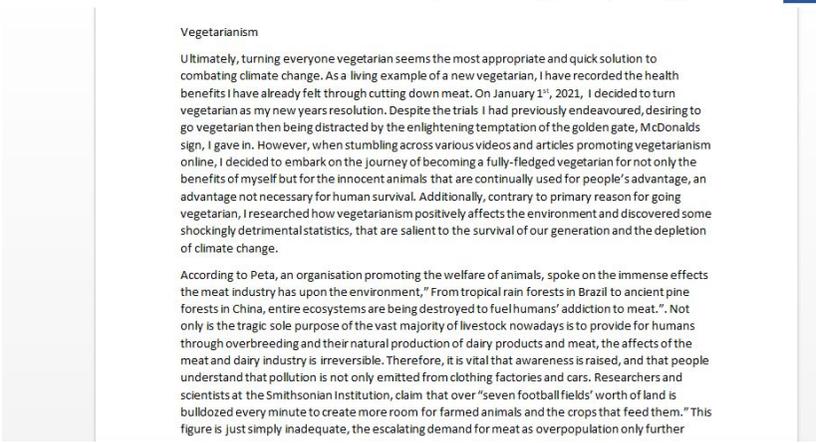
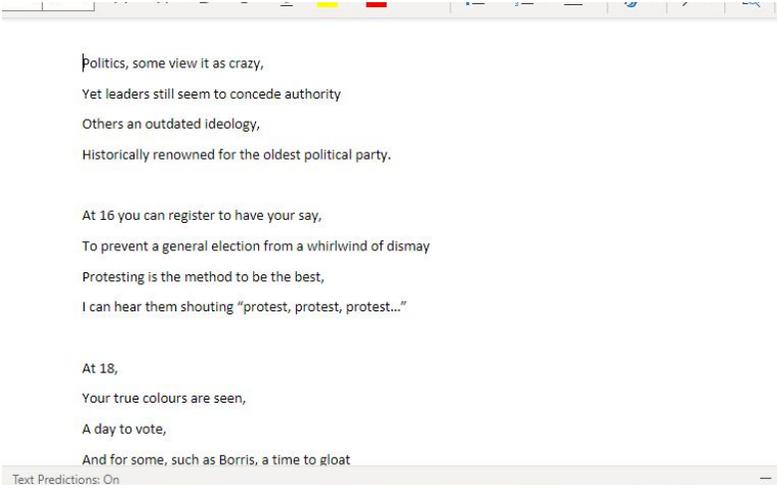


c...demonstrate an entrepreneurial spirit  
 Recently, I have discovered a multitude of work experience opportunities for young people desiring to pursue a career within the medical field of work. Furthermore, I have conducted private research into my chosen ambition of becoming a congenital cardiothoracic surgeon and have begun the Brighton and Sussex Medical School Virtual Work Experience. This opportunity has been especially beneficial to me as it has allowed me to view vital aspects of working in medicine and the reality of such a career, one often subverted through the media. I have truly reached my potential through developing an entrepreneurial mindset, continually looking for self-improvement and adapting to the change. It is imperative, as students, that we continue thriving in a time of such hopelessness, which I feel I have been consistently doing through critical questioning and inquisitiveness.  
 Description of evidence: part of my BSMS virtual work experience course talking about primary and secondary care



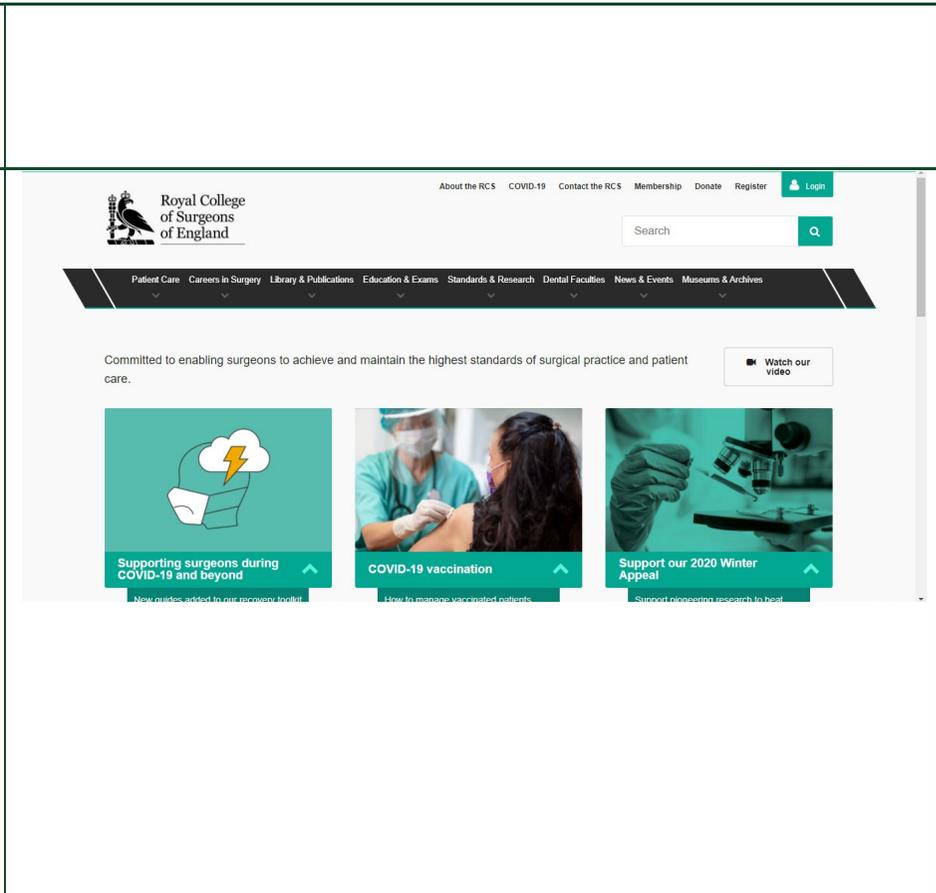
d...reflect on my achievements, revise and improve my ideas.  
 Lockdown has once again given me a time to reflect, despite the various opportunities that have been postponed due to covid-19, I have learned acceptance. Simultaneously, such acceptance has inspired me more so to follow my passions virtually. It was recently announced that the Mock Trial competitions have been cancelled this year, an experience I had prepared for and had a leading role within. I decided to continue my research and take the extra time given as an opportunity to improve my preparations further. Contrastingly, I also embarked upon a journey to learn BSL through the official course. This innovative skill has been a challenge but has merely enlarged my respect for the hard of hearing community, giving me a lifelong communicative skill, I can hopefully use when I become a doctor.



<p>Description of evidence: The Mock Trial brochure delegating my role as prosecution lawyer 1</p>	
<p>e...use strategies for effective learning, such as the ability to memorise, summarise, rephrase and review.</p> <p>At the beginning of this academic year, I worked on an essay for the World Class Quality Mark Competition. The topic I was and still am profoundly opinionated on, that being the state of the education system. Writing this essay enabled me to revisit such salient writing skills, whilst I subconsciously developed my oratorical skills through reading my piece out loud, similarly to how I memorised my speech on Children’s Mental Health for the city-wide Public Speaking competition. The skill of memorisation empowered me to begin writing speeches again, to express my views surrounding the current climate of covid-19 and on issues such as climate change, which I was able to share in my geography class.</p> <p>Description of evidence: my recent research and essay on how vegetarianism benefits climate change</p>	 <p>Vegetarianism</p> <p>Ultimately, turning everyone vegetarian seems the most appropriate and quick solution to combating climate change. As a living example of a new vegetarian, I have recorded the health benefits I have already felt through cutting down meat. On January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021, I decided to turn vegetarian as my new years resolution. Despite the trials I had previously endeavoured, desiring to go vegetarian then being distracted by the enlightening temptation of the golden gate, McDonalds sign, I gave in. However, when stumbling across various videos and articles promoting vegetarianism online, I decided to embark on the journey of becoming a fully-fledged vegetarian for not only the benefits of myself but for the innocent animals that are continually used for people’s advantage, an advantage not necessary for human survival. Additionally, contrary to primary reason for going vegetarian, I researched how vegetarianism positively affects the environment and discovered some shockingly detrimental statistics, that are salient to the survival of our generation and the depletion of climate change.</p> <p>According to Peta, an organisation promoting the welfare of animals, spoke on the immense effects the meat industry has upon the environment, “From tropical rain forests in Brazil to ancient pine forests in China, entire ecosystems are being destroyed to fuel humans’ addiction to meat.”. Not only is the tragic sole purpose of the vast majority of livestock nowadays is to provide for humans through overbreeding and their natural production of dairy products and meat, the affects of the meat and dairy industry is irreversible. Therefore, it is vital that awareness is raised, and that people understand that pollution is not only emitted from clothing factories and cars. Researchers and scientists at the Smithsonian Institution, claim that over “seven football fields’ worth of land is bulldozed every minute to create more room for farmed animals and the crops that feed them.” This figure is just simply inadequate, the escalating demand for meat as overpopulation only further</p>
<p>f...practice reading for enjoyment, accompanied by high levels of critical thinking</p> <p>One of my favourite hobbies is to read for enjoyment, I particularly adore classics by authors such as Jane Austen, Charles Dickens and the Bronte Sisters. Conversely, I have rediscovered my love for poetry and Emily Dickinson’s work which has inspired me to begin writing poetry again. As part of my school’s high attaining programme, Limitless, I submitted a poem based upon corruption within politics, this poem was acknowledged by the leaders of Limitless for its originality. One of my new year’s resolutions was to begin exploring a range of genres when it comes to reading, rather than sticking strictly to classics. Following this decision, I have purchased many medical books and have been enjoying</p>	 <p>Politics, some view it as crazy,  Yet leaders still seem to concede authority  Others an outdated ideology,  Historically renowned for the oldest political party.</p> <p>At 16 you can register to have your say,  To prevent a general election from a whirlwind of dismay  Protesting is the method to be the best,  I can hear them shouting “protest, protest, protest...”</p> <p>At 18,  Your true colours are seen,  A day to vote,  And for some, such as Boris, a time to gloat</p> <p>Text Predictions: On</p>

Adam Kay's realistic view on medicine. I find his books very eye-opening whilst also informative, advancing my subject knowledge.  
Description of evidence: an example of my critical thinking displayed through poetry for my Limitless project

g...am an excellent researcher  
I am dedicated towards researching my future and committed to pursuing as many possible experiences within the industry as possible. I read many medical articles daily to stay updated with new discoveries, I enjoy exploring the Royal College of Surgeons' webpage as well as reading up on medical ethics, looking at NHS core values, the Guidelines on Good Medical Practice and the MSC Core Values to Study medicine. I often watch medical lectures and enjoyed the Unifrog medical lecture as it truly provided an insight into medicine through a first-hand account. Moreover, I listen to many medical podcasts to provide me with knowledge on medical terminology, as well as learning at least one new medical condition a day along with the symptoms, treatment, and lifelong affects. Innovative research into medical case studies and documentaries have also enabled me to expand my knowledge on medicine as well as the first aid I know from my experience at St John's Ambulance as a cadet.  
Description of evidence: my research into the various articles on the Royal College of Surgeons of England webpage



h...am an exceptional learning role model to members of the school community, at all ages, and levels.

This year I entered the WCSQM Essay competition which enabled me to become a member of the World Class Alumni. Being an Alumni member has given me various intriguing opportunities to enrich my CV and my subject knowledge especially my science capital. Through reading several articles published on the Facebook group and to have supportive leaders who are encouraging, they motivate me to be a hard worker and help me to get to my desired destination through the information provided within the groups. Being shortlisted for the WCSQM Competition was an immense opportunity for me, it is a perfect example of my exertion within all aspects of learning. Such effort I wish to continue throughout my learning journey and into higher education, attempting to demonstrate role model qualities toward all students and encouraging all students to pursue their passions through hard work and diligence. Despite the barriers set by covid-19, and that we must keep to our year group bubbles, I have previously interacted with all year groups, presenting a charitable cause of The Purple Community Fund and setting up an appropriate competition, in turn. This project is something I wish to do in future as a member of the Student Council as I have an assembly and presentation prepared for when that can be executed safely, following covid-19 restrictions.

Description of evidence: the WCS Alumni logo

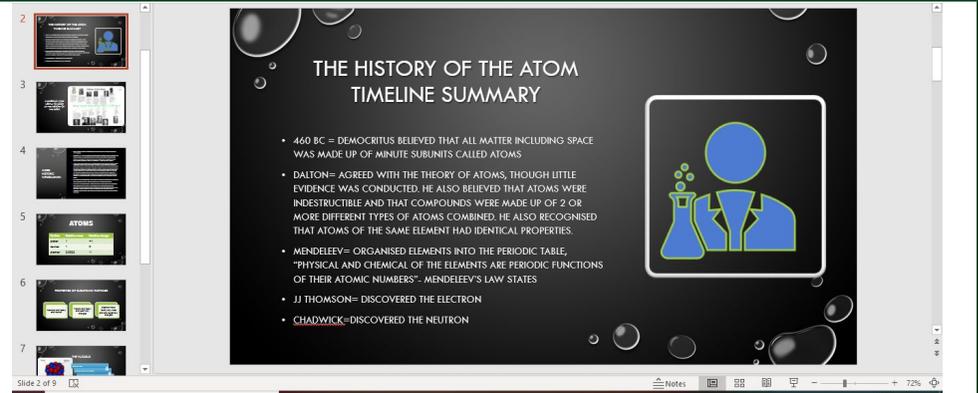


2. I am an **exceptional leader and organiser** because I...

a...inspire, encourage and recognise others

If one of my fellow classmates are struggling within the classroom, I always try to offer my full support, remaining collected and friendly. I have also helped a few of my peers through guiding them in science lessons and tutoring/helping them to revise during selected lunchtimes. I am always a friendly face who tries to do everything they can to recognise my classmates as more than intellectual competitors and to converse with them upon ambitious conversations. Most saliently, being a kind friend to my peers is the most helpful quality one can obtain. Containing the emotional capacity to prioritise encouraging classmates when they are recognised for a specific cause rather than always trying to have the best statistics is a desired trait that I find vital to an optimistic mindset and friendly relationship with peers.

Description of evidence: a power point I made in my spare time to help explain some concepts to my classmates



b...know how to plan effectively

Planning is a skill I use every day to succeed as not only a student but also as a person. Staying organised allows me to have a clear mindset and stay focused on my goals for a longer period of time. During form time, as the student council representative, I often do various presentations which develops my confidence and public speaking skills. This year I have improved my confidence massively, with last year's lockdown, I had hardly had the opportunity to speak publicly which, as a result I was out of practice. Therefore, gaining the opportunity in Year 9 to reengage with a skill I have been passionate about for a long time, I was able to develop my oracy and practical skills when performing.

Description of evidence: the presentation used for Teacher Appreciation Week



c...am efficient

As a student who loves learning, I am rather structured in the way in which I approach my workload. With the recent lockdown, being off school has surprisingly had its advantages and has enabled me to discover myself in a whole other academic aspect. I have taught myself to take control of my learning to ensure I progress appropriately. I have 100% attendance and am always attending opportunities that spark my interest. Additionally, I have completed the entire biology content on Seneca Learning, and I continue to take control of my learning through pursuing past papers and watching informative science videos,  
Description of evidence: My completed GCSE Biology Seneca Course



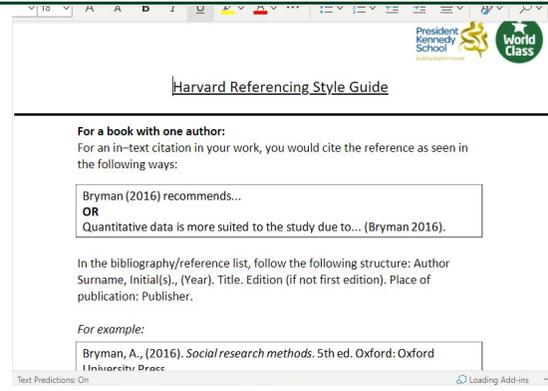
d...am fair, trustworthy and ethical

When debating, I remain composed and professional, considering both sides of the argument and by using my critical thinking and analytical skills I am able to utilise an emotional approach toward topics deemed sensitive. I also balance this emotional viewpoint with professionalism to convey my point in the most intellectual manner. I am a representative in my school for children's mental health and am consistently promoting the awareness of it throughout. I have great relationships with all members of my community and have trustworthy roles within my school leadership titles.

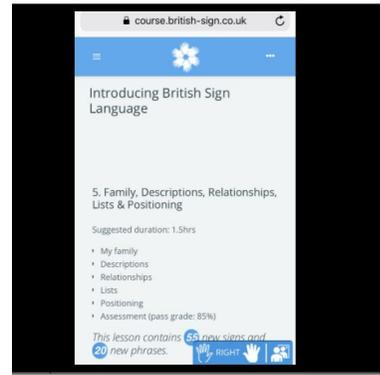
Description of evidence: the different leadership roles I undertake within the school



e...make effective decisions according to reliable evidence  
 When drafting my World Class essay, I have had to think critically about what structure and vocabulary I use. I overcame barriers such as learning how to reference which I had never before tried. When researching into referencing I realised there were several types of referencing. Resultantly, I asked an English teacher for guidance whilst also teaching myself a useful skill of reference variation in prose. This skill is one I have since used many times when writing articles and essays for my English and humanity lessons  
 Description of evidence: the attached referencing guide I used to teach myself



f... set myself goals and targets that enable me to reach my potential  
 Under coronavirus restrictions the Duke of Edinburgh programme has had to adapt, as has the entire world. However, I have recently joined the programme setting myself the target to continue learning BSL and teach others around me such a valuable skill. Skills such as learning sign language are enabling me to expand my communication skills and my adaptability within certain situation, particularly possible emergencies. Setting reachable targets like learning 10 signs a day will eventually build my confidence in sign and support me with my learning journey, aiding my success  
 Description of evidence: My BSL course and the progress I have made so far



**3. I consistently out-perform students from similar contexts, and I am committed to continually improving my performance because I**

a...know how to develop positive relationships with different groups of people  
 As a fire cadet, I am adaptable in various situations, in my group, we are aware of timing and when it is appropriate to be sensible, especially during dangerous drills where safety is vital. Recently, the meetings have been on zoom which has broadened my IT skills and has enabled me to grow the confidence to speak online, which I had before been rather anxious about. I have learnt a variety of people skills through the education of many cultures and discovering new people from a range of different backgrounds and beliefs. Through experiencing such diversity in groups such as in school, Fire Cadets and St John's Ambulance, I am reminded of the multicultural, accepting society we now live in, and the fortune of such a democracy most times. This recognition inspires me to identify injustice within society and be passionate particularly in my English Lessons based on Social Injustice  
 Description of evidence: a leaflet for St John's Ambulance a charity I am a part of



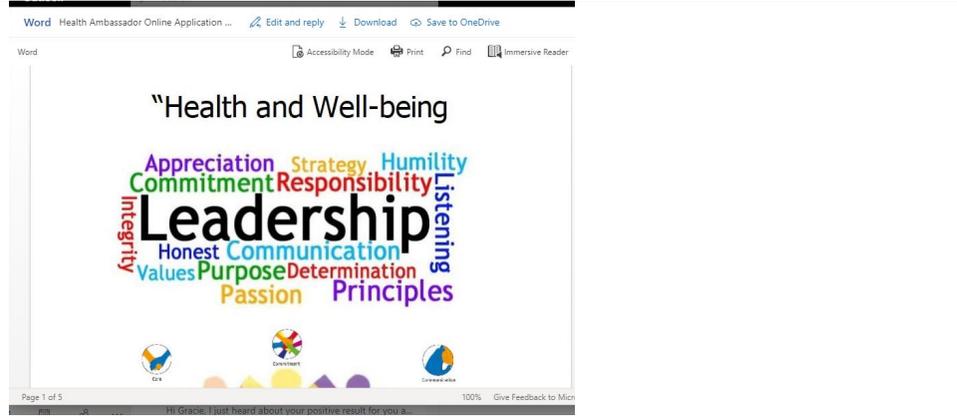
**How to do CPR on an adult**



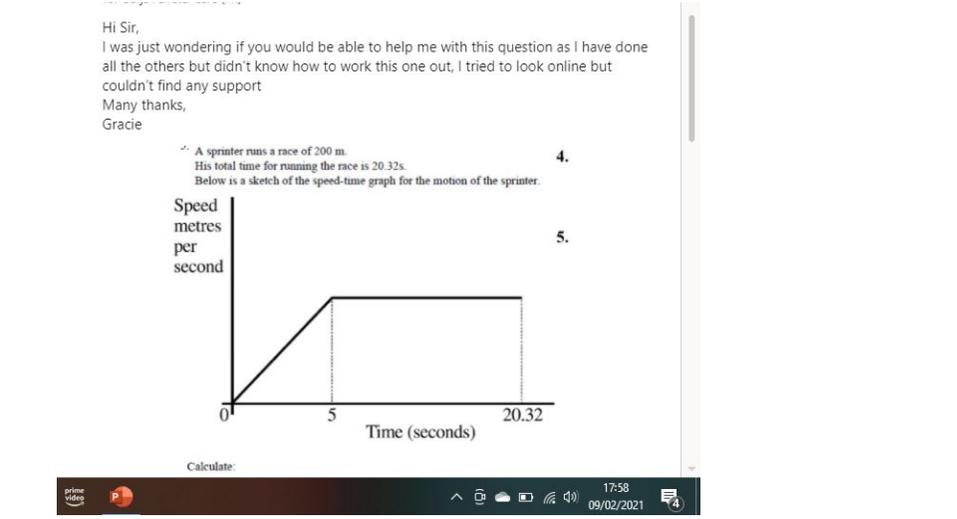
b...achieve my potential and overcome obstacles  
 Within Fire Cadets I have overcome obstacles when doing ladder drills which I was before rather anxious about doing, however with teamwork and resilience I successfully overcame these barriers. Similarly, in my academic life, I set targets in my learning and overcome challenges through acknowledging the right times to ask for support and knowing my limits to work overload which is a necessity with the rising screen time of home learning  
 Description of evidence: the fire cadets logo



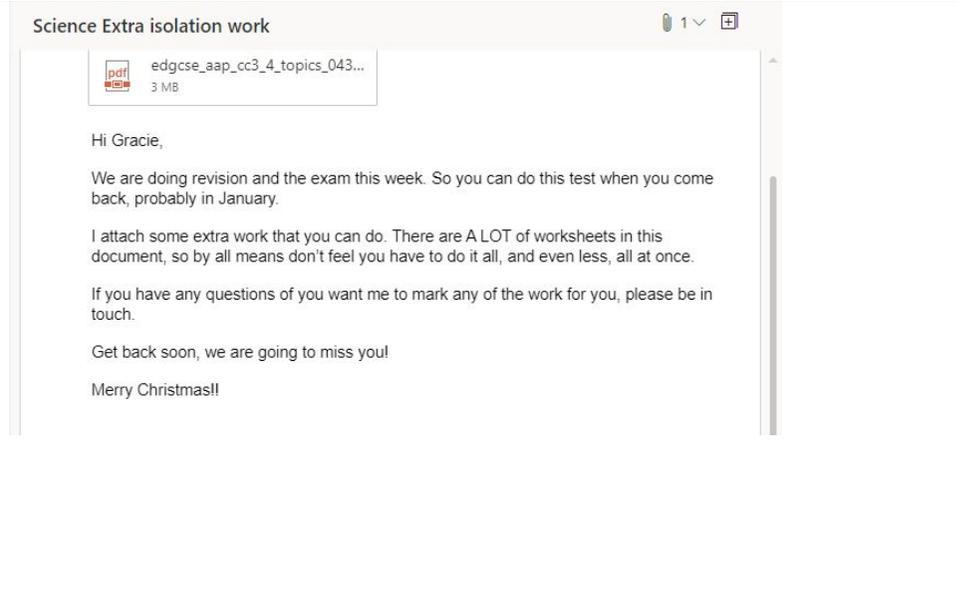
c...have an area of expertise or specialism  
 My science teacher acknowledged my strengths within the field of science and I have had many conversations with all my teachers about my future ambitions. One of my science teachers recognised my ambition and passed my email onto a teacher that arranges NHS events. From this contact, I have used my networking skills to apply to be a health ambassador for my school, raising awareness of healthcare and mental health.  
 Description of evidence: My health ambassador application form



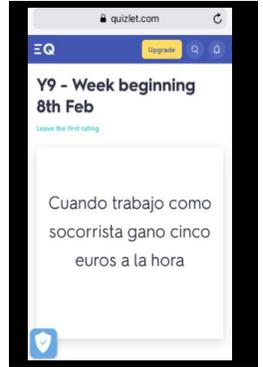
d...can demonstrate methods and tools of continual improvement  
 I am continuing to set achievable targets and reach out to my teachers for advice when necessary, here is a screenshot of a recent email I sent to one of my science teachers regarding my understanding of a particular question. When I caught covid-19 in December, I had to self-isolate until my Christmas break which had the potential to have a detrimental gap in my academic development. However, with emails and friendly relationships with my classmates and support system, I was able to ensure my learning continued to flourish, despite feeling relatively ill with the virus.  
 Description of evidence: A screenshot of my email to my science teacher to clarify any misconceptions in my learning



e...am agile in response to changing needs and circumstances  
 Due to my underlying health condition of psoriasis and the fact that I am taking an immunosuppressant medication to battle my skin condition, it made me increasingly vulnerable to catching covid-19. Therefore, in mid-December when I received the positive test result, I was not surprised in the slightest. However, when I began to develop moderate symptoms and felt a lack of motivation and nausea, it was vital to prioritise my physical health. The important notion for me was regaining motivation whilst dealing with long covid symptoms and covid-19 itself, I decided to not stop working and furthering my at-home education. It was key to keep communication a prominent theme of my self-isolation, I emailed many of my teachers, taking control of my learning, to ensure I do not miss out on any content or understanding  
 Description of evidence: an email in response to asking for extra work, with a GCSE guide attached



f...want to improve my learning continually  
 I have an ideal work ethic, I am organised and determined to succeed in all I do. I have conducted in-depth research into my chosen options and often look at the exam boards for each subject. Additionally, I continue to work through specifications and create my own quizlet sets or find informative quizlet sets online, particularly in Spanish, where I can self-teach complicated translations  
 Description of evidence: an extra Quizlet class I have participated in



 4. I am an active participant in my school, local or relevant communities because I ...

a...ensure I am accountable for my performance

b...have a balanced approach to satisfying a range of interested parties with conflicting demands	
c...measure the impact of what I do, and change my actions accordingly	
d...communicate effectively	
e...make sure the objectives of any activity I carry out are understood and accepted by the community I am serving	
f...research and understand what the community I am serving needs	
g...am totally committed to and engaged with the community I am serving	
h...make sure the community I serve are able freely to share, and actively seek, opportunities to enhance their own competence, knowledge and experience	

 **5. I am the best candidate in my field for higher education and/or employment because I ...**

a...have high quality work experience	
b...have involvement in partnerships with business and public organisations, locally, nationally and internationally	
c...have worked with, and learned from individuals, among the best in their field, with appropriate local, national, and international experience.	
d...have exceptionally well developed skills of collaboration	
e...am highly employable	
f...have developed skills in languages and/or an understanding of global issues	

 **6. I am highly literate scientifically, mathematically, technologically and culturally because I...**

a...have an awareness of how science, mathematics and technology shape our environment	
b...make well-founded mathematical judgements	
c...identify and understand the role that mathematics plays in the world	
d...successfully take the initiative to develop innovative school-based or external technological systems and processes	
f...am willing to engage in science-, mathematical- and technology-related issues, as a reflective citizen	
g...have been exposed to a breadth of texts which develop my general knowledge	
h...appreciate the systems of beliefs, values, attitudes, customs, institutions and social relations relevant to global developments and am able to treat all people respectfully and in a suitable manner appropriate to their culture	