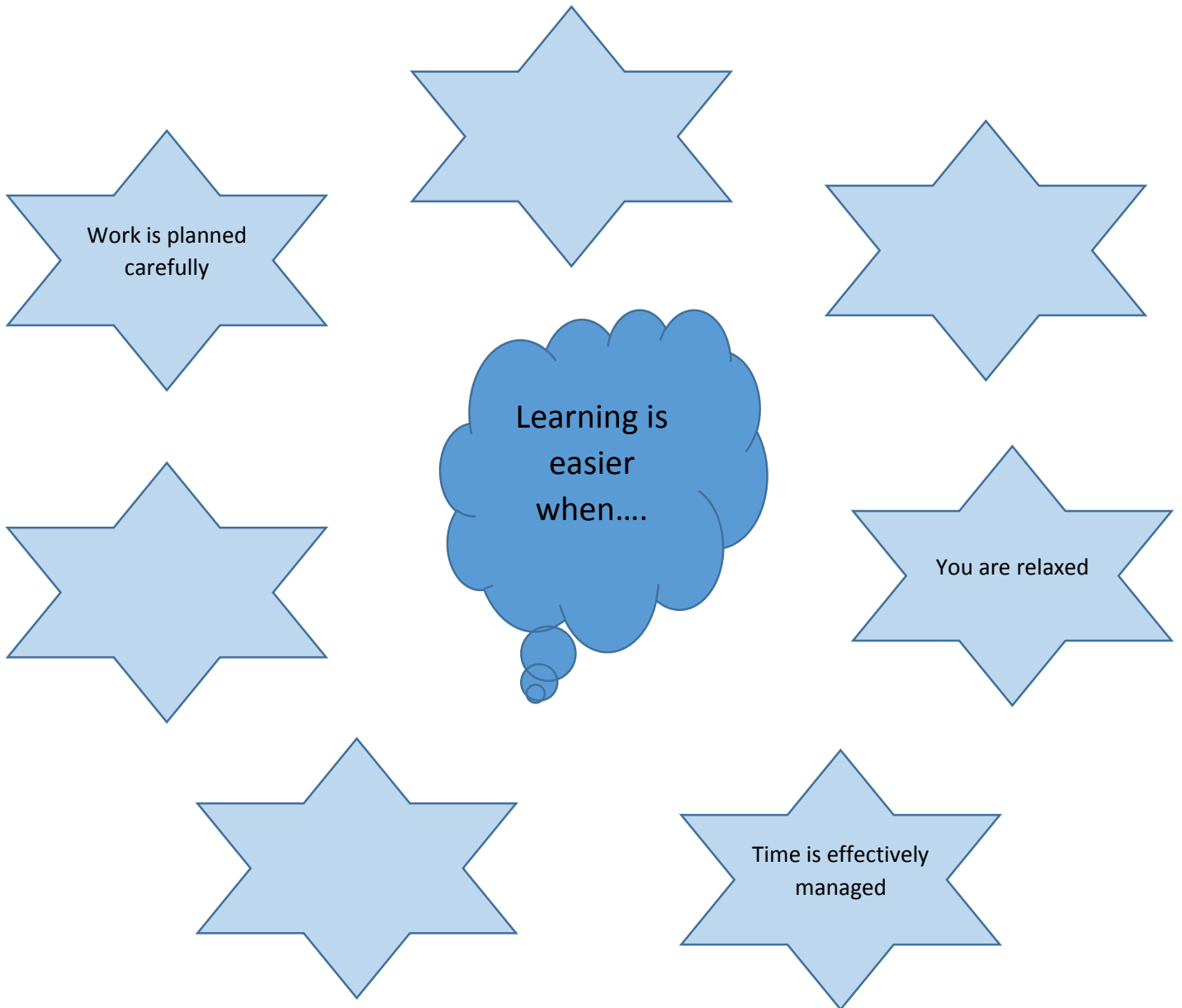


1

Getting Started

Effective Learning

Your ability to learn can be affected by many factors. Fill in the spaces with what helps you learn.



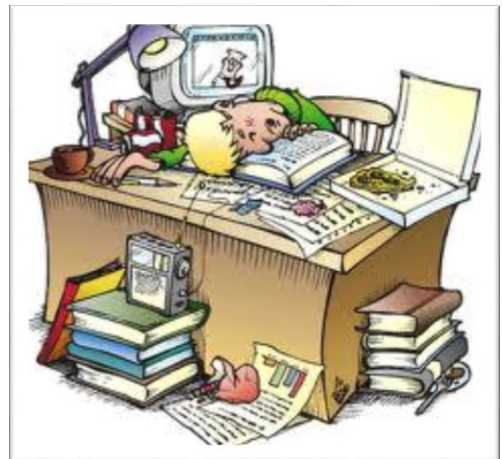
Study Environment

Creating the right study environment

Find a quiet place where you can leave your notes etc. and come back to them. This area should have a table or desk and a comfortable chair. The area you choose should be well lit and warm. Make sure you keep your study environment tidy with no distractions.

List what distracts you from studying to remember to put them away.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.
- 7.
- 8.



Keep all your study things together and ensure all notes are well organised.



If you prefer to listen to music when revising, ensure it's not too distracting.



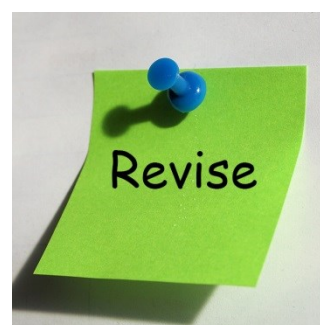
Equipment

You will need the following:

1. A4 lined paper
2. Folders
3. A3 paper for posters and mind maps
4. Felt tips or coloured pencils
5. Highlighters and post-it notes



6. Pens and pencils
7. School notes and books
8. School text books
9. Subject specific equipment
10. Revision Timetable



Equipment you have	Equipment you need



Revision Timetable

Making a revision timetable takes time, but it's a very important part of revision – it means having to make a lot of decisions about how you are going to spend your time. It helps to be as realistic as possible when you plan. Make a plan that fits with your likes/dislikes, not something so ambitious that it is bound to fail.

Remember to:

- Allocate a time to complete homework
- Don't try to cover too much too fast – be realistic, small chunks are best
- Plan which topics you will study on which days
- List tasks involved (checking notes, check feedback in books, plan for a 12 mark question)
- Build in definite breaks – and when they finish
- Keep half and whole days when you don't revise – so they are available for emergencies

Benefits of using a revision timetable:

- Helps to organise and break down revision into manageable chunks
- Encourages regular and effective revision
- Opportunity to set small achievable targets
- Allows pupils to record weaker subject areas and address them with revision
- Gives student a work/ life balance
- Allows your parent(s)/carer(s) to stay updated with your revision

Useful links to help you create your revision timetable online for free.

<https://getrevising.co.uk/planner>

<https://revisionworld.com/create-revision-timetable>

<https://www.goconqr.com/en/revision-timetable/>

Revision Timetable

You could also make your own revision timetable.






You need to:

- Highlight and colour block sections.
- Include essential breaks when revising for example: plan to do 45-60 minutes of revision and then allow yourself a 5-10 minute break
- Prioritise your revision by the order of your exams, class assessments etc. Start with your closest exam/class assessment or a subject you struggle with.
- Think about when you work best morning, afternoon or evening and use this time effectively for revision
- Make to do lists to help you stay on track.
- Make time for fun, relax, as this will help you meet your revision goals within your set timeframes.
- If there is something you don't understand or are struggling with, ask your teacher.

If you need help creating your own revision timetable or want a teacher to check yours then speak to your subject teacher or Form Tutor for advice.

Learning Style - VAK

		
<p>Visual thinkers will tend to use and respond to terms such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I get the picture • I see that now • From my perspective • What's your view? 	<p>Auditory thinkers will tend to use and respond to terms such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I get the message • That rings a bell • That strikes a chord • Sounds OK to me 	<p>Kinaesthetic thinkers will tend to use & respond to terms such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How does that grab you? • A grasp of the basics • It certainly feels right • I can relate to that
Visual Learning Techniques	Auditory Learning Techniques	Kinaesthetic Learning Techniques
<p>Use coloured highlighter pens to mark your revision notes. You should identify key words (these may be names, dates, places, etc.) You could even use different colours for different types of information.</p> <p>In the margins of your subject note-book, draw sketches or cartoons that relate to that particular topic or paragraph. These will not only help you to locate that particular section but will also make it more memorable.</p> <p>Learn to MindMap</p> <p>Pay attention to the layout of your revision notes. You might find it useful to use flow-charts (in science, history, English and other subjects to keep track of events) or diagrams (in science, geography, maths and other subjects.)</p> <p>Use the "Roman Room" memory system</p>	<p>You might find it helpful to play soothing music as you revise. Experts suggest that some types of music (particularly that with a tempo of 58-60 beats per minute) can help to generate relaxed-but-alert Beta brain-waves - which can help you learn more effectively. However, music at a faster tempo or music with a strong lyric can have a distracting effect.</p> <p>Record key points on tape and play them over, especially just before going to sleep.</p> <p>Having identified key points from your revision notes, try making these into a rhyme, rap or song. This will make them more memorable.</p> <p>Explain what you have learned to someone else, perhaps to your parents. They usually go on about how important it is to revise properly - so why shouldn't they suffer as well!</p>	<p>Learn the "Body-pegs" memory technique and use it to learn key points.</p> <p>Use the "Sticky-notes" memory technique.</p>

If you want to take the VAK quiz to find out your learning style, make sure you attend a Homework Workshop to take the quiz.

Homework Workshops take place every Wednesday at 8:45 a.m. in room 34.

Revision Techniques – Mind Maps

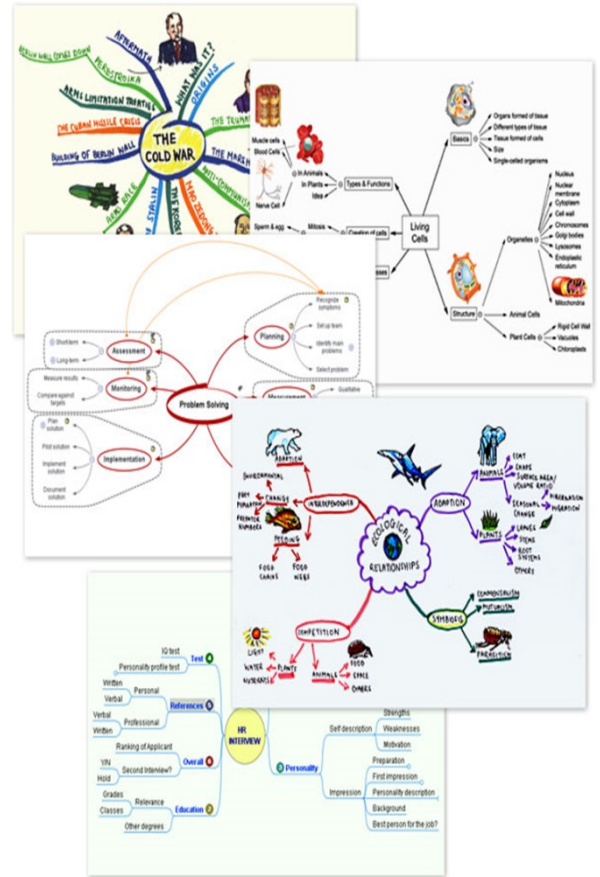
A mind map is a way of getting a lot of information down onto one piece of paper. It allows you to revise from a single sheet of information, **rather than reading** pages and pages of a textbook.

Mind maps can be drawn **by hand or done on the computer**. They can be made up of words, pictures, or a mixture of both, depending on your learning style.

Whilst making the mind map, **you are revising**. Your brain is being forced to take out the key ideas and sift through the things that you don't really need.

By **making the mind map yourself**, you are more likely to remember the information, rather than someone telling you what to write.

You will organise the information how you want on the mind map. This **helps your brain to remember key ideas** because the mind map is a visual reflection of what is happening in your mind- not anyone else's.



Revision Techniques – Index Cards

Index cards can be used in different ways, depending on the information you are trying to learn.

1. They can be used to **break down information** into smaller chunks to be learnt one card at a time. This is ideal for learning your **speaking or writing controlled assessments** in French/Spanish/German. This allows the brain to concentrate on small sections of information at a time- almost kidding the brain into thinking there is less to learn. This technique only works if you have a **period of time** in which to learn the information, i.e. 7 nights. Type up the piece of work you are needing to learn, divide it into 7 sections, print it off and make a booklet of cards- **one to learn per evening**.

2. They can be used to **remember a list of information**.

- **Read** the whole piece of work/topic in a textbook/section of your class book/novel
- Decide which bits are the **important bits**- key ideas, key quotes- make notes as you go along, or use a highlighter
- Each index card should only have **one topic** on it e.g.-The character of George in 'Of mice and men' (English) or 'The end of world war one' (History)
- Make a **numbered list** on the index card of everything you need to remember about that topic/character
- Try to **make the points link together**- this will help you remember them in an exam situation e.g. if the first quote you write is to do with Lennie's obsession with the rabbits, make your second quote in your list be about George's feelings about wanting to live alone.



3. Use the **first letter** of each idea to **create a word** that will help you remember a series of linked information e.g. Terms of the treaty of Versailles; **TRAGAL**

T erritories

R eparations

A rmy

G uilt

A nschluss

L eague of nations

TERMS OF THE TREATY OF VERSAILLES	
T- Territories-	Alsace-Lorraine was given to France with chunks of West Prussia
R- Reparations-	compensation for the damage caused £6600
A-Army-	limited to 100,000 men. Conscription banned
G- Guilt clause-	Article 231 to take blame for the start of the war
A-Anschluss-	A union between Austria and Germany was forbidden
L-League of nations-	An international police force to keep peace

Revision Techniques – Memory Techniques

To learn (and remember) things quickly and effectively we can use techniques to help us memorise things.

1. First letter mnemonics

These are most often used in order to remember a **list**.

A famous example is “*Richard of York Gave Battle In Vain*” to remember the order of the colours of the rainbow.

Another example is: “*My Very Educated Mother Just Served Us Nachos*” where each of the first letters matches the name of the planets in our solar system (Mercury, Venus, Earth, Mars, Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, and Neptune).



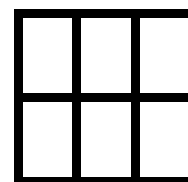
	Mercury	My
	Venus	Very
	Earth	Easy
	Mars	Method
	Jupiter	Just
	Saturn	Speeds
	Uranus	Up
	Neptune	Naming
	Pluto*	Planets

You can use this technique in your study/revision to help remember quotes/lists etc.

2. Chunking

This is grouping items or information together into memorable chunks. This allows you to remember more easily and to link the smaller chunks to larger topics.

- Break your work down into sentence ‘chunks’
- Take one paragraph and count the number of sentences
- Draw that number of boxes onto a page
- Write each sentence into a box from left to right
- Look at the first sentence in your notes and read it out loud. Then, close your eyes and say (‘seeing the words in your mind’) or ‘air write’ the sentence without looking at it
- Repeat the step above, this time with the first **2** sentences
- Next, try it with **3** sentences. Then **4**. Repeat until you have (mostly) memorised the first paragraph
- You can put a picture in each box instead of any words
- Try to use colourful, humorous images to link to the idea of the sentence



3. Repetition

This is a simple method. Just repeat the information over and over. It will sink in eventually. You can record yourself and listen to the audio.



4. Linking

This involves linking words or topics to things around you. For example you could link a topic to a song, a person or even a piece of furniture. The idea is that it triggers your brain to remembering the topic when you see the item you linked it to.



5. The Journey Method – Roman Room

This technique is used to remember the order of something.

The idea is based on landmarks on a well-known (to you) journey and linking them to the facts you want to remember.

The journey could be your journey to school, the route you use to get to your front door in the morning or a tour around a holiday destination you know well. It could even be a journey around a computer game.

The Roman Road Method:

- Mentally picture a room in your house and select several items in it e.g. if you choose your bedroom and mentally in that room picture your bed, your lamp, your PC, your wardrobe etc.
- Then mentally place your sentences on / in / under / next to these places in your room - remember that the more unusual you can make these connections the better - you can use images to help you remember your sentences too.
- Mentally you can then walk around your room reciting your text
- The items in your room act as prompts for each sentence and the route you take around the room helps you form your whole text.
- At home you can physically put post-its with your sentences on these items of furniture and walk your route using a different room for each question



6. Mems/ Visual Memory Aid

How do they work?

Mems aim to link dull facts together by using exaggerated stories/images and usually involve a play on words.

E.g. Plant and animal cells all have **cytoplasm**, a cell **membrane** and a **nucleus**. If you learn these without using a memory technique - the facts would be unlikely to sink in, it would take a long time to memorise and the facts wouldn't stay in your long term memory.

However, if we create a mem e.g. **Animal** from The Muppet Show is holding a **plant** in one hand, and Homer Simpson's **brain** in the other. He is standing on a building **site** and a **nuclear** bomb goes off. We can use the words in the exaggerated, vivid, visual image and link them with the facts we need to remember.

Animal + Plant

Brain = cell membrane

Site = cytoplasm

Nuclear = nucleus



Mems are very useful for remembering vocab when learning a foreign language.

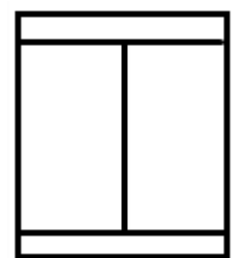
E.g. in French l'affiche = poster



7. Keywords and/or pictures

Using keywords or pictures can prompt you to remember sentences.

- Take a piece of paper and split in half.
- At the top is the topic and on the left is your answer broken down into sentences or chunks
- On the right hand side you write key words or draw pictures to prompt your response
- When ready, cover the left side and use the right to help you recite the text



If you like to use post-its notes, you could:

- Prepare some helpful revision keywords, then write each keyword on a post-it – maybe with a drawing and the explanation on the back.
- Stick these round your room or on your stairs.
- Now walk around and test yourself to say what each keyword means by saying it and checking the back of the post-it note.
- When correct, right take them down leaving the difficult ones up for you to revisit later.

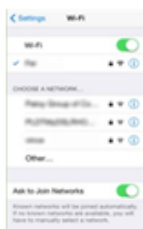


Revision Apps

Here's a list of 10 useful revision apps:

- Revision App - Android and iOS, Free
- Exam Countdown - Android and iOS, Free
- Exam Buddy - Android and iOS, £1.19
- Remember The Milk - Android and iOS, Free
- imindmap - Android and iOS, Free
- Oxford A Z Of Grammar And Punctuation - Android and iOS, £8.49
- Exam Countdown - iOS, Free
- Penultimate - iOS, Free
- Dropbox - Android and iOS, Free
- GCSE Maths: Revision Questions - iOS, Free
- Google Documents - Android and iOS, free

How to download an app in 8 easy steps.



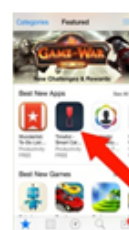
1-Connect to the internet/Wi-Fi.



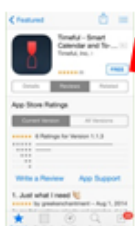
2-Press the 'App Store' Button.



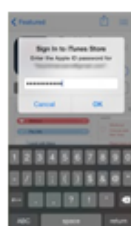
3-Search for the app you would like.



4-Once you have found the app you would like, click on it.



5-At the top of the screen there is a little button, it will either say FREE or a price.



6- A box will appear asking you to type in your iTunes password.



7-On the home screen you will see your app downloading.



8-Once this is done, you may use the app.

Top Ten Revision Tips

1. Short bursts of revision (30-40 minutes) are most effective. Your concentration lapses after about an hour and you need to take a short break (5-10 minutes).

2. Find a quiet place to revise- your bedroom, school, the library, and refuse to be interrupted or distracted.

3. Make sure you don't just revise the subjects and topics you like. Work on your weaker ones as well.

4. Make your own revision notes because you will remember what you have written down more easily. Stick key notes to cupboards or doors so you see them every day.



5. Rewrite the key points of your revision notes; read them out loud to yourself. We remember more than twice as much of what we say out loud than of what we merely read.

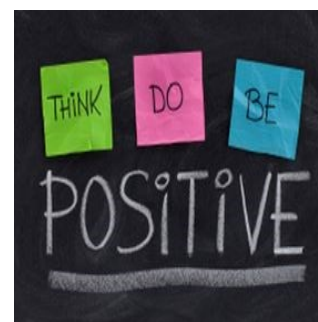
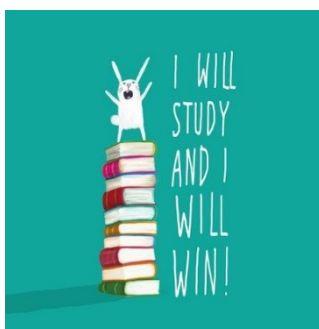
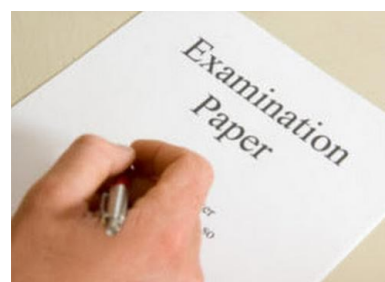
6. Use different techniques. Make your own learning maps, use post-it notes to write key words on, create flashcards. Record your notes on a podcast and listen to them on your iPod. Ask friends and family to test you. Use highlighter pens to mark important points. Chant or make up a rap song.

7. Practise on past exam papers or revision tests available on the web. Initially do one section at a time and progress to doing an entire paper against the clock.

8. You will need help at some stage; ask parents, siblings, teachers or friends. Use websites specifically designed for revision.

9. Don't get stressed out! Eat properly and get lots of sleep!

10. Believe in yourself and be positive. If you think you can succeed you will; if you convince yourself that you will fail, that's what will probably happen.



Subject Specific Revision



Subject Specific Revision

For each subject, your teacher has suggested a range of revision strategies to help you excel in that subject. They have also included the types of homework that will be set, names of textbooks/wider reading options and useful websites for each subject.

Contents

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Physical Education	27
Science	28
Spanish	29

ART

Subject Leader: Mrs Shaw

Subject Teacher: Mrs Shaw

Homework

Homework is set in accordance with school policy. Homework for Art will include: research – collecting images, investigating artists and completing written evaluations.

Subject Specific Strategies for Success:

Step 1: Research

- ✓ Research should be relevant to the current topic
- ✓ Presentation of work is extremely important
- ✓ Pupils are encouraged to take their own photographs rather than rely solely on secondary sources

Step 2: Visual Recording- Exploring materials

Visual Recording may take the form of:

- ✓ Drawing with a variety of 2D materials
- ✓ Painting with variety of different types of paint
- ✓ Photography
- ✓ Print-making
- ✓ Collage
- ✓ Mixed-media
- ✓ 3D forms

Key strengths: control of materials, ability to select appropriate materials/ techniques to create desired effect.

Step 3: Developing own imaginative idea

- ✓ Ensure final piece is meaningfully informed by artists/ research
- ✓ Produce an original, imaginative conclusion to the project
- ✓ Ensure materials/ layout/ composition have been carefully considered

Strategies for increasing accuracy observing shape

- ✓ Examine shape of both positive and negative space
- ✓ Use gridlines – section work

Useful Websites:

‘Pinterest’ – pupils can choose to follow my ‘Mrs Shaw’ boards which have useful resources for their individual topics.

The ‘Student Art Guide’ also provides useful resources,

How can parents help?

Parents can support their children by monitoring the completion of homework.

Workshop

Trips to Walsall Art Gallery will take place during their usual Art lesson times where possible.

Pupils will take part in a one-day practical workshop during the spring term.

BUSINESS

Subject Leader: Mrs Jones

Subject Teachers: Mrs Jones and Mrs Odunjo

Homework

Homework is set in accordance with the school policy and is set once a week for Business Studies. The range of tasks include:

- Theory tasks on content covered in lesson.
- Case studies (to read from the textbook or provided by Mrs Jones).
- Completing a range of exam style questions based on lessons.
- Revision for half termly assessments and mock examinations.

Subject Specific Strategies for Revising:

- Determine what knowledge is secure and what knowledge needs to be reviewed by using the checklist in the front of your Business Studies revision guide.
- Create a plan from the knowledge where you are unsure (use Mrs Jones's personalised revision plan if we have completed this in lesson).
- Create a mind map for each topic and learn definitions of keywords by getting a friend/parent/guardian/sibling to test you.
- Make revision cards on different coloured card for each topic.
- Learn formulas from Unit 5- you will be tested on these without the use of a calculator.
- Complete the Bitesize tests on each section of the KS4 OCR Business Studies topic pages.
- Use your revision guide to practice exam style questions.
- Revise with your test buddy. Take turns preparing revision lessons for each other.

Textbooks

- Pupils have been provided with a textbook. The textbook used in lessons is OCR GCSE (9-1) Business, third edition.
- As well as this, pupils have been provided with OCR GCSE (9-1) Business: My revision notes. This summarises the textbook and lessons and provides GCSE exam style questions which are used for homework.

Wider Reading: Books, Articles, Journals

- BBC News- Business (and other business related headlines)
- BBC Bitesize- OCR GCSE 9-1 Business Studies
- Case studies provided both in the textbook and revision book.

Useful Websites:

- BBC News- Business (and other business related headlines)
- BBC Bitesize- OCR GCSE 9-1 Business Studies
- Case studies provided both in the textbook and revision book.

How can parents help?

- Monitoring the completion of homework.
- Timing exam questions to ensure completion under timed conditions
- Use pupils created flashcards/ revision book to test pupil knowledge
- Discuss the news and ask questions business related about this.
- Once mock exams/ assessments have been returned, discuss with your child where they could improve and how they would do this.

COMPUTER SCIENCE

Subject Leader: Mrs Jones

Subject Teachers: Mrs Jones, Mr Walker and Mr Dhabda

Homework

Homework is set in accordance with the school policy and is set once a week for Computer Science. The range of tasks include:

- Theory tasks on content covered in lesson.
- Completing a range of exam style questions based on lessons.
- Revision for half termly assessments and mock examinations.

Subject Specific Strategies for Revising:

- Determine what knowledge is secure and what knowledge needs to be reviewed.
- Create a plan from the knowledge where you are unsure (use Mrs Jones's personalised revision plan if we have completed this in lesson).
- Utilise the flashcards provided and ask a friend/parent/guardian/sibling to test you.
- Draw diagrams for each computer process.
- Complete the Bitesize tests on each section of the KS4 OCR Computer Science topic pages.
- Create a mind map for each topic and learn definitions of keywords by getting a friend/parent/guardian/sibling to test you.
- Make revision cards on different coloured card for each topic.
- Use your revision guide to practice exam style questions.

Textbooks

- PG Online Computer Science (9-1) provided to pupils.
- As well as this, pupils have been provided with OCR GCSE (9-1) Business: My revision notes. This summarises the textbook and lessons and provides GCSE exam style questions which are used for homework.

Wider Reading: Books, Articles, Journals

- Python programming
- Code Academy
- BBC Bitesize – OCR GCSE 9-1 Computer Science

Useful Websites:

- Python programming
- Code Academy
- BBC Bitesize – OCR GCSE 9-1 Computer Science

How can parents help?

- Monitoring the completion of homework.
- Timing exam questions to ensure completion under timed conditions
- Use pupils created flashcards/ revision book to test pupil knowledge
- Discuss the news and ask questions business related about this.
- Once mock exams/ assessments have been returned, discuss with your child where they could improve and how they would do this.

DRAMA

Subject Leader: Miss Waite

Subject Teacher: Miss Waite

Homework

Homework is set in accordance with school policy – Typical homework will include: independent research; extended answers/essays; memorising plays/lines/scripts; preparatory reading of lines/scripts.

Subject Specific Strategies for Revising:

- Make flashcards to learn subject terminology and definitions.
- Learn definitions of keywords by getting a friend/parent/guardian/sibling to test you.
- Mind maps are useful when studying characters or themes.
- Rehearse lines by getting a friend/parent/guardian/sibling to test you.
- Watch, where possible, different forms of drama and make notes exploring styles, genres and practitioners.
- Make revision cards on different coloured cards for each topic.
- Revise with your test buddy. Take turns preparing revision lessons for each other.

Textbooks

- Set play texts.

Wider Reading: Books, Articles, Journals

- Read newspaper reviews of theatre, film and television.
- Wide reading will improve descriptive and essay writing skills.
- Read articles/blogs/reports to support understanding of themes studied.

Useful Websites:

- http://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/ks3/english/speaking_listening/drama/revision/1/

How can parents help?

Parents can support their children by monitoring the completion of homework. Support your child when rehearsing lines learnt in lesson and test them when possible. The key to being successful in Drama is the ability to speak confidently and work well others, so please encourage your child to participate in discussions with family and friends where they are able to converse freely.

When able to, please take your children to the theatre as this will give them a greater understanding of the environment and the technical/supporting aspects of Drama. When this is not possible, encourage your children to watch a range of television programmes and film to widen their understanding of genre and character.

Trips

A range of appropriate and engaging theatre trips are organised.

ENGLISH & ENGLISH LITERATURE

Subject Leader: Mrs H Booth

Subject Teachers: Mrs H Booth and Ms S Waite

Homework

Homework is set in accordance with school policy – Typical homework will include: spelling, grammar and vocabulary practice as well as memorising quotations and key poems. We also strongly encourage independent reading at KS3 and all pupils should be reading for at least 20 minutes, three times per week at home.

Subject Specific Strategies for Revising:

- Strategies for improving English include daily reading of fiction and non-fiction texts. Discussion and annotation of texts is highly effective.
- Mindmaps and language logs are useful when studying characters, themes and new vocabulary in literature.
- Make flash cards to learn subject terminology and quotations.
- (Year 9) Listen to podcasts or watch videos such as www.aceyourexams.wordpress.com
- CGP study guides are available for SPaG.

Textbooks

- In class we make use of OUP, Cambridge, Phillip Allan and CGP resources and textbooks for AQA English Language and Literature.

Wider Reading: Books, Articles, Journals

- The very best English students are those who read widely. A comprehensive list of possible wider reading will be provided at the beginning of the course.

Useful Websites:

- www.aceyourexams.wordpress.com
- Vocabulary.com (also available as an App)
- <http://www.bbc.co.uk/education/bitesize>

How can parents help?

Parents can help support their child in English through encouraging daily reading. Talk to your child about what they are reading and also provide a quality newspaper - a weekend broadsheet title such as The Times, The Guardian/Observer, The Independent or The Telegraph is ideal. The quality of articles and reports in these papers, even the sport/fashion/film sections, is of a high level and uses challenging vocabulary. Reading a newspaper regularly, will significantly help with their preparation towards the GCSE paper which focuses on writers' viewpoints and perspectives.

Ensure that your child completes regular spelling practice from the list of topic-specific vocabulary provided.

Providing your child with a range of coloured highlighters and small post it type notes is helpful both in class and for homework tasks. Keeping an eye on the presentation and organisation of homework is also very supportive.

Trips

- Theatre trips for set texts will be organised when they are available locally
- RSC Workshops will be organised for Year 9 in the Spring Term.
- Local author visits

FRENCH

Subject Leader: Miss Jenkins

Subject Teacher: Mrs Dhadda

Homework

Homework is set in accordance with school policy. Homework includes:

- Vocabulary learning for vocabulary tests.
- Worksheets.
- Reading and Listening tasks from the AQA text books or using www.languagesonline.org and BBC Bitesize <http://www.bbc.co.uk/education> or Kerboodle.
- Translation tasks.
- Grammar activities.
- Writing tasks.
- Purple sticker tasks.
- Completion of corrections and gap tasks with purple pen.
- Revision for end of term assessments.

Subject Specific Strategies for Revising:

- Colourful and detailed mind maps on each topic.
- Cue cards arranged per topic with English on one side and French on the other side.
- Acronyms to remember lists
- Making connections between how words sound and are written in French.
- Use “Look / Cover / Write / Check” as a system for remembering vocabulary or Quizlet.
- To learn vocabulary by learning the word in context.
- Get a friend or family member to test you on key vocabulary to practise listening skills also.
- Use www.languagesonline.org to practise grammar and topics.
- Complete additional reading and listening practise on BBC Bitesize <http://www.bbc.co.uk/education>
- Verb practice <https://conjuguemos.com/activities/french/verb/1> and <http://www.verbix.com/languages/french.shtml>

Textbooks

- AQA

Wider Reading: Books, Articles, Journals

- N/A

Useful Websites:

- www.languagesonline.org
- <http://www.bbc.co.uk/education>
- <https://conjuguemos.com/activities/french/verb/1>
- <http://www.verbix.com/languages/french.shtml>
- <http://bescherelle.com/conjugeur.php>
- www.wordreference.com French online dictionary
- www.larousse.com French online dictionary

How can parents help?

Parents can support their children by monitoring the completion of homework. Parents can test their children on vocabulary in preparation for vocabulary exams. They can also monitor their children's use of online language websites.

Trips

Paris 2020

GEOGRAPHY

Subject Leader: Mrs Odunjo

Subject Teachers: Mrs Odunjo and Miss Hamilton

Homework

Homework is set in accordance with school policy. In Geography, you may be asked to complete the following types of homework:

Geographical Skills exercises, producing descriptions of processes, explaining decisions and processes, evaluating issues, producing presentations, producing information posters, etc.

Subject Specific Strategies for Revising:

- Mind maps help you to generate ideas and make associations & links. They can also act as a powerful memory aid because they are visual. Read your lesson notes and make a mind map.
- Colour, symbols and pictures can be included on your mind map to make it more memorable.
- Make a poster of key words, with illustrations and put it up in your bedroom, your bathroom, the kitchen, somewhere you will see it every day.
- In your classwork, highlight key words with highlighters to make sure you don't forget the important information.
- Make cue cards of key words and case study statistics.
- Produce cartoons of processes.
- Annotate images with key case study information.
- A good way of remembering important processes, diagrams and terminology is through cue cards.
- Be creative. Draw colourful images that help you remember what is on the card! Decorate your room with Posters!! Make your room a revision centre!
- Use a bright array of coloured paper; place post it notes and images all over your wall. This way, whatever you're doing you are constantly looking at your revision notes!

Textbooks

- Geog.1, 2 and 3
- Foundations
- Connections
- Interactions
-

Wider Reading: Books, Articles, Journals

Discover Collins wide range of resources for Secondary Geography.

Buy directly from Collins KS3 Geography section:

<https://collins.co.uk/category/Secondary/Geography/Collins+Key+Stage+3+Geography/>

Useful Websites:

www.acegeography.com

www.coolgeography.co.uk

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/education/subjects/zrw76sg>

www.geographyalltheway.com/ks3_geography.htm

www.rgs.org/OurWork/Schools/Teaching+resources/Key+Stage+3+resources/

www.kerboodle.com

www.teachitgeography.co.uk

How can parents help?

Parents can support their child by discussing current Geographical news issues at home and keeping a scrapbook or log of the main issues and key information. (e.g. natural disaster – earthquake or flooding...) Parents can check pupils' planners for geography homework information. Once homework is completed, parents could check the work to ensure that pupils have completed to their best standard. In addition, parents could aid their child's growing independence by encouraging the '3 B' before me' strategy whereby students try to solve problems through using their books, the internet (browser) and fellow students (buddies) before asking an adult to help.

Trips

Possible trips include:

Botanical Gardens, Birmingham

Stratford- Upon-Avon, Tourism

The Living Rainforest

Carding Mill Valley

HISTORY

Subject Leader: Miss Thorne

Subject Teacher: Miss Thorne

Homework

Homework is set in accordance with school policy. Typical tasks will include:

- Independent research tasks.
- Extended essays.
- Creative tasks including creating poems, songs, stories, displays and presentations on a historical topic.
- Creating a mini lesson to teach others about a historical topic.

Subject Specific Strategies for Revising:

- Learn keywords, dates, events and people.
- Use wide range of resources to research topic including the internet, class notes, and text books.
- Create mind maps using colour and images.
- Bullet point key ideas and test how far you can expand on them.
- Teach other family members about what you have learnt.
- Make flash cards using colour and images.
- Complete practise questions and check answers with a mark scheme, peer or a teacher.

Textbooks

- History in Progress: 1066 -1603 – year 7/8
- Presenting the Past: Britain 1066-1500 – year 7
- Medieval Minds: Britain 1066-1500 – year 7
- Renaissance, Revolution and Reformation: Britain 1509-1745 – year 8
- Industry, Invention and Empire: Britain 1745-1901 – year 8
- Oxford AQA History for GCSE: Conflict and Tension 1918-1939 – year 9

Useful Websites:

- <http://www.bbc.co.uk/history>
- <http://www.historyonthenet.com>
- <http://www.activehistory.co.uk>
- <http://www.bbc.co.uk/education/subjects/zk26n39>
- <https://www.history.org.uk>

How can parents help?

Parents can support their children by monitoring the completion of homework and preparation for assessments. Parents could also help to foster an interest in History by visiting historical sites and museums with their children and encouraging them to watch relevant documentaries and films. Pupils would also benefit from being given the opportunity to discuss what they have been learning in the subject with family members.

Trips

Possible trips include: Black Country Living Museum, Dudley and the National Maritime Museum, Greenwich.

MATHEMATICS

Subject Leader: Mr Walker

Subject Teachers: Mr Walker and Mr Dhadda

Homework

Homework is set in accordance with school policy. Homework includes:

- Text book consolidation and practice activities.
- Preparing for topic tests by writing up exemplar material and revising
- Online tasks from a variety of internet based resources.
- Preparing a presentation, movie or other media related to a topic.
- Revision for end of term assessments.

Subject Specific Strategies for Revising:

- Maths revision is best accomplished by doing maths.
- Learn key formulae and ask someone to test you.
- Use “Look / Cover / Attempt / Check” using online Corbett maths video resources.
- To become confident with mathematical vocabulary by looking it up when unsure.
- Use www.hydesvillemaths.co.uk to practise topics **Username: hydesvillepupil Password: Mathematicsa1**
- Use <https://corbettmaths.com> to for independent study.
- To complete activities from work books.

Textbooks

- Collins Maths Frame working 3rd edition

Wider Reading: Books, Articles, Journals

Number Freak - Derrick Niederman has compiled a compendium of numbers from 1 to 200 and gives you information about the characteristics and qualities of each number. (ISBN 978-0715637104)

Useful Websites:

- www.mymaths.co.uk
- www.mathsisfun.com
- www.bbc.co.uk/education/gcsebitesize/maths
- www.nrich.maths.org.uk
- www.corbettmaths.co.uk

How can parents help?

Mathematical confidence is important, review the thought provoking material at www.youcubed.org/parents

Parents can support their children by monitoring the completion of homework. If their times tables and number bonds are weak, please build practice into the day e.g. during the school journey.

All pupils must be fully equipped with pencil, ruler, pen, compass, protractor and a scientific calculator. The most common calculator used is the Casio FX-83 GT or similar.

Trips

Maths enrichment day at Warwick University.

MUSIC

Subject Leader: Miss Kingston

Subject Teacher: Miss Kingston

Homework

Homework is set in accordance with school policy.

Years 7- 9 Homework will be set in accordance to the topic that half term.

Subject Specific Strategies for Revising:

- Revise the notes on the keyboard.
- Revise the key elements of music and then apply them.
- Create a revision poster linking closely to the topic.
- Learn definitions of keywords by getting a friend/parent/guardian/sibling to test you.
- Create a mind map for each topic.
- Practise at keyboard club.
- Make revision cards on different coloured card for each topic.
- Revise with your test buddy. Take turns preparing revision lessons for each other.
- Trailing Garage Band software.

Textbooks

- ABRSM Music Theory workbooks.
- Key Stage 3 listening tests Rhinegold

Wider Reading: Books, Articles, Journals

- It would be more beneficial for the students to be actively taking part in music as their skills will develop better and quicker.

Useful Websites:

- YouTube
- Garage Band
- A variety of different radio stations
- www.bbc.co.uk/schools/gcsebitesize/music/

How can parents help?

Parents can support their children by monitoring the completion of homework. Pupils in Year 7 should be practicing their instruments for a minimum of 30 minutes per week. Year 8 and 9 should spend the appropriate amount of time on the various projects set throughout the year.

PHILOSOPHY, RELIGION & ETHICS

Subject Leader: Miss Hamilton

Subject Teacher: Miss Hamilton

Homework

Homework is set in accordance with the school policy.

Homework tasks will consist of a variety of creative, investigative and written activities to aid knowledge and understanding, as well as develop student's examination skills. Homework will be set at a frequency of one piece per week for years 7-9 and two pieces per week for years 10-11.

Subject Specific Strategies for Revising:

- Creating key term glossaries and checklists
- Creating detailed mind-maps for each topic
- Answering past paper questions and self-marking them in accordance to the relevant mark-schemes
- Colour co-ordinating revision materials
- Creating revision cards
- Revising with your peers or peer teaching

Textbooks

- AQA Religious Studies A: Christianity
- AQA Religious Studies: Specification A

Wider Reading: Books, Articles, Journals

- 'A very short introduction' series (Topics include: Philosophy, Metaphysics, Islam, Hinduism etc)
- The pig that wants to be eaten (Julian Baggini)
- 'A graphic guide introducing' series
- What is Humanism? (Michael Rosen et al)

Useful Websites:

- BBC Bitesize – has both information and assessment pages. www.bbc.co.uk › Home › Religious Studies
- REQuest - Has resources that can extend the understanding of students through various different clips involving both written and audio clips www.request.co.uk.
- Faraday schools – has lots of interesting pages which explore the relationship between religion and science in many different topics. www.faradayschools.com
-

How can parents help?

Parents can support their children by monitoring the completion of homework. Pupils should also have the opportunity to access a computer with the internet and/or home devices, to allow them to access any research or creative activities set. Parents should encourage their children to keep up to date with current affairs to allow them to develop and apply their learning to new and developing issues.

Trips

If running: Visits to places of worship, Science and Religion Conference

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Subject Leader: Mr Lawrence

Subject Teachers: Mr Lawrence and Miss Fairbrother

Homework

Homework is not set in Key Stage 3 Physical Education

Autumn Term Extra Curricular Clubs

- Monday Senior Sports club

Senior School Events

- Autumn Term: Senior School Cross Country
- Spring Term: Senior School Swimming Gala
- Summer Term: Sports Day

Useful Websites:

- BBC Bitesize – has both information and assessment pages.
www.bbc.co.uk › Home › Physical Education

How can parents help?

Parents can support their children in a number of ways in Physical Education Lessons. Your child will be given a number of opportunities to take part in extracurricular sport at Hydesville Tower School. These could be after school coaching sessions or competitive matches against other schools. Your child's involvement in these activities will help their progress in Physical Education. Your child will be given opportunities to participate in a number of activities at Hydesville Tower and will develop new interests in sport. As a parent you could support your child by taking them to sports clubs outside of school. In Physical Education lessons your child will be taught about making healthy life choices.

Trips

- Indoor wall climbing
- Tramping at Airspace
- British Badminton Championship

SCIENCE

Subject Leader: Mrs Chattha

Subject Teacher: Ms Eynon

Homework

Homework is set in accordance with school policy

Homework activities will include

- Research on famous Scientists
- Learning new words and definitions
- Completing a literacy based task
- Science Investigation task
- Building models project
- Project homework linked to curriculum to complete over holiday period

Subject Specific Strategies for Revising:

- Learn key words and definitions by testing yourself
- Create a mind map for each topic prior to their test/assessment
- Make constructive notes on challenging topics to address area of weakness
- Complete exam style questions to improve exam technique
- Make revision cards on different coloured card for each topic in Biology, Chemistry and Physics
- Revise with others such as peers/siblings
- Use your class notes and independent research from internet/ textbooks to help with revision
- Add key words and their definitions onto your key word list as you come across them in class

Textbooks

- CGP Key Stage 3 Revision guide
- Oxford Key Stage 3 work book

Wider Reading: Books, Articles, Journals

- Science – the definitive visual guide, Adam Hart Davis (Dorling Kingsley)
- WOW- The visual encyclopaedia (Dorling Kingsley)
- New Scientist- Reading the latest research/developments in Science

Useful Websites:

- <http://www.doddlelearn.co.uk>
- <http://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/ks3/>
- <http://www.docbrown.info/ks3science.htm>

How can parents help?

Parents can support their children by ensuring that they have understood the homework task and help them when required. Parents should encourage their children to complete all set homework to a high standard and monitor that it has been completed.

Trips

University Linked trips, London Science Museum, Think Tank, Big Bang Fair, Sandwell Valley Park, Natural History Museum, Leicester Space Centre

SPANISH

Subject Leader: Miss Jenkins

Subject Teachers: Miss Jenkins, Mrs Fellows and Mrs Dhadda

Homework

Homework is set in accordance with school policy. Homework includes:

- Vocabulary learning for vocabulary tests.
- Worksheets.
- Reading and Listening tasks from the Mira text books or using www.languagesonline.org and BBC Bitesize <http://www.bbc.co.uk/education>.
- Activities from Kerboodle – www.kerboodle.com
- Translation tasks.
- Grammar activities.
- Writing tasks.
- Purple sticker tasks.
- Completion of corrections and gap tasks with purple pen.
- Revision for end of term assessments.

Subject Specific Strategies for Revising:

- Colourful and detailed mind maps on each topic.
- Cue cards arranged per topic with English on one side and Spanish on the other side.
- Acronyms to remember lists
- Making connections between how words sound and are written in Spanish.
- Use “Look / Cover / Write / Check” as a system for remembering vocabulary.
- To learn vocabulary by learning the word in context.
- Get a friend or family member to test you on key vocabulary to practise listening skills also.
- Use www.languagesonline.org to practise grammar and topics.
- Complete additional reading and listening practise on BBC Bitesize <http://www.bbc.co.uk/education>
- Complete verb practice using <https://conjuguemos.com/activities/spanish/verb/1> or <http://www.verbix.com/languages/spanish.shtml>
- Complete grammar activities on <http://studyspanish.com/>

Textbooks

- Mira Express 1, Anneli McLachlan
- Mira Express 2, Anneli McLachlan
- GCSE AQA Spanish

Wider Reading: Books, Articles, Journals

- N/A

Useful Websites:

- www.kerboodle.com
- www.languagesonline.org

- <http://www.bbc.co.uk/education>
- <http://studyspanish.com/>
- <https://conjuguemos.com/activities/spanish/verb/1>
- <http://www.verbix.com/languages/spanish.shtml>
- www.wordreference.com Spanish online dictionary

How can parents help?

Parents can support their children by monitoring the completion of homework. Parents can test their children on vocabulary in preparation for vocabulary exams. They can also monitor their children's use of online language websites.

Trips

Spanish restaurant trip.

Spanish cinema trip.