

# Getting Started with Revision

A plan for success!

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# Entering the “Final Stretch”

## Revision & Preparation Sessions

Offering opportunity for **Year 11** students to access revision and preparation sessions in school according to need

Ongoing Revision & Preparation Sessions

## Yr11 Study Leave Begins

End of the Day on 24<sup>th</sup> May

Year 11 Prom  
20<sup>th</sup> Jun



## Summer Exam Period

13<sup>th</sup> May to 19<sup>th</sup> Jun  
5½ Weeks (inc. May Half-Term)

End of Exams

19<sup>th</sup> Jun

Easter School

Easter Break

May H/T

May School

Wk1

Wk2

Wk3

Wk4

19<sup>th</sup> Feb 26<sup>th</sup> Feb 4<sup>th</sup> Mar 11<sup>th</sup> Mar 18<sup>th</sup> Mar 25<sup>th</sup> Mar 27<sup>th</sup> Mar 1<sup>st</sup> Apr 8<sup>th</sup> Apr 15<sup>th</sup> Apr 22<sup>nd</sup> Apr 29<sup>th</sup> Apr 6<sup>th</sup> May 13<sup>th</sup> May 20<sup>th</sup> May 27<sup>th</sup> May 3<sup>rd</sup> Jun 10<sup>th</sup> Jun 17<sup>th</sup> Jun

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# GCSE Guide to Study, Exams & Revision

PARENT & STUDENT

# GCSE GUIDE

## STUDY, EXAMS, & REVISION

TYTHERINGTON SCHOOL

This guide offers information and ideas on revision, study and how you can support your child.

**Equipment Check List**

**Exam Strategies**

**Revision Tools**

**Ready TO Succeed**

### Ready TO Engage

Making sure your child has all the right equipment so they can get ready for their exams is very helpful.

#### Equipment Check List

- Fine-point coloured pens
- Highlighters
- Watch
- Calendar
- Alarm clock
- Textbooks
- Pin-board
- Folders and Files
- Post-it notes
- Access to a computer and printer
- Revision guides
- Past exam papers
- Recommended Casio FX83GT Scientific Calculator
- A comfortable and quiet place to study

**On average, we remember...**

Percentage	Method
10%	OF WHAT WE READ
20%	OF WHAT WE HEAR
30%	OF WHAT WE SEE
50%	OF WHAT WE SEE AND HEAR
70%	OF WHAT WE DISCUSS WITH OTHERS
80%	OF WHAT WE EXPERIENCE PERSONALLY
90%	OF WHAT WE TEACH TO OTHERS

**Improving Memory**

**Application & Association**

**Mnemonics**

**Repetition**

**'Chunking'**

**Application and association:** The best way to fix material in long-term memory is to organise it into meaningful associations. Link it to existing information and topics to...

**Mnemonics:** are word games which can act as memory aids. For example think of stalactites (hold on tight to the ceiling) and stalagmites (might reach the ceiling); or the seven characteristics of living organisms - Mrs Gren (Movement, Reproduction, Sensitivity, Growth, Respiration, Excretion, Nutrition). Make up your own to help your recall.

**Repetition:** Studies suggest that 66% of information is forgotten within seven days if it is not reviewed again & 88% is gone after six weeks. Build in a brief daily and weekly review of material covered.

...create individual personal examples which act as 'mental hooks' or 'cues' for recalling material in the future.

**'Chunking':** the average person can only hold seven 'items' in short-term memory, grouping items together into 'chunks' can increase memory capacity.

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# GCSE Guide to Study, Exams & Revision

### What is the best way to revise?

Every student feels different approaches to revision works for them and will use a variety of techniques. Whatever your child's approach make a plan together. Draw up a realistic timetable based on how much time there is before the exams start.

Encourage your child to focus on their weaker topics without losing sight of their **strong** subjects.

Revision timetables are useful and effective tools. Every student has been given an A1 size planner. In addition an A4 daily or weekly planner may prove useful.

Ideally your child should be aiming to complete around two hours every evening in the run up to an exam. With support from teachers they should make a topic or subject tick list, this way they will know what they need to revise before the exam.

### Ready to Support

#### How can I Encourage and Support?

Involve other members of the family so they can be supportive and not to disturb your child during study time.

Look for interesting sources of information other than revision notes and guides. **YouTube**, for example, often has informative and creative revision videos on a wide variety of topics.

Avoids last-minute revision the night before an exam. Instead, encourage your child to complete their revision early. Being well prepared **boosts** their confidence and self-esteem.

A good night's sleep during the revision period and before each exam is beneficial to both mental and physical health - it will be much easier for your child to concentrate during study and the exam if they are not feeling too tired. Encourage them to eat healthily during their revision and exams avoiding junk foods and products high in caffeine.

Encourage and support your child to stick to their revision plan. You can then easily help them keep on track and check to see what has been achieved and what is left to cover.

Encourage your child to switch subjects to avoid boredom and neglecting other topics.

Ensure your child attends **school** every day. Just missing one lesson could mean missing key information. The students have been offered a wide range of after-school revision booster sessions encourage your child to participate as much as possible.

### Getting the best from

## PAST PAPERS

Past papers are very useful. Your child can familiarise themselves with the format of the paper and how questions are worded. Past papers may offer a guide to the types of topics that might crop up in the exam.

Your child should not need to answer every question in full, but by going through what they know, selecting the most relevant information and ordering it logically. They should practice making brief plans to answer the questions.

### Common Mistakes:

- Running out of time
- Misinterpreting the question
- Failing to answer the question set
- Not reading the instructions carefully
- Not answering the way that is required
- Not checking carefully for obvious mistakes

### Ready to Learn

#### Read-Cover-Recall-Check

Read the information you want to remember. Cover it up, write out what you remember. Check to see how much you forgot or remembered!

#### Flashcards

For key information and facts. You can carry them around with you and test yourself anywhere. Use it to remind and test yourself on; spellings, lists, a sequence of events.

#### Mind Maps

Start with a central theme and organise the information from it, grouped into subtopics. Label the branches with the relationships. Use mind maps to summarise a whole topic after revising it in detail. Only put in the key words that will trigger the information stored in your mind.

#### Quizzes

Either online quizzes or revision guide exam questions are a good way to check knowledge. Answer the questions, note down your score, revise the topic some more, have another go at the questions later. Did you improve?

#### Teach a Topic

Plan and teach a topic on a subject to a friend or classmate in a revision session. Ask your friends to prepare a lesson to share with you. Encourage questioning to check the depth of your knowledge.

#### Past exam questions and analysis

Complete some past exam questions. Mark your answers. Fill in the answers you missed. Go through the paper and colour code each topic (**Red**-Urgent revision required, **Amber**-Some gaps in knowledge, **Green**-Nailed it)

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# Getting started

## When creating a space to revise...

### Do:

- ✓ ...work in a tidy environment where you have the tools you need to revise effectively.
- ✓ ...work in a quiet environment.
- ✓ ...put your phone in another room or use an app on your phone which blocks social media.
- ✓ ...work in a space which you only use for home study, schoolwork or revision.

### Don't:

- X ...work in a cluttered environment.
- X ...distract yourself with (loud) music or noise.
- X ...work near your phone or other devices which can access social media.
- X ...work in the same space where you relax.

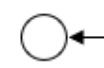
### An example of an effective revision space:



A quiet environment, such as a classroom or library

The resources you will need to revise using your chosen method

Put your phone on silent if you will need to use it or put it in another room.



A drink, such as a glass of water



The pens and pencils you will need to revise

A chair which is similar to the chair you use at school (not a sofa or bed)

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## When revising:

### Do:

- ✓ ...get into a routine of revising at a particular point every day.
- ✓ ...revise when you are well-rested or at a time when you are used to working.
- ✓ ...take regular small breaks.

### Don't:

- X ...depend on when you *want* to revise.
- X ...revise late at night or when you are tired.
- X ...try to force yourself to work for long periods of time without a break.

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## WEEKLY SCHEDULE

Use the following to set out the events in each week that are regular and fixed (including sleep):

Time	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
08:00							
09:00							
10:00							
11:00							
12:00							
13:00							
14:00							
15:00							
16:00							
17:00							
18:00							
19:00							
20:00							
21:00							
22:00							
23:00							

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# How do I decide what to revise?

Whenever you revise, you are doing one of three things:

1. Finding and closing gaps in your knowledge.
2. Strengthening fading knowledge in your long-term memory.
3. Practising recalling knowledge quickly.

Whichever purpose your revision has, it is important that you focus on the weaknesses within your knowledge. It is tempting to revise topics you're already good at. However, if you do this, you waste valuable revision time and you could get a nasty shock when you don't do well in exams or assessments.

Before you start revising for a subject, you should decide what you need to focus on.

## When deciding what to revise:

### Do:

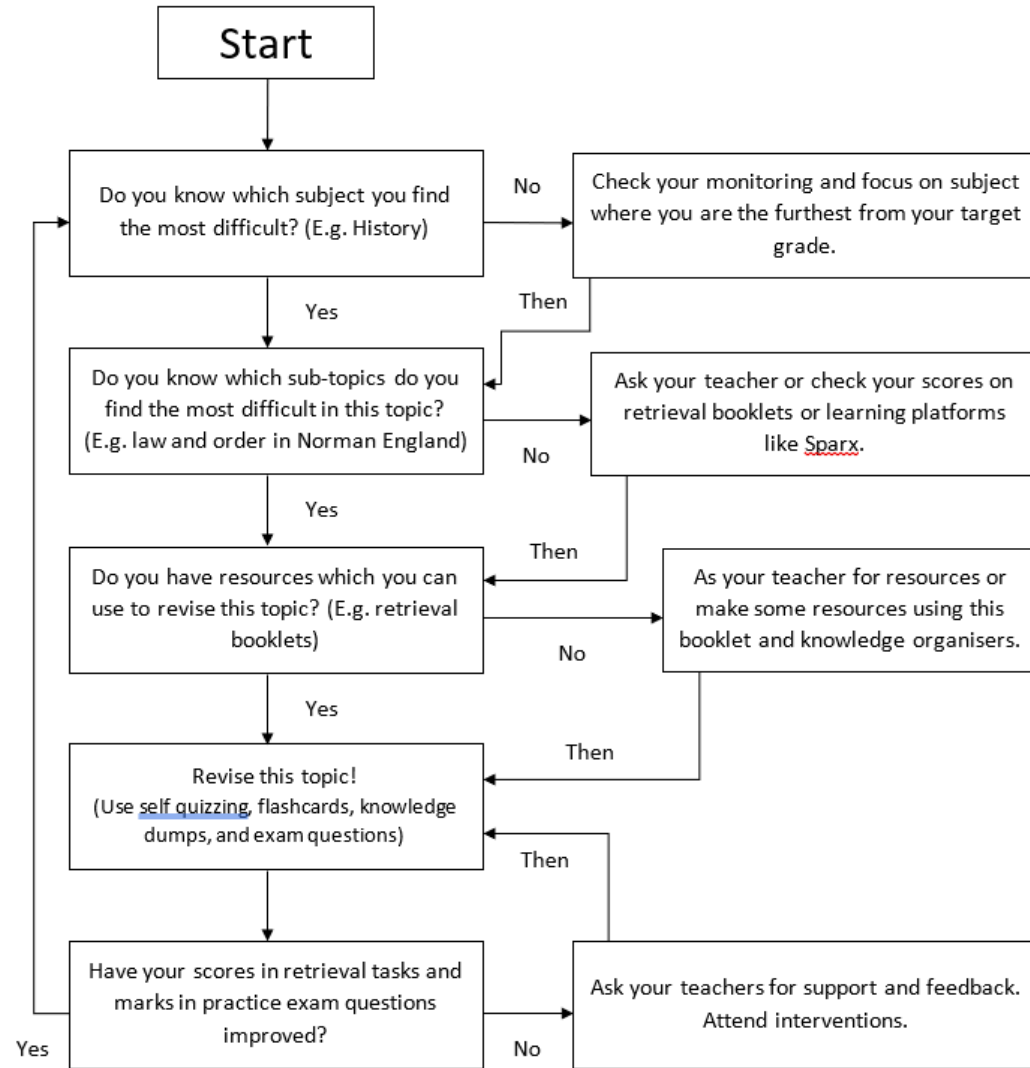
- ✓ ...gather information about the topics which you need to revise.
- ✓ ...break subjects and topics down into manageable chunks.
- ✓ ...revise topics which you don't enjoy or which you find difficult.
- ✓ ...keep a record of the topics you have chosen to revise and the revision you have completed for those topics.

### Don't:

- X ...spend more time making lists of what to revise than actually revising.
- X ...write down entire subjects or topics as areas to revise.
- X ...revise topics you enjoy or topics in which you are already successful.
- X ...expect yourself to remember the areas which you need to revise.

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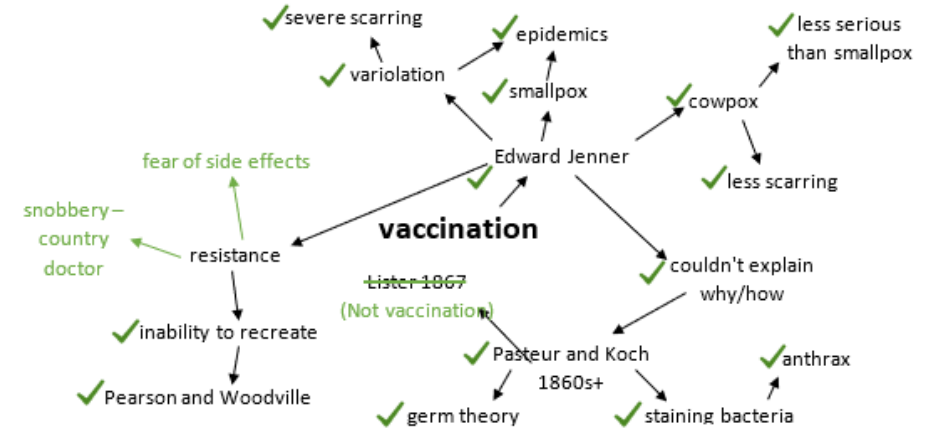
## Flashcards

1861	groynes	osmosis	Where is the pharmacy?
Pasteur published his paper about germ theory.	A low wall on the coastline which slows longshore drift	Net movement of water from a high concentration to low concentration across a partially permeable membrane	Où est la <u>pharmacie</u> ?

Do:

Don't:


## Knowledge dumps



Do:

Don't:

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## Subject Resources

Dashboard

Resources

Planner

Tasks

Markbook

Messages

Apps

Search

Subject Resources

Art

Business & Economics

Careers

Child Development

Classics

Computing

Design Technology

Textile Design

Drama

English

Geography

Health and Social Care

History

Mathematics

Modern Foreign Languages

Music

Physical Education

Politics (A-Level)

Subject Resources

Subject Resources


Subject Resources

Set Page as Task

Edit Page

Imme

Welcome to the **Subject Resource Zone**. Here you will find a list of your subjects and links to Department Homepages. Please use the buttons below to navigate through the site.



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**Subject Resources** [Create Page](#) [More](#)


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Resources  
Planner  
Tasks  
Markbook  
Messages

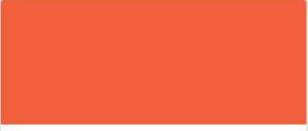
[Subject Resources](#) >  
[Art](#) >  
[Business & Economics](#) >  
[Careers](#) >  
[Child Development](#) >  
[Classics](#) >  
[Computing](#) >  
[Design Technology](#) >  
[Textile Design](#) >  
[Drama](#) >  
[English](#) >  
[Geography](#) >


Subject Resources > History > GCSE History


**GCSE History** [Set Page as Task](#) [Edit Page](#) [Immersive Reader](#) [Share](#)


  
**Britain: Health and the People, c1000-present day**

  
**Conflict and Tension: The Interwar Years, 1918-1939**

  
**Germany: Democracy and Dictatorship 1890-1945**


  
**Norman England, c1066-1100**

  
**Delving deeper into History at KS4**

  
**Exam Question Booklets**

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Revision & Preparation

GCSE Revision Guide

Download Subject Specifications

Past Papers for Revision

The Essentials for GCSE

Six Strategies for Effective Learning

Study Less Study Smart

Understanding Command Words

Revision Planning - Chunking & Spacing

Flashcards

Flooded learning

Revision & Preparation

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Immersive Reader

Recipe for effective revision & successful results ...

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Retrieval Practice

Mindset

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Attendance

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Success

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Year 13 February 2024 Mock Exams

The Summer 2024 Exams Timetable - Editable Version to Personalise

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Links to Revision & Preparation Support



Subject Resources

& REVISION

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The guided approach to revision: how to plan, how to study and how you can support your child

GCSE Revision Guide

Download Subject Specifications

Past Papers for Revision

The Essentials for GCSE

Six Strategies for Effective Learning

Marty Lobbell

Study Less Study Smart

Compare

Show the similarities and differences between

Understanding Command Words

Revision Planning - Chunking & Spacing

Flashcards

Flipped learning

NELL MET

Cornell Notes

6th Form Independent Study Guide

Pixl KS5 Word list & definitions

# Exam questions

You remember what you think hard about. One of the best ways to think hard about knowledge you have learned is by completing exam questions. Practising exam questions will also allow you practise exam techniques, such as writing in timed conditions or annotating questions.

Get exam questions from your teachers and complete them as closely to a real exam as possible.

## When answering practice exam questions:

### Do:

- ✓ ...write from memory.
- ✓ ...write in timed conditions (ask your teacher how long you should take)
- ✓ ...ask your teacher to give you feedback or to give you a mark scheme so you can check your own answer.

### Don't:

- X ...use textbooks or knowledge organisers while you're answering questions.
- X ...assume that everything you have written is correct.
- X ...type your answer if you won't be able to use a computer in your exam.

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# Checklist for Half Term

- ☐ Gather your materials and resources together for revision. Include:
  - ☐ Stationary & Equipment
  - ☐ Revision Books/Notes
  - ☐ Past Papers
- ☐ Create a revision plan that includes time for each of your subjects.
- ☐ Reflect on where you need to focus your revision based on your mock results.

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