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REVISION STRATEGIES

DO WHAT WORKS

This simple leaflet is designed to help you get started and succeed with your revision. We have chosen only strategies that have been proven to work.
Good luck!



1 GETTING STARTED

- You will need to draw up a revision timetable.
- Start with writing down all of your subjects.
- Ask your teachers, which topics need covering within each of those subjects. For example in English Literature you would have Macbeth, Conflict Poetry etc.
- Make sure that the subjects you find most challenging are the ones you start with!
- Draw up a timetable that uses **INTERLEAVING** rather than blocking. Interleaving helps your brain to store information in your long-term memory.
- Interleaving is simple to understand. Instead of just revising everything from English, then everything from Maths and then everything from Science, keep switching between the subjects so it sticks in your long term memory.

(see the diagram below)



2 HOW TO USE YOUR TIME EFFECTIVELY

- Once you have drawn up your revision timetable you need to think about how you are going to use your time effectively.
- Use the **POMODORO TECHNIQUE**. This is a proven technique that helps your brain to retain information and allows your brain to rest so that you learn in the most effective manner.
- Use these chunks of time to make notes on content and practise skills.

1 Identify your tasks for the day

2 Set a timer for 25 minutes

3 Work for the duration of the timer

4 Take a 5 minute break

✱ After every fourth break, take a longer break of 15-30 minutes

3 PRACTICE MAKES PROGRESS

What are the most effective ways to practise:

- Make flashcards/notes on content and then test yourself or get someone to test you.
- Mini lessons – teach someone else what you have learnt.
- Ask teachers for past papers and complete questions in timed conditions. Ask for the mark schemes so that you can assess yourself.
- Repeat . . .



TIPS TO SUPPORT YOU THROUGH REVISION

Make sure you are eating healthy food and drinking plenty of water.



Go to bed early and get enough sleep.

Find a quiet place to revise where you will not be disturbed by other people.



Avoid distractions - turn your mobile phones and technology off.

Don't give up - if something feels difficult use teachers, friends, parents and carers to help you understand it better.



USEFUL REVISION LINKS

REVISION

www.essaybank.com

www.sparknotes.com

www.gcseguide.co.uk

www.bbc.co.uk/schools/gcsebiteize

www.gcse.com

www.s-cool.co.uk

www.edulinks.co.uk

www.schoolnet.com

EXAM BOARDS

www.aqa.org.uk

qualifications.pearson.com

www.eduqas.co.uk

www.wjec.co.uk



Access on Frog or login to the mobile app

GCSEPod is a video based revision tool covering almost all GCSE subjects. Regular and consistent usage of GCSEPod is proven to raise your grades.

Top tips for using GCSEPod:

- Use **My Courses** to view your upcoming exams and the content you need to revise.
- Create playlists for the topics you find difficult.
- Screenshot key information when watching a pod and use them as digital flashcards.