

## CVC revision and mock exam guide for Year 11 students and families

Name:

Tutor Group:

Welcome to your preparation and revision guide for your November mock exams.

This guide is intended to help support you in the run-up to the mocks but also to create good habits and preparation that will significantly help you for your real exams in May/June 2024.

As a result of these mocks, some of you might feel more confident about the revision strategies which work best - others may realise that they need to spend more time on revision in order to succeed. Regardless of how well you score in each exam, these are not the final exams. The most important thing is to use these mock exams to learn from your experience. The mocks offer an excellent and early opportunity to find out what you know and what you don't know so that you can improve your study habits and your subject knowledge.

Preparing for and completing mock exams to the best of your ability is one of the most important ways you can prepare for exam success in 2024. Mocks are useful because:

- The results will support your application for post-16 providers and will begin to inform the decision over your **tier of entry** in maths, science, French and Spanish; You will better understand your strengths & gaps in each subject and how best to close those gaps through revision;
- The feedback activities (in lessons) which follow the mocks will help you to improve in each subject;
- You will receive your **mock results** and **projected grades** in a report in early December 2023.

It is important to make very clear that the projected grades that are submitted for post-16 applications are not solely generated by mock exam results. We know that students have not completed any of their courses and are not ready to sit their final exams, our teachers are very experienced and accurate with projected grades – they will use this expert judgement in projecting grades for post-16 applications using a range of evidence.



# WHEN ARE MY EXAMS?

# 30 OCTOBER – 14 NOVEMBER

## EXAM VENUES

EXAMS WILL TAKE PLACE IN THE SPORTS HALL, WITH STUDENTS USING ACCESS ARRANGEMENTS BASED IN THE TONY COOPER SUITE OR AN ICT ROOM.

## WEEK ONE

Start time	Mon 30 Oct	Tues 31 Oct	Wed 1 Nov	Thu 2 Nov	Fri 3 Nov
08:45	Biology / Combined science (1 hr 45 mins / 1 hr 15 mins)	English Literature (1 hr 45 mins)	Food Technology / Music (1 hr 45 mins)	Chemistry / Combined science (1 hr 45 mins / 1 hr 15 mins)	History (1 hr 45 mins)
11:20	RE (1 hr 45 mins)	Business (1 hr 30 mins)	Maths 1 – non- calculator (1 hr 30 mins)	Geography (1 hr 30 mins)	Maths 2 – calculator (1 hr 30 mins)
13:50	French Writing (Foundation 1 hr / Higher 1 hr 15 mins)	Spanish Writing (Foundation 1 hr / Higher 1 hr 15 mins)	PE 1 (1 hr)	Spanish Reading (Foundation 35 mins/ Higher 45 mins)	French Reading (Foundation 35 mins / Higher 45 mins)

## WEEK TWO

Start time	Mon 6 Nov	Tues 7 Nov	Wed 8 Nov	Thu 9 Nov	Fri 10 Nov
08:45	English Language (1 hr 45 mins)	Physics / Combined science (1 hr 45 mins / 1 hr 15 mins)	Design Technology (2 hrs)	MFL speaking exams begin  Crossover maths 1 (for specific students)	Crossover maths 3  Catch up sessions (all day)
11:20	Creative iMedia (1 hr 15 mins)	Maths 3 – calculator (1 hr 30 mins)	Computer Science / Drama (1 hr 30 mins)	Crossover maths 2  Catch up sessions (all day)	Catch up sessions (all day)
13:50	French Listening (Foundation 35 mins / Higher 45 mins)	Spanish Listening (Foundation 35 mins / Higher 45 mins)	PE 2 (1 hr)	Catch up sessions (all day)	Catch up sessions (all day)

The Art mock will run all day on Monday 13 and Tuesday 14 November. MFL speaking exams will also run – students will be given details of their individual exam date and time by their MFL teacher.

Your individual timetable (containing venues and seat numbers) will be given to you in form time before the half-term holiday.



## Q. What do 'exam conditions' mean?

Exam conditions mean that:

- You must remain silent at all times - on entry to the exam room, during the exam, and while your paper is collected at the end of the exam;
- You must not talk, turn around in your seat or signal to any other student;
- You may raise your hand if you require assistance and the invigilator will come over and speak quietly with you;
- You are expected to behave in the same way for mock exams as is expected in your formal exams in the summer. This is your chance to rehearse.

## Q. Why are exam conditions important for my mocks?

Exam conditions during your mocks will allow you to rehearse for the real thing. Take advantage of this by sticking strictly to the conditions described above. Another vital reason for sticking to these conditions is to ensure that everyone in Year 11 gets a fair chance to give each exam their very best shot without distraction or interruptions.

## Q. What equipment do I need?

Black pen (biro not gel pens), pencil, ruler, eraser in a clear pencil case or clear plastic (sandwich) bag. You may bring in a calculator **only** for the exams where you need to use one. You **cannot** take the lid of your calculator into the exam venue. Water bottles must be see-through/clear **without** a label.

## Q. What isn't allowed?

Mobile phones and watches (of any kind) are not allowed. They must be switched off and placed in your bag, which must be stored in your locker and, if you do not have a locker, in the changing rooms outside the Sports Hall which will be locked during the exam. Bags will be left in a secure space for other exam venues if you are not in the Sports Hall. You may choose not to bring your watch on the day of an exam. It is malpractice to have a watch or mobile phone in an exam hall and if this happened in a real exam, your in that subject would be a U and possibly the same for all your other subjects.

## Q. What if I need to go to the toilet during an exam?

Go to the toilet during break and lunchtime or before the line up to enter the exam hall. You will not be allowed out to the toilet, unless you have a known medical need/card. Leaving the room during an exam disturbs your own focus and concentration and will disturb the entire room and disrupt the focus of others. Make sure you go before you enter the exam hall and then you do not need to worry.



# ADVICE: LOOKING AFTER YOURSELF DURING EXAM SEASON

Looking after your wellbeing is a key part of preparing well for exams. In school, staff are here to help. There is a lot of helpful advice out there to help you to eat well, sleep well, work hard and stay relaxed. Visit the links on this page (see right) for more information.

## Dealing with exam stress and anxiety

Everyone feels stressed during exams and often this stress encourages us to do that extra bit of revision, listen a little more to the information in a lesson and work a bit harder. However, too much pressure and anxiety can affect your ability to concentrate on your work and you may find that you are overly worrying about how you will do in your exam.

Try to reduce anxiety because it uses up working memory. This is where mock exams can help, as they give you the opportunity to try test papers under exam conditions and experience what being in an exam venue is like. You can also lean on your family/friends, talk to your teachers about what might help, organise a revision timetable and establish good habits in terms of sleeping, eating and keeping active.



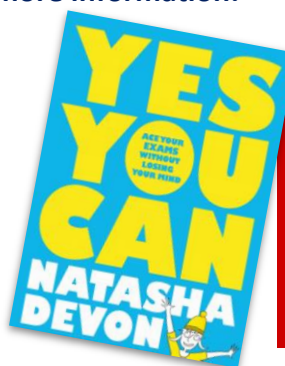
## Get plenty of sleep during exam season!

- Did you know there's evidence that students who sleep for at least 7 hours a night do 10% better on average than those who get less sleep?
- Good sleep will improve thinking and concentration so try and get between 8 and 10 hours' sleep a night.
- Allow half an hour or so to wind down between studying, watching TV or using a computer and going to bed to help get a good night's sleep.
- Make sure that your bedroom is dark and cool as these are the best conditions for sleep and if possible ensure that where you sleep is separate from where you revise (if this isn't possible, make sure you cover up your revision at the end of the day).
- Finally, cramming all night before an exam is usually a bad idea - sleep is much better for you than a few hours of panicky last-minute study, so set yourself a time for bed.



## Put away your mobile phone when studying

We know that smartphones are brilliant 'distraction devices'. We also know that there is research which shows that using mobile phones (as a break from studying) can be mentally draining, reducing your performance (they pull your attention in lots of different directions). So, when you're not using a revision app, keep your head 'recharged' and ready to learn by putting away your mobile phone when preparing for an exam.



**YES YOU CAN -  
Ace your exams  
without losing  
your mind  
by Natasha  
Devon**



**Blitzing Exams Exam  
Stress Revision Basics**  
[HTTPS://BBC.IN/33VBV2X](https://bbc.in/33VBV2X)



**Student & Parent  
Support – Managing  
Exam Stress**  
[HTTPS://BIT.LY/2ZNCPB0](https://bit.ly/2ZNCPB0)



**Conquering Exam Stress  
– useful advice**  
[HTTPS://BIT.LY/2QGBXYE](https://bit.ly/2QGBXYE)

## Make sure you eat and drink!

- Did you know research shows that students who eat breakfast perform better in exams?
- A balanced diet is vital for your health, and can help you to feel well during exam periods.
- Too many high-fat, high-sugar and high-caffeine foods and drinks (like cola, sweets, chocolate, crisps, burger & chips) can make you hyperactive, irritable and moody.
- At night, try to avoid eating three hours before sleep.
- The best way to help concentration is to keep hydrated, as even mild dehydration can lead to tiredness, headaches, reduced alertness and concentration.

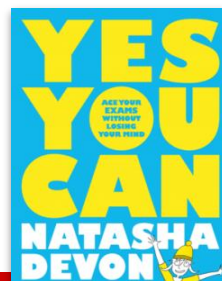
# ADVICE: HOW FAMILIES CAN HELP WITH INDEPENDENT STUDY

- **Give plenty of praise and encouragement.** It has been suggested that writing your child a letter describing what their hard-work and effort means to you can be very powerful;
- **Create the right environment for study.** Ideally, this would be quiet, well-lit and free from interruptions. They also need plenty of paper, cue-cards, pens, highlighters etc.;
- **Make sure they have a balanced diet**, including plenty of water;
- Support your child with the **preparation of a revision timetable/schedule**. An example Revision Planner template has been provided in this guide;
- **Be a revision buddy!** Help your child to track their progress through their revision timetable/schedule. What tasks have been completed? What is there still to do?
- **Be prepared to listen.** Students can often become more emotional during this period and need someone to listen to their anxieties.
- **Encourage exercise.** Exercise can help boost energy levels, clear the mind and relieve stress. It does not matter what it is – walking, cycling, swimming, football and dancing are all effective.



## TRY TO AVOID:

- Focusing on grades. Instead, praise for the effort put into preparation rather than results obtained. How hard they try is the part of this process over which students have most control;
- Constantly mentioning the exams and piling the pressure on (i.e. avoid nagging);
- Making comparisons with siblings, cousins, friends etc. This is never productive;
- Worrying if some of their revision approaches seem unfamiliar or different to when you were at school;
- Expecting them to study all of the time. Taking breaks and some time to relax will have an overall positive effect on their ability to revise effectively.



**YES YOU CAN - Ace your exams without losing your mind**

**by Natasha Devon**

This book can also be a valuable source of information and guidance for parents of students in examination years.

# RESOURCES: SUBJECT SPECIFICATIONS & ASSESSMENT MATERIALS

For each of the qualifications you study, the exam board website contains links to your **course specification** (a list of what you will have studied). **The table below contains the information for all subjects.**

Course	Exam Board	Website Link
Art & Design – Fine Art (GCSE)	Eduqas	<a href="#">Art and Design   GCSE</a>
Biology (GCSE)	AQA	<a href="#">Science   GCSE   Biology</a>
Business (GCSE)	OCR	<a href="#">Business   GCSE</a>
Chemistry (GCSE)	AQA	<a href="#">Science   GCSE   Chemistry</a>
Computer Science (GCSE)	OCR	<a href="#">Computer Science   GCSE</a>
Creative iMedia (National)	OCR	<a href="#">Creative iMedia   GCSE</a>
Design & Technology (GCSE)	AQA	<a href="#">Design and Technology   GCSE</a>
Drama (GCSE)	OCR	<a href="#">Drama   GCSE</a>
English Language (GCSE)	AQA	<a href="#">English   GCSE   English Language</a>
English Literature (GCSE)	AQA	<a href="#">English   GCSE   English Literature</a>
Food Preparation & Nutrition (GCSE)	Eduqas	<a href="#">Food Preparation and Nutrition   GCSE</a>
French (GCSE)	AQA	<a href="#">Languages   GCSE   French</a>
Geography (GCSE)	AQA	<a href="#">Geography   GCSE</a>
History B – SHP (GCSE)	OCR	<a href="#">History   GCSE</a>
Maths (GCSE)	AQA	<a href="#">Maths   GCSE</a>
Music (GCSE)	Eduqas	<a href="#">Music   GCSE</a>
Performing Arts – Dance (BTEC)	Pearson Edexcel	<a href="#">Performing Arts   Dance   BTEC</a>
PE (GCSE)	OCR	<a href="#">PE   GCSE</a>
Physics (GCSE)	AQA	<a href="#">Science   GCSE   Physics</a>
Religious Studies A (GCSE)	AQA	<a href="#">Religious Studies   GCSE</a>
Sport (BTEC)	Pearson Edexcel	<a href="#">Sport   BTEC</a>
Science Combined Trilogy (GCSE)	AQA	<a href="#">Science   GCSE   Combined Trilogy</a>
Spanish (GCSE)	AQA	<a href="#">Languages   GCSE   Spanish</a>



# WHAT AM I PREPARING FOR? OVERVIEW OF KEY MOCK INFORMATION

The following section details the number of papers per subject, a brief guide to the relevant topics and content so that students can target their revision and a series of suggested useful revision resources and activities to help support independent study.

Subject	No. of exams	Exam paper/ structure	Key content/ topics	Useful revision sources/activities
<b>Art</b>	1  Over two days	Choose one of the following tasks:  Practical testing of materials to prepare for coursework  Beginning coursework final piece	Students' own choice of topic	Drawings, mixed media testing, photography including creative photography. Researching relevant artists, to inform practical piece(s). Students could produce thumbnail sketches to explore a range of different ideas; could combine the ideas and/ or style of two+ artists with own imagery. Reference photos need printing to size <b>ahead</b> of the mock. Materials need to be prepared and in school. No bringing in of sharps/solvents from home.
<b>Business</b>	1	Paper 1	Business activity, people, marketing	CGP revision book / online Digital Revision Booklets Past Papers (revision world) BBC Bitesize Seneca Notes taken in class (recorded in the Class Notebook)
<b>Computer Science</b>	1	Paper 2	Algorithms, programming fundamentals, producing robust programs, Boolean logic, programming languages, integrated development environments	Teach-ICT website <a href="https://www.csnewbs.com/ocr-gcse">https://www.csnewbs.com/ocr-gcse</a> <a href="https://isaacomputerscience.org">https://isaacomputerscience.org</a> Past Papers (revision world) Computer Science eBook CGP revision book / online Pseudocode Structure (from OCR) Notes taken in class (recorded in the Class Notebook)
<b>iMedia</b>	1	Paper 1	The media industry, Factors influencing product design, Pre-production plan, Distribution considerations	The revision guide for Preproduction skills (ISBN-10, 1471886689) Past Papers Revision booklet (shared in class)

Subject	No. of exams	Exam paper/ structure	Key content/ topics	Useful revision sources/activities
DT	1	3 sections in the paper (see next column for detail)	<b>Section A- Core Technical Principles</b> (materials and their working properties, systems and controls) <b>Section B- Core Specialist Principles</b> (Processing and production techniques, dealing with Forces and stresses, use of maths in design, social and environmental footprint) <b>Section C- Designing and Making Principles</b> (specification and product analysis, calculating material needs, production techniques, design communication and drawing, CAD and CAM, Quality control, evaluation and development of designs)	Notes from the course; revision homework set on Seneca; practice questions; ClearRevise AQA GCSE Design and Technology guide; <a href="https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/examspe/cs/zby2bdm">https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/examspe/cs/zby2bdm</a> <a href="https://www.technologystudent.com/">https://www.technologystudent.com/</a>
Drama	1		Blood Brothers The Woman in Black	<a href="#">Blood Brothers - plot summary on BBC Bitesize</a> ; Drama booklets and PowerPoints on both Blood Brothers and The Woman in Black (already shared with students); Grade 9-1 GCSE Drama CGP revision guide; GCSE Drama Blood Brothers 9-1 CGP revision guide; example performance work on YouTube (devising drama GCSE/A Levels and presenting and performing text GCSE/A level)
English Language	1	Paper 1 Section A - 4 questions testing reading (40 marks) Section B - 1 question testing writing (40 marks)	Fiction writing (extracts from short stories/novels) Creative writing - fiction (description and narrative writing)	Practising exam-style questions (this could be spending time on a careful plan rather than on a complete responses); regular reading (short stories, extracts from novels etc)- so that students are used to reading something new and can analyse it; online revision resources that test and extend knowledge of the skills examiners are looking for (Seneca, Massolit videos, Mr Bruff videos on YouTube); revision booklets with extracts and questions (written by the department).
English Literature	1	Paper 1 Section A - 1 essay question on Shakespeare text (30 marks) Section B - 1 essay question on 19th Century text (30 marks)	Romeo and Juliet Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde	Revision booklets (written by the department); creating and using flashcards (for learning quotations); practising exam-style questions (this could be spending time on a careful plan rather than on a whole essay); online revision resources that test and extend knowledge of the studied Literature texts (Seneca, Shmoop, York Notes, Spark Notes, Massolit videos, Mr Bruff videos on YouTube)



Subject	No. of exams	Exam paper/ structure	Key content/ topics	Useful revision sources/activities
<b>Food</b>	1	Section A - One 6 part question about cooking and food preparation Section B – covers nutrition, diet and good health, food science, commodities and food origins	1. Food commodities 2. Principles of nutrition 3. Diet and good health 4. The science of food 5. Where food comes from 6. Cooking and food preparation	Practice questions as well as learning resources have been set for homework which covers all sections of the paper; all work is accessible through Microsoft Teams page for classes; Seneca (Eduqas GCSE Food and Nutrition course) Revision topics set on Show My Homework
<b>French</b>	4	Listening	Section A - questions and answers in English. Section B - questions and answers in French.	Past papers easily accessible on RevisionWorld (website). Lots of other revision resources will be shared on Teams by your class teacher.
		Reading	Section A- questions and answers in English. Section B- questions and answers in French. Section C - translation into English.	
		Writing	Foundation: Q1 - describe a photo in four sentences. Q2 - 40 word question. Q3 - translate 5 sentences into French. Q4 - 90 word question. Higher: Q1 - 90 word question. Q2 - 150 word question. Q3 - paragraph to translate to French.	
		Speaking	Prepare on the day: role play and photo card. Prepare in advance: general conversation on two themes, the first of which you get to choose in advance.	AQA 2018 speaking exam booklet. Speaking questions that have been prepared since the beginning of Y10. Theme 1: Family, friends, marriage and relationships. Festivals. Free time. Theme 2: Holidays, environment, home and local area, health. Theme 2: School, plans post 16.
<b>Geography</b>	1	Paper 1 - Living with the Physical Environment	The challenges of natural hazards; the living world; physical landscapes of the UK (rivers & coasts)	Blue revision exercise books (recap sheets); green physical geography exercise book; CGP revision guide and revision cards; Seneca; visit our Geography Hub for further revision suggestions.

Subject	Number of exams	Exam paper/ structure	Key content/ topics	Useful revision resources/activities
History	1	Three questions for each topic (see detailed information sheet shared with groups in history lessons for further structure information)	Living under Nazi Rule 1933-45 The Norman Conquest 1065-1087	Exercise books, online Moodle quizzes
Maths	3	Non-calculator	Any topic can be tested on any paper	Use Sparx to revise topics, watching the videos and completing the questions. In particular, use your QLA from the end of year 10 assessments to identify what you need to work on. You can also use packs of exam practice questions, available on the following websites: <a href="https://www.mathsgenie.co.uk/">https://www.mathsgenie.co.uk/</a> <a href="https://justmaths.co.uk/">https://justmaths.co.uk/</a> <a href="https://corbettmaths.com/contents/">https://corbettmaths.com/contents/</a>
		Calculator		
		Calculator		
Music	1	Paper with 8 questions; 2 from each area of study	Badinerie section A; Romantic music; Jazz and Blues; Musicals ensuring a knowledge of Key signatures, time signatures and rhythms; film; Toto with a focus on the chorus, in particular the final chorus; Pop music	Students are advised to revisit key signatures, time signatures, revision summaries and practice questions of their set works as well as blues/Jazz and film; they will need to know which features belong to which element and have an element mat to support this revision; Sams assessment material on the Eduqas site will give them a fuller understanding of the question styles
PE (GCSE)	2	Paper 1: 60 Marks. A series of 1-6 mark questions based on Physical Factors affecting performance	<i>Applied Anatomy and Physiology:</i> Skeletal, Muscular, Cardio, Respiratory Systems, Components of Fitness and Physical Training	The revision book offered by the department. Hot Quiz booklets used within lessons. Online OCR 9-1 Past Paper 1 and Mark Schemes (J587 series only). Seneca. Youtube - The PE Classroom (best one!), The Everlearner, Planet PE, BBCBitesize (OCR). Reading through exercise book.
		Paper 2: 60 Marks. A series of 1-6 mark questions based on Socio-cultural Issues and Psychology	<i>Sport in Society:</i> Engagement patterns, Commercialisation, Ethics, Psychology, Health, Fitness, Well-being.	The revision book offered by the department. Hot Quiz booklets used within lessons. Online OCR 9-1 Past Paper 2 and Mark Schemes (J587 series only). Seneca. Youtube - The PE Classroom (best one!), The Everlearner, Planet PE, BBCBitesize (OCR). Reading through exercise book.

Subject	Number of exams	Exam paper/ structure	Key content/ topics	Useful revision resources/activities
RE	1	Two thematic sections Two beliefs and practices sections	Theme B - Religion and life Theme E - Religion, crime and punishment Christian beliefs Christian practices	Exercise books, school revision website, Oak Academy, Seneca
Science	3	Biology (Paper 1)	Topics 1–4: Cell biology; Organisation; Infection and response; and Bioenergetics	Access to the digital AQA Biology/Chemistry/Physics textbooks (Kerboodle); an email has been sent to all year 11 with a link to resources for checklists/knowledge organisers for both Combined and Triple science; My Physics and Maths Tutor Websites – AQA Biology/Chemistry/Physics section with links to flashcards, revision notes and past paper questions ;Isaac Physics Website – a free digital platform for pupils to work through and practice GCSE physics questions; exercise books for content
		Chemistry (Paper 1)	Topics 1–5: Atomic structure and the periodic table; Bonding, structure, and the properties of matter; Quantitative chemistry, Chemical changes; and Energy changes.	
		Physics (Paper 1)	Topics 1-4: Energy; Electricity; Particle model of matter; and Atomic structure	
Spanish	4	Listening	Section A - questions and answers in English. Section B - questions and answers in Spanish	Please access the revision folder on teams for support for all your exams, as demonstrated in lessons. Please ask Miss Walley if there is anything more you would like but don't yet have access to.
		Reading	Section A- questions and answers in English. Section B- questions and answers in Spanish. Section C - translation into English	
		Writing	Foundation: Q1 - describe a photo in four sentences. Q2 - 40 word question. Q3 - translate 5 sentences into Spanish. Q4 - 90 word question. Higher: Q1 - 90 word question. Q2 - 150 word Q3 - translate a paragraph into Spanish	
		Speaking	Prepare on the day: role play and photo card. Prepare in advance: general conversation on two themes, the first of which you get to choose in advance	AQA 2018 speaking exam booklet. Speaking questions that have been prepared since the beginning of Y10. Theme 1: Family, friends, marriage and relationships. Festivals. Free time. Theme 2: Holidays, environment, home and local area, health. Theme 2: School, plans post 16

## RESOURCES: HAVE YOU GOT WHAT YOU NEED?

Preparing for your mock fortnight, it's crucial that you have the materials you need. Here is a handy checklist!

- ☐ **Revision guides/study aids for the subjects that you are studying.** The notes in your exercise books will be useful, but for a complete set of notes (alongside questions, model answers etc.) any revision resources that have been given to you or suggested by each subject.
- ☐ **Online resources/apps.** Do you have your login details handy? Check the information on the back page of this guide and get yourself up and running online.
- ☐ **Materials for note-making/flashcards.** Pens (black ink), pencils, highlighters, post-it notes, flashcards.
- ☐ **Materials for maths/science.** A scientific calculator, preferably the **Casio FX-83GTX** (which you have practised using before the exam!), a compass and a protractor.
- ☐ **A plan.** Do you have a plan for tackling your gaps in different subjects? Use the **Revision Planner in this guide** to help you get started.

## GUIDANCE: REVISION - WHAT WORKS?

To be effective, **revision must be active, it must cause you to 'think hard'**. Passively reading through notes or flicking through a revision guide is a very poor form of revision. Active revision leads to more chance of committing information and learning to your long-term memory.

Students are most successful when they use a revision timetable (**see the revision planner at the end of this booklet**) because it allows you to plan your time more effectively and ensure that you are splitting your time across your subjects, as well as making sure that the right subject is tackled at the right time (particularly in relation to the mock exam timetable). In addition:

- **You should aim for 25-35 minute bursts of revision activity, with 10 minute breaks** in between (going for a walk can be the most effective type of break);
- **Identify and tackle your knowledge gaps** - don't just revise the topic you like or are better at – it is tempting to do so, but you need to prioritise the topics and areas you know you would struggle with in an exam.

The following pages describe some of the ways in which you might improve the effectiveness of your revision. They summarise some of the methods that the Learning Scientists recommend. The Learning Scientists are a group of scientific researchers in cognitive science who have focused on how students best learn and revise. Their website explains why these approaches are so successful and has downloadable resources for more information and guidance.

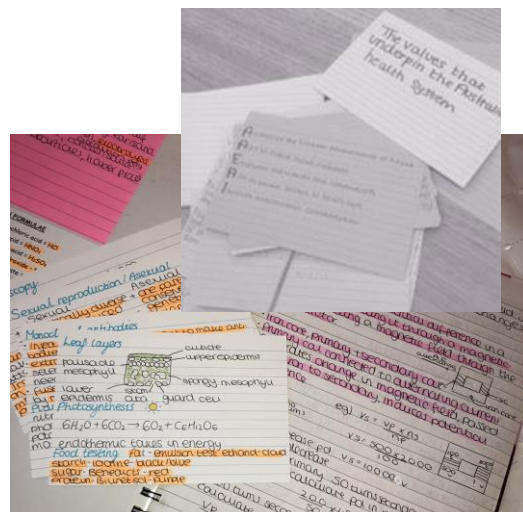
**[www.learningscientists.org/downloadable-materials](http://www.learningscientists.org/downloadable-materials)**



# HOW TO MAKE YOUR REVISION ACTIVE AND SUCCESSFUL!

**1. Using flashcards** The ultimate portable revision strategy! There are different ways to create and use flashcards to target your knowledge gaps. You could simply record a keyword, definition or idea on each card. You could use both sides of the card: question on one side, answer on the other.

Lots of students find that they are able to recall information more effectively when they use colour and pictures on their flashcards. **Self-testing with flashcards has been shown to be a very effective way to prepare for exams.** Using the **Leitner system** (below) has been shown to be a brilliant way to super-charge your revision/learning.

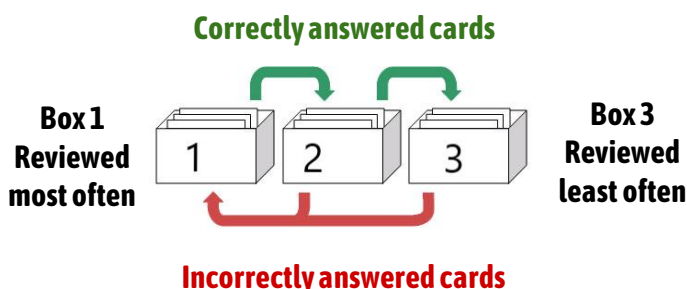


**Leitner System:** Get hold of three small boxes, envelopes or three different coloured elastic bands

**Quiz yourself on your flashcards.** If you recall the information on the flashcard, put it in box 2. If you don't recall, put the card in box 1.

**Now, come up with a revision schedule e.g. review box 1 twice a week, review box 2 once a week and review box 3 once a fortnight.**

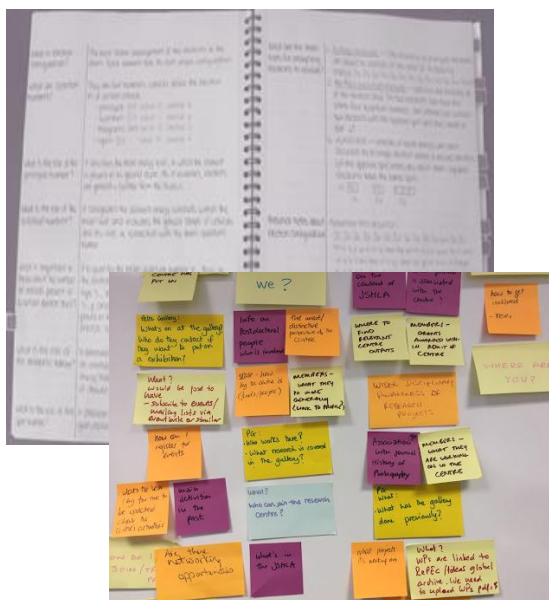
The next time you review a box (quizzing yourself on the cards), move any card you can recall into the next box (e.g. box 2 to box 3) and any card that you can't recall back to the earlier box (e.g. box 2 to box 1).



**Video explanation/demonstration at:**

**[How to study flashcards using the Leitner system](#)**

**The cards that you recall (know), move towards box 3, the ones you don't know, move towards box 1.** This way you will always be focussing your energies where they are needed most.



**2. Making summary notes** Once you have identified your gaps, try **transforming** the notes you already have from your revision guide, exercise book, websites/online and other resources. Don't fall into the trap of copying out lots of text – **turn the information into short paragraphs, bullet points, lists or pictures.**

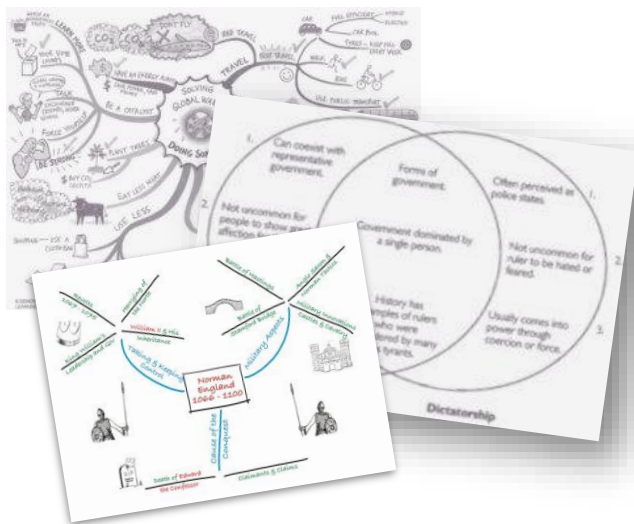
Transforming notes in this way will help you to memorise the information by getting you to think harder about it! Often students find it useful to summarise their notes onto post-it notes and make a display of them in a place they visit regularly. The post-it notes can also be used to test your memory at a later date.

### 3. Graphic Organisers (Mind maps, Spider diagrams, Venn diagrams etc.)

Most students find that graphic organisers are a memorable way to organise ideas on a page. Different organisers support different types of revision e.g. memorising a sequence (Chain), finding out how much you remember about a particular topic (Spider), thinking through how two ideas compare with one another (Venn) or organising pros & cons (T-chart).

There are lots of useful graphic organiser templates (which can be downloaded and printed) at:

<https://freeology.com/graphicorgs/page/4/>



### 4. Memorising! Read-recite-review

A significant part of exam success is memory work - what can you recall? There are lots of memory techniques you can try. One approach which works for lots of students is:

1. **Read** (your notes on a particular topic).
2. **Recite** as much as you can from memory (you could record this on your phone) then re-read your notes.
3. **Review**: get someone to test you on your notes or answer questions on the topic (use questions from your revision guide or past-paper).

Testing straight-away increases your ability to remember later.

### 5. Question practice (past papers & others)

Answering test questions (and marking/correcting your answers, if possible) is another effective way to prepare for exams. This is because it helps you to figure out where your gaps are, giving you the opportunity to do something about them. Most revision guides have tests, quizzes and exam-style questions (often with model answers alongside).

It can also be just as effective to carefully plan answers to longer/high mark questions in subjects where you write more extended answers (for example, English Literature, history, Drama etc.). Planning is as effective a revision task as actually completing practise questions in full.

It is very important to practise reading and interpreting exam-style questions to ensure that you understand what the different command words mean.

For past-papers, mark schemes and information about command words for a particular subject, please visit the relevant Exam Board website.

For example, here are the command words for AQA Combined Science

<https://bit.ly/33DbHBN>

and the subject specific vocabulary

<https://bit.ly/2lsJDAu>

Write your name here		Other names	
Surname	Candidate Number		
Pearson Edexcel	Centre Number	Candidate Number	
Level 1 / Level 2	Candidate Number		
GCSE (9-1)	Candidate Number		
<b>Mathematics</b>		<b>Higher Tier</b>	
<b>Paper 1 (Non-Calculator)</b>		Paper Reference	
Thursday 25 May 2017 - Morning		<b>1MA1/1H</b>	
Time: 1 hour 30 minutes		Total Marks	
You must have: Ruler graduated in centimetres and millimetres, protractor, pair of compasses, pen, HB pencil, eraser.			

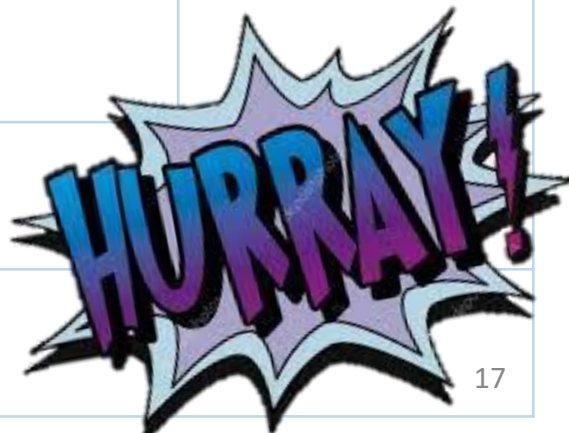


Date	Today I shall be revising...	Notes (including plans and activities for relaxing)
Sat 14 Oct		
Sun 15 Oct		
Mon 16 Oct		
Tue 17 Oct		
Wed 18 Oct		
Thu 19 Oct		
Fri 20 Oct		
Half-term holiday		

Date	Today I shall be revising...	Notes (including plans and activities for relaxing)
Sat 21 Oct		
Sun 22 Oct		
Mon 23 Oct		
Tues 24 Oct		
Wed 25 Oct		
Thu 26 Oct		
Fri 27 Oct		
Sat 28 Oct		
Sun 29 Oct		
Mon 30 Oct		Back to school
Tue 31 Oct		Halloween!
Wed 01 Nov		
Thu 02 Nov		
Fri 03 Nov		



Date	Today I shall be revising...	Notes (including plans and activities for relaxing)
Sat 04 Nov		
Sun 05 Nov		Bonfire night!
Mon 06 Nov		
Tues 07 Nov		
Wed 08 Nov		
Thu 9 Nov		
Fri 10 Nov		
Sat 11 Nov		
Sun 12 Nov		
Mon 13 Nov		
Tues 14 Nov		



**END OF EXAMS!**

# ONLINE REVISION RESOURCES FOR A RANGE OF SUBJECTS

Massolit

[WWW.MASSOLIT.COM](http://WWW.MASSOLIT.COM)

Years	10 & 11
Subjects	All
Activities	Expert lecturers deliver short, accessible, high-quality videos on all Literature topics (and some Language ones) – with quizzes.
Login	Free to CVC students. You should have been given log-in details by your teacher. Ask if you need to be given access.

[WWW.SENECALARNING.COM](http://WWW.SENECALARNING.COM)

Years	All
Subjects	All
Activities	Facts, pictures, quick-fire questions to test your knowledge & understanding.
Login	Free. Use your school email to create an account – you may have a class group if your teacher has set work/tasks on Seneca.

[HTTPS://THEPECLASSROOM.COM/](https://THEPECLASSROOM.COM/)

Years	10 & 11
Subjects	PE
Activities	Videos, quizzes, exam questions
Login	The best place to access the content for this is on Youtube which has free access. If you are unsure, speak to your PE teacher.

[HTTPS://THEEVERLEARNER.COM/](https://THEEVERLEARNER.COM/)

Years	10 & 11
Subjects	PE
Activities	Videos, revision materials, quick-fire questions to test your knowledge and understanding.
Login	The best place to access the content for this is on Youtube which has free access. If you are unsure, speak to your PE teacher.

This page has a summary of key revision websites and online resources that students either can access for free or have access to because we have paid for subscriptions. If students need log-in information or access, they should speak to their subject teacher.

hegartymaths

[HTTPS://HEGARTYMATHS.COM/](https://HEGARTYMATHS.COM/)

Years	11
Subjects	Maths
Activities	Video & tasks for every maths topic.
Login	You have been given a password by your Maths teacher. If you forget it, click the link and your teacher will reset it ASAP.

[WWW.LANGUAGE-GYM.COM](http://WWW.LANGUAGE-GYM.COM)

Years	10 & 11
Subjects	MFL (French, Spanish)
Activities	Grammar practise, vocab. exercises, videos to watch.
Login	You have been given a log-in by your MFL teacher. If you forget it, you can speak to your teacher to either request a password reset or a class joining code.

[WWW.TECHNOLOGYSTUDENT.COM](http://WWW.TECHNOLOGYSTUDENT.COM)

Years	All (but best for Years 10 & 11)
Subjects	Design Technology
Activities	Videos, revision notes, guides on a huge range of DT topics.
Login	Free to access.

[HTTPS://WWW.THENATIONAL.ACADEMY/](https://WWW.THENATIONAL.ACADEMY/)

Years	All
Subjects	All
Activities	Videos, revision materials, quick-fire questions to test your knowledge and understanding.
Login	Free to access

[WWW.BBC.CO.UK/BITESIZE](http://WWW.BBC.CO.UK/BITESIZE)

Years	All
Subjects	All
Activities	Videos, revision materials, quick-fire questions to test your knowledge and understanding.
Login	Free to access

# FINALLY, THE DOS AND DON'TS OF EFFECTIVE REVISION – A QUICK SUMMARY

DO:	DON'T:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Revise for about 30 minutes at a time – take short breaks regularly</li><li>• Get lots of sleep</li><li>• Eat well and drink plenty of water</li><li>• Take time for you and have some fun and relaxing planned activities amongst the revision</li><li>• Get some exercise</li><li>• Have a plan – work out what you will revise and for how long</li><li>• Use effective strategies for revision – active ones (flashcards, practice questions, planning, creating useful and summary notes)</li><li>• Use your teachers and their resources/support/suggestions to support your revision</li><li>• Remove distractions (put your mobile phone away when revising)</li><li>• If possible have a study area (if not, clear it away when you finish revising so that your room reverts to a place for relaxing)</li><li>• Accept that mocks and exams and Year 11 is going to cause stress and feelings of anxiety and that this is normal BUT speak to people about how you are feeling so that you can get support if needed</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Try and revise for long periods of time without breaks</li><li>• Try and revise late into the night</li><li>• Try to exist on fast food and sweets</li><li>• Resolve to revise all the time and never take time for yourself to have fun</li><li>• Abandon hobbies and interests</li><li>• Put your head in the sand and not plan out revision (makes things harder!)</li><li>• Take part in passive revision (re-reading notes, reading text guides... you need to DO something)</li><li>• Ignore a really important place of support and resources... your teachers!</li><li>• Try to revise with your phone/access to social media/internet/gaming etc.</li><li>• Try to revise in a noisy or chaotic location OR turn your bedroom into an office and never clear away the revision</li><li>• Clam up and not share how you are feeling – stress and learning how to manage it is part of Year 11, but if you are feeling upset or anxious you must speak with someone trusted so that you can get support if needed</li></ul>

**REMEMBER... MOCK EXAMS ARE THERE TO HELP GIVE YOU AN IDEA OF WHAT IS COMING BUT THEY ARE NOT THE REAL THING. THESE EXAMS ARE TO MAKE SURE THAT WE ALL KNOW HOW TO BEST PREPARE YOU FOR THE ONLY EXAMS THAT ACTUALLY MATTER... THE REAL ONES!**

