

Year 11 Revision Tool

Date: Oct 2014—June 2015

How do I revise?

Is it too late to start?

What should my revision programme be/look like?

This booklet is designed to help you to revise more efficiently as you approach the exams in the Summer.

It contains all the advice you need to build a suitable programme of meaningful revision.

Maths (Tuesday) & English (Thursday) nights take priority over other subjects and attendance at other subjects depends on you being on target

October 2014

Pocket sized revision guides sold in library 50p

Silent Study Wednesdays F18
None computer based

GCSE PE within Core PE
PEP/AOP Thursday Lunchtimes F8
Thursday Evening PE Reception

Health and Social Care on Tuesdays
3—4.30pm L8 computer room

Dance/Music/Drama
Wk A Wednesday 3—5 11M
Wk B Thursdays 3—5pm 11L.

Art
GCSE Photography Monday 3—5pm
Creative Enterprise Tuesdays 3—4pm
Drop In Wednesdays 3—5pm
Drop Thursday 3—4pm

Technology, Systems, Resistant Materials and Graphics
Tuesday 3-4.30pm
Food Tech

MFL
Fridays 3—4.15 Mrs. Darwin

Wk

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Mon	Tue MATHS	Wed	Thu ENGLISH	Fri	Sat	Sun
		<i>1 Dance Sessions Start 3—5pm 11M</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3 Training Day—Holiday for Pupils</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>5</i>
<i>6</i>	<i>7</i>	<i>8 Dance Sessions Start 3—5pm 11L</i>	<i>9</i>	<i>10</i>	<i>11</i>	<i>12</i>
<i>13 English Extended Reading Resit</i>	<i>14 English Extended Reading Resit</i>	<i>15</i>	<i>16</i>	<i>17</i>	<i>18</i>	<i>19</i>
<i>20</i>	<i>21</i>	<i>22</i>	<i>23</i>	<i>24 Year 11 Full Reports Music EDM/Minimalist/ Solo Perf Deadline</i>	<i>25</i>	<i>26</i>
<i>27</i>	<i>28</i>	<i>29</i>	<i>30</i>	<i>31</i>		
		Half-Term				

Maths (Tuesday) & English (Thursday) nights take priority over other subjects and attendance at other subjects depends on you being on target

November 2014

Pocket sized revision guides sold in library 50p

GCSE PE in Core PE
PEP/AOP Thursday Lunchtimes F8
Thursday Evening PE Reception

Health and Social Care on Tuesdays
3—4.30pm L8 computer room

Silent Study Wednesdays F18
None computer based

Dance/Music/Drama
Wk A Wednesday 3—5 11M
Wk B Thursdays 3—5pm 11L.

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Drop In Wednesdays 3—5pm
Drop Thursday 3—4pm

Technology, Systems, Resistant Materials and Graphics
Tuesday 3-4.30pm
Food Tech

MFL
Fridays 3—4.15 Mrs. Darwin

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Mon	Tue MATHS	Wed	Thu ENGLISH	Fri	Sat	Sun
					1	2
3	4	5 <i>MFL—Speaking Controlled Ass</i>	6 <i>MFL—Speaking Controlled Ass</i>	7 <i>MFL—Speaking Controlled Ass</i>	8	9
10 <i>Year 11 Parents Evening</i>	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26 <i>Food Technology Practical's 11L</i>	27	28 <i>Food Technology Practical's 11L</i>	29	30

Maths (Tuesday) & English (Thursday) nights take priority over other subjects and attendance at other subjects depends on you being on target

December 2014

Pocket sized revision guides sold in library 50p

GCSE PE in Core PE
PEP/AOP Thursday Lunchtimes F8
Thursday Evening PE Reception

Art
GCSE Photography Monday 3—5pm
Creative Enterprise Tuesdays 3—4pm
Drop In Wednesdays 3—5pm
Drop Thursday 3—4pm

Health and Social Care on Tuesdays
3—4.30pm L8 computer room

Technology, Systems, Resistant Materials and Graphics
Tuesday 3-4.30pm
Food Tech

Silent Study Wednesdays F18
None computer based

Dance/Music/Drama
Wk A Wednesday 3—5 11M
Wk B Thursdays 3—5pm 11L.

MFL
Fridays 3—4.15 Mrs. Darwin

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Mon	Tue MATHS	Wed	Thu ENGLISH	Fri	Sat	Sun
1 <i>MFL Yr10 —Writing Controlled Assessment 1</i>	2 <i>MFL Yr10 —Writing Controlled Assessment 1</i>	3 <i>MFL Yr10 —Writing Controlled Assessment 1</i>	4 <i>MFL Yr10 —Writing Controlled Assessment 1</i>	5 <i>Pupil Holiday Music All Coursework's Deadline</i>	6	7
8 <i>Year 11 Mock Exams</i>	9 <i>Year 11 Mock Exams</i>	10 <i>Year 11 Mock Exams</i>	11 <i>Year 11 Mock Exams</i>	12 <i>Year 11 Mock Exams</i>	13	14
15 <i>English Language Mock Exam</i>	16	17	18 <i>Art—Extended Project Deadline</i>	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
Christmas Term						
29	30	31				

Maths (Tuesday) & English (Thursday) nights take priority over other subjects and attendance at other subjects depends on you being on target

January 2015

Pocket sized revision guides sold in library 50p

GCSE PE in Core PE
PEP/AOP Thursday Lunchtimes F8
Thursday Evening PE Reception

Silent Study Wednesdays F18
None computer based

Health and Social Care on Tuesdays
3—4.30pm L8 computer room

Dance/Music/Drama
Wk A Wednesday 3—5 11M
Wk B Thursdays 3—5pm 11L.

Art
GCSE Photography Monday 3—5pm
Creative Enterprise Tuesdays 3—4pm
Drop In Wednesdays 3—5pm
Drop Thursday 3—4pm

Technology, Systems, Resistant Materials and Graphics
Tuesday 3-4.30pm
Food Tech

MFL
Fridays 3—4.15 Mrs. Darwin

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Mon	Tue MATHS	Wed	Thu ENGLISH	Fri	Sat	Sun
			1	2	3	4
		Christmas Term				
5	6	7 <i>Cambridge Nationals Science Exam</i>	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16 <i>Year 11 1st Interim Reports</i>	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26 <i>Mock Interviews 4—6.30pm</i>	27 <i>Mock Interviews 4—6.30pm</i>	28	29	30	31 <i>Art—Exam Papers received (6 week prep)</i>	

Maths (Tuesday) & English (Thursday) nights take priority over other subjects and attendance at other subjects depends on you being on target

February 2015

Pocket sized revision guides sold in library 50p

GCSE PE in Core PE
PEP/AOP Thursday Lunchtimes F8
Thursday Evening PE Reception

RE
On Weekly Day TBC

Silent Study Wednesdays F18
None computer based

Health and Social Care on Tuesdays
3—4.30pm L8 computer room

Dance/Music/Drama
Wk A Wednesday 3—5 11M
Wk B Thursdays 3—5pm 11L.

Art
GCSE Photography Monday 3—5pm
Creative Enterprise Tuesdays 3—4pm
Drop In Wednesdays 3—5pm
Drop Thursday 3—4pm

Technology, Systems, Resistant Materials and Graphics
Tuesday 3-4.30pm
Food Tech

MFL
Fridays 3—4.15 Mrs. Darwin

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Mon	Tue MATHS	Wed	Thu ENGLISH	Fri	Sat	Sun
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17 <i>History/Geography—Post Mock Booster Day 8.45—3pm</i>	18	19	20	21	22
Half-Term						
23 PE—Mock Exam <i>MFL—Writing Controlled Ass</i>	24 <i>MFL—Writing Controlled Ass</i>	25 <i>MFL—Writing Controlled Ass</i>	26 <i>MFL—Writing Controlled Ass</i>	27 MFL—Writing Controlled Ass <i>Graphics/Resistant Materials and Manufacturing— Coursework Deadline</i>	28	

Maths (Tuesday) & English (Thursday) nights take priority over other subjects and attendance at other subjects depends on you being on target

March 2015

Pocket sized revision guides sold in library 50p

GCSE PE in Core PE
PEP/AOP Thursday Lunchtimes F8
Thursday Evening PE Reception

RE
On Weekly Day TBC

Silent Study Wednesdays F18
None computer based

Art
GCSE Photography Monday 3—5pm
Creative Enterprise Tuesdays 3—4pm
Drop In Wednesdays 3—5pm
Drop Thursday 3—4pm

Health and Social Care on Tuesdays
3—4.30pm L8 computer room

Dance/Music/Drama
Wk A Wednesday 3—5 11M
Wk B Thursdays 3—5pm 11L.

Technology, Systems, Resistant Materials and Graphics
Tuesday 3-4.30pm
Food Tech

MFL
Fridays 3—4.15 Mrs. Darwin

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Mon	Tue MATHS	Wed	Thu ENG-	Fri	Sat	Sun
<i>Performing Arts—AQA External Moderation Date TBC</i>	<i>Performing Arts—Year 10 AQA Internal Moderation TBC</i>	<i>Drama—Year 10 Edexcel Internal Moderation TBC</i>				1
2 <i>Food Tech—CA Deadline</i>	3 <i>Food Tech—Exam Material and Research Time Given</i>	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11 <i>Dance—Internal Moderation</i>	12 <i>Dance—Internal Moderation</i>	13	14	15
16 <i>Drama Internal Moderation</i>	17 <i>Drama Internal Moderation</i>	18 <i>Drama Internal Moderation</i>	19	20	21	22
23 <i>PE—Practical Mock Moderation All Week</i>	24	25 <i>Dance—External Moderation</i>	26 <i>Dance—External Moderation</i>	27 English—CA Deadline <i>Dance—External Moderation</i>	28	29
30 <i>MFL—Yr 10 Speaking CA 1</i>	31 <i>MFL—Yr 10 Speaking CA 1</i>					

Maths (Tuesday) & English (Thursday) nights take priority over other subjects and attendance at other subjects depends on you being on target

April 2015

Pocket sized revision guides sold in library 50p

GCSE PE in Core PE
PEP/AOP Thursday Lunchtimes F8
Thursday Evening PE Reception

RE
On Weekly Day TBC

Silent Study Wednesdays F18
None computer based

Art
GCSE Photography Monday 3—5pm
Creative Enterprise Tuesdays 3—4pm
Drop In Wednesdays 3—5pm
Drop Thursday 3—4pm

Health and Social Care on Tuesdays
3—4.30pm L8 computer room

Dance/Music/Drama
Wk A Wednesday 3—5 11M
Wk B Thursdays 3—5pm 11L.

Technology, Systems, Resistant Materials and Graphics
Tuesday 3-4.30pm
Food Tech

MFL
Fridays 3—4.15 Mrs. Darwin

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Mon	Tue MATHS	Wed	Thu ENGLISH	Fri	Sat	Sun
		1 <i>GCSE PE— Practical Modera- tion</i>	2 <i>GCSE PE—Practical Moder- ation</i>	3	4	5
6	7 <i>History/Geography— Paper 1 Booster Day 8.45—3pm</i>	8	9 EASTER HOLIDAYS	10 <i>GCSE PE High Ad- venture Outward Bounds Trip</i>	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20 <i>GCSE PE—No Practi- cal all Theory Sessions</i>	21	22 <i>MFL—Yr 10 Speak- ing CA 1 Ends</i>	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30 <i>Performing Arts—AQA Coursework Deadline</i>			

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May 2015

Pocket sized revision guides sold in library 50p

GCSE PE

Booster Class every Lunch and Night 3—4pm

RE

On Weekly Day TBC

Silent Study Wednesdays F18
None computer based

Health and Social Care on Tuesdays

3—4.30pm L8 computer room

Dance/Music/Drama

Wk A Wednesday 3—5 11M

Wk B Thursdays 3—5pm 11L.

Art

GCSE Photography Monday 3—5pm

Creative Enterprise Tuesdays 3—4pm

Drop In Wednesdays 3—5pm

Drop Thursday 3—4pm

Technology, Systems, Resistant Materials and Graphics

Tuesday 3-4.30pm

Food Tech

MFL

Fridays 3—4.15 Mrs. Darwin

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Mon	Tue MATHS	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
<i>Drama—Edexcel External Moderation Date TBC</i>				<i>1 Systems—Coursework Deadline</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>
<i>4</i> May Day	<i>5</i>	<i>6</i>	<i>7</i>	<i>8 Art—Mini Project Deadline</i>	<i>9 GCSE PE—Theory 11-1pm RE Revision 9—1pm</i>	<i>10</i>
<i>11</i>	<i>12</i>	<i>13</i>	<i>14</i>	<i>15 GCSE PE—Exam</i>	<i>16</i>	<i>17</i>
<i>18</i>	<i>19</i>	<i>20 Triple Science—Biology Paper 1 Exam</i>	<i>21</i>	<i>22</i>	<i>23</i>	<i>24</i>
<i>25</i>	<i>26 History/Geography—Paper 2 Booster Day 8.45—3pm</i>	MAY HOLIDAYS		<i>29</i>	<i>30</i>	<i>31</i>

Maths (Tuesday) & English (Thursday) nights take priority over other subjects and attendance at other subjects depends on you being on target

June 2015

Pocket sized revision guides sold in library 50p

Silent Study Wednesdays F18
None computer based

Health and Social Care on Tuesdays
3—4.30pm L8 computer room

Dance/Music/Drama
Wk A Wednesday 3—5 11M
Wk B Thursdays 3—5pm 11L.

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Drop In Wednesdays 3—5pm
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Tuesday 3-4.30pm
Food Tech

MFL
Fridays 3—4.15 Mrs. Darwin

Wk

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Mon	Tue MATHS	Wed	Thu ENGLISH	Fri	Sat	Sun
1	2	3	4	5 <i>Triple Science—Chemistry Paper 1 Exam</i> <i>Cambridge Nationals Science Exam</i>	6	7
8	9 <i>Triple/(Physics) Additional Science—Paper 1 Exam</i>	10	11	12 <i>Triple (Biology)/Additional Science—Paper 2 Exam</i>	13	14
15 <i>Triple Science—Chemistry Paper 2 Exam</i>	16	17 <i>Triple Science—Physics Paper 2</i>	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29 <i>MFL—Yr 10 Writing Controlled Assessment 2</i>	30					

Dates and Information for all Science Courses– Year 11

Triple Science

Biology – individual members of staff have set their own deadlines for controlled assessment. These must be met.

Paper 1 examination (B1, B2, B3) – Wednesday 20th May 2015 pm (75 minutes).

Paper 2 examination (B4, B5, B6) – Friday 12th June 2015 pm (90 minutes).

CGP revision guides available from the prep room priced at £10 for all three separate science books.

Text book and revision notes can be accessed through the virtual learning environment 'LIFE'.

The specification, past papers and mark schemes can be found at:

<http://www.ocr.org.uk/qualifications/gcse-gateway-science-suite-biology-b-j263-from-2012/>

Revision classes will take place regularly throughout the year. See your class teacher for further details.

Chemistry – individual members of staff have set their own deadlines for controlled assessment. These must be met.

Paper 1 examination (C1, C2, C3) – Friday 5th June 2015 pm (75 minutes).

Paper 2 examination (C4, C5, C6) – Monday 15th June 2015 am (90 minutes).

CGP revision guides available from the prep room priced at £10 for all three separate science books.

Text book and revision notes can be accessed through the virtual learning environment 'LIFE'.

The specification, past papers and mark schemes can be found at:

<http://www.ocr.org.uk/qualifications/gcse-gateway-science-suite-chemistry-b-j264-from-2012/>

Revision classes will take place regularly throughout the year. See your class teacher for further details

Physics – individual members of staff have set their own deadlines for controlled assessment. These must be met.

Paper 1 examination (P1, P2, P3) – Tuesday 9th June 2015 pm (75 minutes).

Paper 2 examination (P4, P5, P6) – Wednesday 17th June 2015 am (90 minutes).

CGP revision guides available from the prep room priced at £10 for all three separate science books.

Text book and revision notes can be accessed through the virtual learning environment 'LIFE'.

The specification, past papers and mark schemes can be found at:

<http://www.ocr.org.uk/qualifications/gcse-gateway-science-suite-physics-b-j265-from-2012/>

Revision classes will take place regularly throughout the year. See your class teacher for further details.

Dates and Information for all Science Courses– Year 11

Additional Science – individual members of staff have set their own deadlines for controlled assessment. These must be met.

Paper 1 examination (B3, C3, P3) – Tuesday 9th June 2015 pm (75 minutes).

Paper 2 examination (B4, C4, P4) – Friday 12th June 2015 pm (90 minutes).

CGP revision guides available from the prep room priced at £4.

Text book and revision notes can be accessed through the virtual learning environment ‘LIFE’.

The specification, past papers and mark schemes can be found at:

<http://www.ocr.org.uk/qualifications/gcse-gateway-science-suite-additional-science-b-j262-from-2012/>

Revision classes will take place regularly throughout the year. See your class teacher for further details.

Cambridge Nationals Science – all portfolio work must be in files and all deadlines must be met.

The examination (RO72) can be taken twice in year 11 – Wednesday 7th January am 2015 and Friday 5th June pm (60 minutes).

The specification, past papers and mark schemes, and examination pre-release materials can be found at:

<http://www.ocr.org.uk/qualifications/cambridge-nationals-science-level-1-2-j815/>

Revision Tips

The secret to doing well in exams lies in planning. You can help yourself by creating a clear revision plan and method of studying that will make you feel in control of your work.

Tips for revision planning:

- Work out a revision timetable for each subject.
- Break revision time into small chunks - hour-long sessions with short breaks at the end of each session often work well.
- Make sure you have all the essential books and materials.
- Condense notes onto postcards to act as revision prompts.
- Buy new stationery, highlighters and pens to make revision more interesting.
- Go through school notes with a parent/friend to revise a topic.
- Time your attempts at practice papers – mark them.



Revision Timetable

Type Key

Notes- N- Make notes from a revision guide text book.

Past Papers- PP- Work through past papers, exam style questions

Mind Maps- MM- Create colourful posters (A3/A4)

Revision Cards- RC- Create cards (questions one side-answers the other)

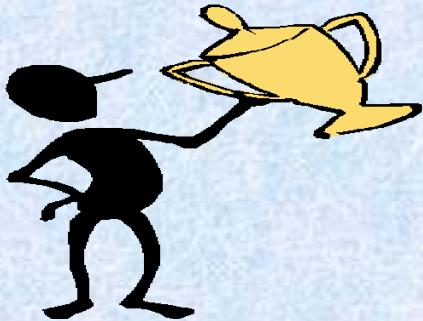
Oral Revision- OR- Ask a family member to test you using RC

Internet Based- IB- Use revision websites- games etc.

[illegible]

Make Revision Active!

1. Chose a topic from any subject and complete a summary sheet today (use the first exercise book that comes to hand).
2. Do something different with the information you already have...
3. Use the following methods to summarise the information on one page:
 - ♦ Bullet points
 - ♦ Mind maps
 - ♦ Spider diagram
 - ♦ Dates/processes/key words and phrases
 - ♦ Mnemonics
4. Use **different coloured pens** or **highlighters** for each point.
5. What will you do with the summary sheets when you've completed them?
 - ♦ Swap topics with friends?
 - ♦ Keep them in a revision file or progress file?
 - ♦ Display them in your bedroom or around the house?



Make Revision Fun

*Revision doesn't have to be a boring and mean long hours sat in front of endless revision guides, books or notes.
Here are a few suggestions to make revision fun.*



1. Draw

Drawing funny pictures or cartoon sequences that help you to remember a certain chain of events works well in things like science experiments. Any revision that requires you to put things into an order of some kind can be drawn!



2. Text

How many text messages do you send a day or week?

Make a plan with your friends to add a fact to the end of every text message you send to build up your knowledge and add to your revision efforts.



3. Games

Making a popular game into a revision aid is fun. Even making the game makes you revise your work. Trivial pursuit, blockbusters and battleships work really well. You can learn with a group of friends and have fun doing it.



4. Sing

How often does a song get into your head and you end up singing it all day? Why not find some of your favourites tunes and change the words to fit in with a revision topic? The song will help your brain to trigger the information.



5. Decorate your room

Make your revision space into a revision centre. Lots of bright coloured posters, post-it notes and diagrams to hang around your room make you visit the information at regular intervals. Putting post-it notes on the inside of cupboard doors you use regularly or in places around the house you use often will keep your brain active.



6. Study with a friend

Studying with friends is a great way to revise. You can help each other learn things that you find hard to remember or just don't know! You could organise to go to each others house once a week or over the weekend and have sessions on each subject. Your friends may be able to explain things to you in a way you understand better.

Key Exam Words Explained

It is important to understand the key words used by examiners.

Listed below are a number of key words and phrases which are often used on exam papers.

Account for - Explain the causes of.

Analyse - Divide into parts and describe each part.

Comment on - Explain why something is important.

Compare - Are the things very alike (similar) or are there important differences? Which do you think is best? Why?

Concise - Short and brief.

Contrast - Look for differences.

Criticise - Use evidence to support your opinion on the value or merit of theories, facts or views of others.

Define - Give the meaning of.

Describe - Write in details.

Differentiate - Explain the difference.

Discuss - Write about the important aspects of the topic; are there two sides to the question? Consider the arguments for and against. Then give your opinion.

Distinguish - Explain the difference.

Evaluate - Judge the importance or success.

Explain - Make clear.

Factors - The facts or circumstances that contribute to a result

Give an account of - Describe.

Illustrate - Give examples or diagrams which make the point clear and prove your answer is correct.

Indicate - Show and demonstrate

In relation to - Refer to a specific aspect of something.

Interpret - Explain the meaning in your own words; for example you may be asked to interpret a graph.

In the context of - In a particular setting; referring to.

Justify - Give reasons to support an argument or action.

Outline - Choose the most important aspects of a topic. Ignore the minor detail.

Relate - Show the connection between things.

Role - A function of something, which part something plays and how it works.

State - Write briefly the main points.

Summarise - Bring together the main points.

Trace - Show how something has developed from beginning to end.

Revision Basics

Everyone gets nervous as they prepare for exams but revision doesn't have to be a drag, so long as you do it in a way that works for you.

Make a plan

Suss out how much work you have to cover and how much time you have before the exams then draw up a realistic timetable. Switch between subjects to avoid becoming bored of a single topic. The most effective way to revise is to concentrate on understanding rather than memorizing.

Know your stuff

It's much easier to remember stuff once you understand it so if you're struggling, look for fresh sources of info other than class notes. Revise with a friend and see if you can figure it out together (be careful you don't just distract each other!). Or ask your teacher for help - they might even be running some revision classes.

Staying focused

Find a quiet place at home where you won't be distracted by your family, TV or Twitter. Take short breaks every hour or so to give yourself a rest. Drink water and eat healthy snacks to keep your brain ticking over.

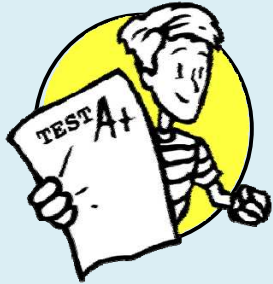
Set yourself up with a reward after every revision session. Nothing extravagant - just a little treat to help you get back to your books.

The night before

Avoid revision the night before. You'll just stress yourself out trying to cram it all in at the last minute. Complete your revision plan early, relax for the rest of the day, read over your notes and try to get an early night.

On the day

On the day of the exam, don't try testing yourself on specific questions - this will just make you panic about what you think you don't know, rather than focusing on what you do know. Don't think about passing or failing. If you've kept to your revision plan, and you're calm, the answers will come naturally. Good luck!



Examination Advice 1



Do...

1. Answer the question set. Use a highlighter – is the command word ‘describe’ or ‘explain’, or...?
2. Reread your answers at the end. Add as much detail as you can.
3. Include evidence from the Resource Booklet.
4. Remember that you cannot lose marks.
5. Develop your points by using the phrases “**this means that..**” and “**this leads to...**”
6. Conclude longer answers. Use ‘**Therefore...**’ and qualify with ‘**However...**’
7. Keep to time (example): Spend about 15 minutes on Section A, 15 minutes on Section C and 20 minutes on Section C, etc... This leaves 10 minutes for planning beforehand and checking through at the end.

Examination Advice 2



Don't...

1. Rewrite the question.
2. Repeat yourself: 'As I have said before...'
3. Use vague terms such as 'It is hard...' without saying why it is hard.
4. Copy lots of information from the exam booklet.
5. Write 'all I know about the topic' answers.
6. Use bullet points – except in an emergency.
7. Lose track of the time.

Year 11 Revision Techniques 2014-2015

...or how to pass exams

- Don't imagine that life will go on as 'normal' during important examinations. It won't!
- This is a critical time in your life, possibly with HUGE implications for your future.
- You must be prepared to make some sacrifices to make sure that you do the very best that you can.



Let's start with what *not* to do!

- Don't imagine you can learn everything you need to know the night before the exam.
- Your memory won't cope and, apart from anything else, it may well turn out that you have more than one exam on the same day.
- What then?



- Don't be negative about what you think you can achieve. Revising thoroughly and receiving the help and support of the people around you will make all the difference. So, don't tell yourself you "can't do it anyway" – that's just opting out.



- Don't think it will be enough too simply to read through your notes. It won't!
- Very few of us have a photographic memory. You will need to employ other techniques.



- Make sure that you know what your target grades or levels are and, most importantly, *what you need to do to achieve them*.
- Check this against your own work. Identify with your teacher what you need to focus on to improve your work and increase your chances of improving your target grade.



OK, so let's be positive. How can we make certain that we are fully prepared for exams?

- Come to school!
- Listen in class and complete all your class and homework to the best of your ability.
- Make sure that your coursework is completed on time and, again, to the best of your ability.

Give yourself the best chance you can.

- Go to revision classes offered by your teachers!
- Revision needs to be planned. As soon as you know when your examinations will take place, draw up a revision timetable. Be specific: don't just write in '*maths*' – write in '*maths, algebra*', for example.
- Stick to your timetable, but build in room for manoeuvre. Make sure that all areas of each subject are covered within your timetable.

- Avoid the temptation to focus on what you are good at or what you most enjoy. We all do this to make ourselves feel successful, it's human nature.
- Make sure you devote extra time to those areas you find more difficult and, possibly, less interesting. You can bet your life that these things will crop up on an exam paper.

- Revise in a quiet environment. Close the door. Ask your friends not to call, text or e-mail you and tell your brothers and sisters to stay out!



- Plan your revision in half hour chunks with built-in breaks of at least 5 minutes.
- Every couple of hours, take a slightly longer break of, say, 15 minutes.
- During your break, forget about revision – have a drink and a snack.
- Talk to your family!

After all, your friends will be unavailable...they'll all be revising!

- Examination time is not a good time to go on a diet!
- Eat breakfast!
- Eat lunch!
- Eat dinner!
- Eat healthy snacks!
- Your brain needs and uses energy and burns calories. So feed it!



So, how will you learn? What techniques will you use?

- We all have different learning styles, but a mixture of all of them suits most of us best. Here are some you might like to try:
- You will need to write things down. You may need to do this more than once to get it into your head.
- Complete practice papers. Your teachers will be only too happy to mark them and give you advice.

- **B**ig
- **E**lephants
- **C**an
- **A**lways
- **U**nderstand
- **S**mall
- **E**lephants



- Learn and use the key words for each of your subjects. It is important to spell these words correctly, so take time to learn them if you need to. Use the 'look, say, cover, write, check' method.
- For really tricky words, write your own mnemonic to help you remember.
- BECAUSE is easy to remember, because:

- Use post-it notes, strategically placed around your home, to remind you of tricky facts.
- This is a good place...



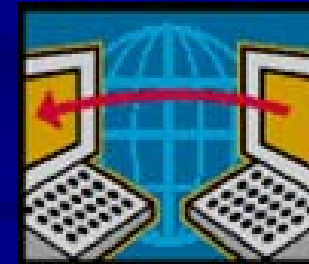
You need to choose places you go to regularly.

- Ask someone in your family to test you.
- Be the teacher! Once you have revised a topic, try teaching it to someone else.
- You might try recording your own notes and listening to them last thing at night.
- Upload your recording to your MP3 or MP4 and listen to it on the way to and from school etc.
- If you are musically inclined, set your notes to the tune of your favourite tune and sing them!

Finishing Quotes:

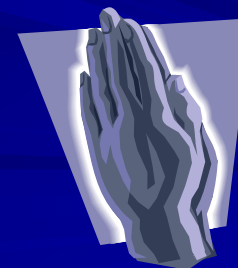
- Don't settle for 2nd best!
- If you always do, what you've always done, you'll always get what you've always got!

- Don't forget the internet! If you have a computer at home, there are many excellent revision websites, not least the school's own website. Your teachers will be able to advise you of the best places to look.



Prayer

- Grant me the strength to accept the things I cannot change, courage to change the things I can, and wisdom to know the difference...







Which path will you take?

This year is a big year for you year 11! Lots of choices have to be made.

The following is some basic information to help you and your parents talk through the choices you must start thinking about NOW!

Remember - we are here to help. Please do not hesitate to get in touch if you need to ask anything further.

Sixth Form / Sixth Form College:

At Sixth Form you study A-Levels, BTEC Nat. Award/Cert/Diploma, these are Level 3 qualifications. If you want to go to university you need a Level 3 qualification. A-Levels are usually based on academic subjects and most people study **3/4 subjects**. To study A-Levels you need to achieve at least 5 GCSE's at grades C or better. This year Carmel College asked for BBCCC at GCSE to qualify for a place to study at the College.

Local 6th Form and Sixth Form Colleges include:

Carmel College	www.carmel.ac.uk
Winstanley College	www.winstanley.ac.uk
Rainford College	www.rainford.org.uk
Cowley International College 6 th Form	www.cowleyinternationalcollege.com
Rainhill High 6 th Form	www.rainhillsixthform.org.uk
Sutton Academy 6 th Form	www.thesuttonacademy.org.uk
Hope Academy 6 th Form	www.hopeacademy.org.uk
St Helens College	www.sthelens.ac.uk

The Russell Group has recently published a paper in which they recommend A-Level courses. The Groups' research has shown that students who studied certain subjects were more likely to be accepted onto degrees at Russell Group universities. These subjects are called **Facilitating Subjects**. The Russell Group research suggests that choosing "Facilitating Subjects" can give you the most options when considering HE courses. <http://www.russellgroup.ac.uk/informed-choices>

Facilitating Subjects are:

Maths and Further Maths	English Literature	Physics	Biology
Chemistry	Geography	History	Languages

Other relevant subjects are Economics and RE.

If you already know what you want to study at university, check out what the entry and subject requirements are for the specific degree:

www.ucas.com



Further Education College: - e.g. St Helens College

The courses available at Further Education Colleges are usually vocationally inclined and aimed towards a vocational area. The types of courses available include Sport, IT, Performing Arts, Engineering, Construction, Hairdressing, Travel & Tourism, Animal Care etc. and you choose **ONE** of these to study. There are **different levels of courses** at FE colleges (Level 1 up to Level 3, which is required for university entry). Depending on your GCSE grades you can start on a particular Level course. If you do not achieve 5 C grades, you can start a Level 1 or 2 course and usually after successfully completing this, move on to the next level.

If you have not achieved GCSE's in English and maths at Grade C or above, then you will be given the opportunity to work towards these either by re-sitting or completing Functional Skills at an appropriate level.

You can find out more about all of the courses available by visiting College websites at:

www.sthelens.ac.uk

www.knowsleycollege.ac.uk

www.liv-coll.ac.uk

www.riverside.ac.uk

www.warrington.ac.uk

www.wigan-leigh.ac.uk

Apprenticeships:

This is where you work with an employer and gain qualifications at the same time. Most apprenticeships involve working for an employer for 4 days a week and attending college for 1 day per week. Many employers offering apprenticeships look for C grades and better in your GCSEs.

An apprenticeship must last for a minimum of 12 months. As an apprentice you would be in receipt of a wage. They are available at different levels; intermediate, advanced and higher and in lots of different vocational areas. They can be highly competitive to get into.

For vacancies register with www.apprenticeships.org.uk, check regularly on www.connexionslive.com, look in the local paper and employer websites, and ask friends and family. Many apprenticeship vacancies with local employers will never be officially advertised; especially in construction trades word of mouth recruitment is very common.

Employment - Due to the raising of the participation age, current year 11 students are entitled to access qualifications to 'up skill' themselves until they reach 18. This affects you. You will not be classed as accessing relevant training unless your employment offers recognised training.

In summary: Actions that need to be taken - Research your career ideas and entry requirements:

Your Careers Aims and Ideas - It is important to think carefully about your choices and to research your career ideas to ensure you choose the option which will give you the best chance of progressing with your future career ambitions.

Ways of achieving your aims - Work hard to help you to meet the entry requirements for your chosen institution and particular course. Make sure you are aware of the entry requirements and **have a back up** in case you do not meet the criteria. Take advantage of any opportunities that come your way to develop your skills and interests. (*Remember you can apply to more than one sixth form or college.*)

What you need to consider - Before making a decision and application make sure you:

- Check the GCSE entry requirements for your chosen course.
- Do some research into your chosen career field.

Here are some useful websites:

www.connexionslive.com www.prospects.ac.uk www.icould.com www.notgoingtouni.com

www.careersbox.co.uk www.apprenticeships.org.uk

www.direct.gov.uk/NationalCareersService which includes lots of different career profiles
<http://www.russellgroup.ac.uk/informed-choices>

If you want to go to university make sure you are aware of entry requirements. Look on www.ucas.com for specific course information. You don't want to end up studying for 2 years to later find out that you needed to have studied a specific subject for the course you want to take at university!

If you want to explore your career ideas further or get some more ideas you can use:

www.connexionslive.co.uk
www.nationalcareersservice.direct.gov.uk

Use the **Connected Portal** which you can access via www.connexionslive.com and then sign in using your username and password. (Please *note*: www.connexionslive.co.uk will be re launched in NOVEMBER 2014! Details will be given to you in school)

Go to **open evenings** to find out more about the courses you are considering. Make sure you apply in good time and by the specified closing dates. Have a **back up plan** in case the course you want is not running, you change your mind or do not achieve the required grades!

Remember: It's your future! Make sure that you get the option you want. Be PRO ACTIVE **now** in your research – **MAKE THE MOST OF YOUR TIME TO DISCOVER WHAT YOU WANT TO DO.** Start Now!

If you need more help

Please do not hesitate to contact us again if you need any further support.

Career Connect Advisers are available online www.connexionslive.com, via free phone **0800 0126 606**. Your Career Connect Adviser **Nicola Scully** is available in school every **Monday and Tuesday** during term time, if you want to speak to her in school.

Also Mrs Meredith and Mr Lally are available in school for support throughout the year.

OPEN EVENINGS FOR LOCAL SIXTH FORMS AND COLLEGES 2014 – 15

<u>INSTITUTION</u>	<u>OPEN EVENINGS</u>	<u>APPLICATION PROCESS</u>
<u>CARMEL COLLEGE</u> 6.00 – 8.30pm	Wed 22 nd October 2014 Thurs 13 th November 2014 Tues 18 th November 2014 Thurs 15 th January 2015	Apply online at www.carmel.ac.uk Application deadline is 30 th January 2015
<u>WINSTANLEY COLLEGE</u> 6.30 – 8.30pm	Thurs 25 th September 2014 Thurs 23 rd October 2014 Thurs 20 th November	Book an interview time on www.winstanley.ac.uk take application form to interview
<u>ST HELENS COLLEGE</u> 5.00 – 7.30pm	Wed 26 th November 2014 Wed 25 th February 2015	Apply online at www.sthelens.ac.uk or use the College application form.
<u>WIGAN AND LEIGH COLLEGE</u> 5.30 – 8.30pm	Mon 10 th Nov – Leigh site Mon 17 th Nov – Wigan site Mon 2 nd Feb – Leigh site Mon 9 th Feb – Wigan site	Apply online at www.wigan-leigh.ac.uk or use the College application form
<u>RIVERSIDE COLLEGE/ CRANTON 6TH FORM</u> 5.00 – 7.00pm	Wed 8 th October 2014 Fri 17 th October 2014 Tues 11 th Nov 2014 Thurs 5 th Feb 2015	Apply online at www.riversidecollege.ac.uk www.cronton.ac.uk
<u>WARRINGTON COLLEGIATE</u>	Mon 20 th October 2014 5.00 – 8.00pm 28 th January 2015 22 nd June 2015 5.00 – 7.00pm	Apply online at www.warrington.ac.uk
<u>COWLEY COLLEGE</u> From 6.30pm	To be confirmed	Download an application form from the website www.cowley-st-helens.sch.uk and return via email to admission.cowley@sthelens.org.uk

OPEN EVENINGS FOR LOCAL SIXTH FORMS AND COLLEGES 2014 – 15

<u>ST JOHN RIGBY SIXTH FORM COLLEGE</u> 5.30 – 8.30pm	Thurs 23 rd October 2014 Mon 3 rd November 2014 Tues 11 th November 2014	Apply online via www.sjr.ac.uk/
<u>RAINHILL HIGH</u> 6.30 – 8.30pm	Thurs 27 th November 2014	Apply on line at http://www.rainhillsixthform.org.uk/
<u>SUTTON ACADEMY</u>	Thurs 13 th November 2014 6pm – 8pm -Time TBC	Download application form, return to school www.thesuttonacademy.org.uk
<u>HOPE ACADEMY</u> 6.00- 8pm <u>CITY OF LIVERPOOL COLLEGE</u> 6-8pm <u>KNOWSLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE</u> <u>PRIESTLEY COLLEGE</u>	Fri 14 th November 2014 <hr/> Thurs 16 th October 2014 Thurs 19 th March 2015 <hr/> To be confirmed <hr/> 22 nd October 2014 5.30pm – 8.00pm	Apply on line or download the application form www.hopeacademy.org.uk . <hr/> Apply on line www.liv-coll.ac.uk <hr/> Apply online www.knowsleycollege.ac.uk <hr/> Apply on line or download the application form www.priestley.ac.uk