

TIBSHELF

COMMUNITY SCHOOL



REVISION GUIDE

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"AIM HIGH"



Welcome

This booklet is aimed at both students and parents, to help prepare for pre-public exams as well as GCSEs.

This guide contains the following:

- General revision advice – where, when, and most importantly, how to revise
- Examples of useful revision techniques
- A revision timetable you can copy and use
- Motivation techniques

Lets get started.....

Get the domestics right

Sort out where you are going to revise, making sure that you are away from distractions. Make sure you have revision materials to hand: revision guides, A4 paper, note cards, highlighter pens, post-its etc.

Find out what you need to revise

The last thing you want to do is spend time revising material that is not going to be in the exam. Your teacher should also have told you what to revise. Make sure that you have class notes on all the relevant topics. If not, get them from a friend or ask your teacher – we are here to help!!

Draw up a revision timetable

They might not work for everyone, but in general, if you have a routine and can stick to it, revision is easier. See the section on revision timetable planning.

Start!

Go on....get on with it. No more excuses.

Review what you're doing

Always ask yourself:

- Was that a useful session?
- What have I improved in?
- Was it good use of time?
- What notes have I got to show for it?
- Do my notes make sense a) to me and b) to others?



If someone else cannot understand them, then the topic probably is not very clear in your own head.

Revision techniques

We all learn differently and over the years you should have started to become aware of how you learn best. You will have done work on learning styles and multiple intelligences and might have a good idea of what works for you. The most important thing is variety – try several of the techniques below:

Note-Taking (summarising or condensing material, neat, colour-coded and 'key words' underlined)

- Makes you concentrate
- Helps understanding because you rewrite them in your 'own words'
- Helps to link topics
- Gives visual presentation
- Helps to keep you on task
- Helps you remember
- Makes revision less daunting, as there seems to be 'less' to revise
- Can be recorded on revision cards



Keywords (often unlock memory; can be done on a computer)

Mnemonics and Acronyms (abbreviations for key words; will increase long term memory)

Speaking out aloud (talking to yourself; pretend you are teaching the lesson)

POST-IT Notes

Flash cards

Recording notes

Spider diagrams

Mind Maps

Web based revision

Q&A cards

Past exam paper questions (Exam boards have past paper questions and mark schemes on the websites. Google AQA, OCR or Edexcel)

Using interactive tools – Mathswatch, Educake

Refer to your Google Class Rooms or MS Teams

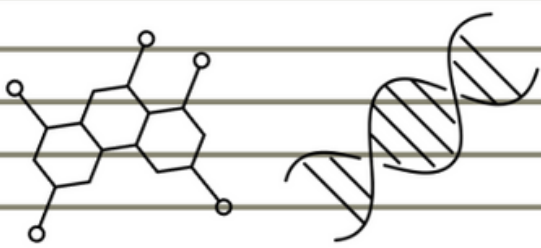
Revision Cards

Revision cards are a very useful way of revising and recording key points from each sub- topic within each subject. This means you can revise from brief notes rather than files, exercise books or text books.

Suggestions for use:

- Postcard size revision cards with a margin at the top (different colours per subject)
- 2 – 5 cards with bullet point information or drawings for each topic
- 2 – 3 cards with exam questions and answers.

Revision cards
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Revision illustration cards


Questions & answer cards
Q.
A.
Q.
A.



- Practice makes perfect! The more you go through your stack of revision cards, the more you'll be able to remember.
- Bite size chunks - Practice for 20minutes.
- Take a 5 minute break.
- Revise the cards for a further 20 minutes
- Leave the Revision cards for at least one full day, but no more than two.
- Repeat the process.

Mind Maps

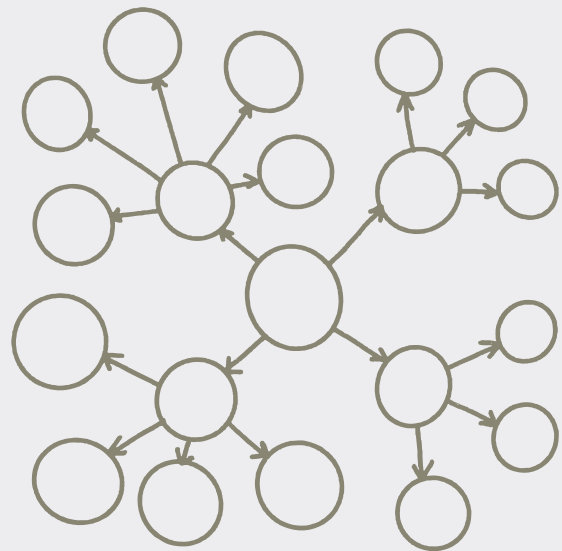
Mind Mapping

Mind Mapping is a brainstorming technique that involves creating a visual map of your ideas.

Mind Mapping is a great way to brainstorm because it helps you visually organise your thoughts and see the connections between different ideas.

Benefits of Mind Mapping:

- Greater recall and understanding
- Makes it easier to retain information
- Simplifies complex ideas
- Better critical thinking skills
- Improves your creativity
- Helps document patterns of thoughts
- Makes learning more engaging
- Helps people learn new concepts
- Effective problem solving
- Increased productivity
- Improved communication skills
- Enhances learning and creativity



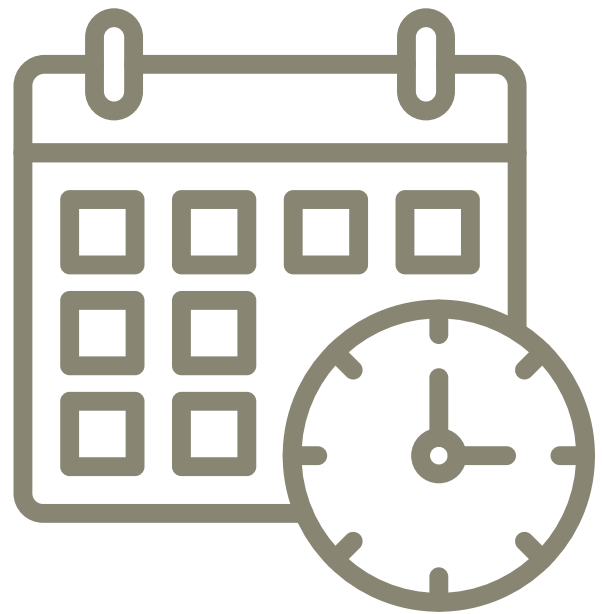
TIPS & TRICKS

- Begin with the main concept. First determine the main purpose of the mind map and write it down. Since mind maps start from the inside and expand outwards your central idea will become a core topic of the diagram. Your main concept could be:
 - a problem you are trying to work through
 - the project you are brainstorming
 - a different concept that you are trying to learn
- Explore topics by adding more branches. Once you have identified the main subject within your topic, add more shapes until you run out of valuable information. Make sure that you continue to organise your information with the most important things closer to the main concept shape, and the more specific detail further away.
- Adding images and colours maintain organisation within your mind map. By using standard colours for the different levels of thoughts within your diagram. Using images will help you to both visualise and memorise the various parts of your mind map.

Revision Timetable

Revision Timetable

- Timetables must be realistic and workable – if you are not keeping to it, ask yourself why and change it.
- Write breaks and rewards in to your timetable. Research shows that your concentration decreases after 45 minutes. Just getting up and going to make a drink can be a useful break.
- Start by filling in the activities you already have planned.
- Don't forget to eat!
- Study different subjects on the same day.
- The timetable for the weekend does not mean 12 hours of revision each day. Plan your activities and try to fit in two or three hours on Saturday and Sunday.
- Start gradually and build up the number of hours, you cannot work at 100% from now until the exams.
- Make sure you have something concrete to show for each revision session; notes, cards, exam exercises, mind maps etc.
- Get a good night's sleep, as this improves mental awareness.



Stick to the timetable - it really does work!!

Revision Timetable

Week 1	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri		Sat	Sun
08:30-15:00	School	School	School	School	School	09:00		
16:00						10:00		
16:30						11:00		
17:00						12:00		
17:30						13:00		
18:00						14:00		
18:30						15:00		
19:00						16:00		
19:30						17:00		
20:00						18:00		
20:30						19:00		
21:00						20:00		

Motivation

Motivation Tip 1:

Make a plan and stick to it Start planning one to three months before your exam so you can give yourself at least five to six weeks of solid study time. The more time you give yourself to plan the more you can easily breakdown the work into bite sized chunks. If you start your plan earlier, you can also make realistic goals that you can stick to, there is no killer to motivation like the dread you feel when you have to cram too much into one day.

Motivation Tip 2:

Reward yourself Think about treating yourself for completing various studying goals, it could be something as simple as helping yourself to your favourite snack for each unit you finish, a 30-minute break to watch your favourite show on Netflix or even an evening off to spend with friends. Creating incentives will drive you to accomplish your goals.

Motivation Tip 3:

Tidy your study area and get organised You may have already tried this little trick before, have you ever noticed that when you tidy up your desk you have a sense of pride and motivation? There is nothing like a tidy, clean workspace to prompt good ideas and hard work. If your desk or study area is messy, get some folders or storage boxes and other bits from stationers and neaten it all up, you will feel the difference almost immediately.

Motivation Tip 4:

Set goals for the day/week and then try to beat them One way to make learning a bit more fun is to record your achievements on the first day or week and then work to break them continually. For instance, if you mastered 100 French words last week, try and get to 120 words or more the following week, you might find the

irresistible need to defeat yourself to be the perfect motivation. Your challenge could include the amount of material covered, the number of pages, or how quickly you can master something. The sky is the limit

Motivation Tip 5:

Find ways to revise with friends Turning your revision session into a social study time can effectively motivate some. If you and a friend share the same difficulties in a particular subject, you can have a good time working out innovative exciting and unique ways to teach material to each other. Having someone who can test you and discuss units out loud might help make it stick better in your mind.

Motivation Tip 6:

Try out new revision methods Before your revision time starts, ask your teachers, friends, and online community if they have any ideas for unique methods learning topics. You will be surprised how many ingenious, yet straightforward, ideas there are out there and all of them could make your studying both fun and effective. Trying new revision techniques will inspire you to keep going.

Motivation Tip 7:

Most important; Be kind to yourself! One bad study session does not need to roll into the next. Take a deep breath and start again with a fresh start.

