

Year 11 Revision

Guidance for parents

Do a revision timetable – template attached

- Organise each subject into topic areas they need to cover for each exam and then put a tick or cross next to each one in order of how confident they feel about the topic. Best to do this on computer in a table so that they can also tick each topic off when they've done it and then revisit it a second and third time as exams get closer
- Organise a revision schedule for holidays, weekends and evenings, starting from the beginning of the Easter holiday. Don't fall into the trap of going over and over what they know already because it's easy - start by revising the topic areas and subjects they find most difficult. Make sure that all exams are covered – not just those which are first although these will need to be prioritised.
- Concentration is best for periods between 20-40 minutes so organise revision sessions into 30 minute slots. Eg 30 minutes/5 minutes break/30 minutes
- Build in regular breaks for watching TV, listening to music, playing computer games or meeting friends
- Decide on the best place to revise and get into the right frame of mind
- Stick to revision schedule with rewards if they do!

Use resources in school to help

- Ask teacher for help with difficult subjects or topics they don't understand
- Make sure that they are not being distracted in class – think about who they sit next to and whether they are concentrating in class as they should. They should ask their class teacher if they can move seats if they are too tempted to chat to neighbours
- Attend extra lessons on offer after school and in the holidays – they can keep track of these on their mentoring passport. If some revision lessons they need clash with others, consider going to them on alternate weeks so that at least they are getting some extra input in target areas
- Don't forget that LRC/Library is available for use at lunchtime for extra work or online support

Strategies to use at home

- Make sure that they have a quiet space for revision – although some quiet music in the background can actually be beneficial
- Avoid getting distracted by computer games/Facebook etc. and have a rule that they don't go on it until all planned revision is finished
- Use effective revision strategies – they have had sessions in school on these and you can also find ideas on the school website. Simply reading through books is not effective revision. Instead, take notes of key points either as words, pictures, mind map etc and then learn it by trying to turn words, pictures into paragraphs. Highlight key points in exercise books in coloured pen. Get friends and family to test them.
- Use internet resources such as MyMaths, GCSE Bitesize and other web sites they have been given by subject teachers. These often have activities which help revise and then test knowledge
- Download past papers and answer papers from the examination board websites – these are often free and give them a chance to practice answering exam questions, also under time pressure. Some also have a mark scheme attached so that they can self assess
- Put key ideas or vocabulary on post-it notes around their bedroom room
- Keep an eye on their stress levels and ensure they have some down time