

GCSE Revision

Ditcham Park School



Revision starts here . . .

Get serious Start Planning



But how...

The most important thing you can do over the next few months leading up to the summer exams is to create and finalise your revision plan and timetable.

- ✦ Get familiar with your exam timetable for your chosen GCSE's
Your revision plan needs to be detailed, well thought through and cover all the subjects you are studying focussing on each individual area within those subjects fully.
- ✦ Use the revision timetables provided by Mr Richards and Mr Munday

Stage 1 : The Overview

Before you can plan your revision you need to know what you've got to cover, what your strengths and weaknesses are and what **you** need to help **you** revise. To do this well you've got to be systematic and go through each subject in turn working out what you need to cover, your present level of understanding and what you are going to need to revise that area. Once you have all that information listed you can start to plan your revision timetable. Here is an example of how you might implement Stage 1

Subject	Area	Topic	Resources	Priority
Maths	Numbers	Equations	<ul style="list-style-type: none">✦ Class notes✦ Mock papers✦ Revision Guide✦ Past papers✦ BBC Bitesize	Medium
	Graphs	Pie Charts	<ul style="list-style-type: none">✦ Class notes (some missing due to absence)✦ Past Papers	High

Or . . . break each subject down into exam units and decide how much time you will need to spend revising for each. Here is another example.

English Literature	Time needed to revise	Resources /support/ notes
Paper 1 – Modern Texts		
Purple Hibiscus/Of Mice and Men	5hrs	Re-reading, notes, practice papers
Woman in Black	5hrs	Re-reading, notes, practice papers
Paper 2 - Poetry		
Moon on the Tides	5hrs	Anthology notes
Unseen Poetry	5hrs	Past papers

Stage 2: The Planning

If it looks like a lot of hard work it is! Exams are hard and the more detail you put into planning your revision the better you will do...it's

that simple...Remember... **You're doing all of this for just one person, You!**

This is what a detailed timetable might look like for one day of revision during a holiday period. Each session should last about 20 minutes with a focus on intensity rather than long, aimless periods of staring at a book.

Date	Session 1	Session 2	Session 3	Session 4
Subject	Maths	Biology	English Lit	French
Area	Numbers	Human Body	Anthology Poems	Reading Paper
Method	Practice paper	Make revision cards	Mind mapping themes and techniques	Vocab – learn, cover, write, check
Aim	To understand ...	To know . .	To connect ...	To prepare ...

Stage 3: Prepare and do it!

So you have planned your revision and got everything covered... You may realise or find things are missing from your revision files and there are things you just don't understand. Everyone feels like that but the people who pass exams are the ones that do something about it and fully prepare!

Make sure you have all the information you need before you go away for February half term and then the Easter holidays and... If in doubt about anything, ask a member of staff.

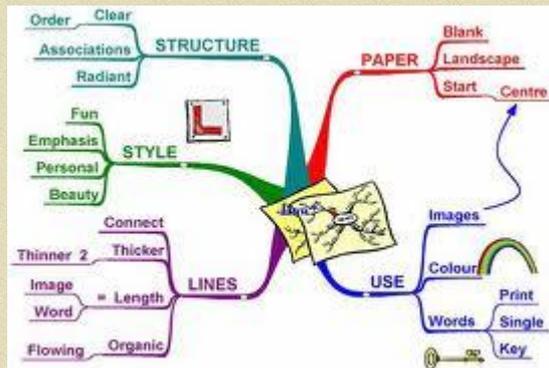
Must Do's

- ✓ Have an aim for each revision session. *By the end of this session I will know the equations and processes relevant to photosynthesis*
- ✓ Work out what you already know and identify the areas where you need to spend more time. *Self-testing can help here, or ask your teacher.*
- ✓ Break subjects down into topics and topics into smaller, "do-able" chunks
- ✓ Produce notes with key points, phrases or words.
- ✓ Test yourself a day after your revision to see what you have learnt or work with a study buddy and test each other
- ✓ Keep a chart of your progress, ticking off each topic as you revise it (which will be more than once). *Think about having a whiteboard in your room with all your subjects labelled and broken into topics. The more ticks you accumulate the more confident you will feel*
- ✓ Review your revision notes after one day, one week and one month. This will help consolidate your learning.
- ✓ Know what your Assessment Objectives (AOs) are in all your subjects. *Ask your teachers*

TOP TIP: Use a consolidation book or board. At the end of each school week make brief notes on everything you have learned in each subject in that week. If you write it on a whiteboard you can take a photo of it on your phone and wipe it clean for the next week.

Revision Techniques

Here is a reminder of some of the other revision techniques and resources you should be using over the next few weeks and months:



Mind Mapping

- Useful if you are a visual learner
- Good for organising your ideas
- Can cover a whole topic on one page
- Forces you to make sense of information
- A good way to start getting to grips with a topic or area

Revision Cards

Why use them?

- Useful way of breaking down information into manageable sections
- Allows you to organise your notes into a logical and ordered way
- Forces you to transfer information and make sense of it
- They are portable
- Write a question on the back to turn them into an active revision technique
- More flexible than a notebook or folder

And More Revision Techniques:

- ✓ Draw spider diagrams on sheets of A3 paper to show how different ideas and topics are linked.
- ✓ Make posters of key points and display them around your house. *Put your French verbs conjugations in the loo and your trigonometry formulae on the fridge!*
- ✓ If you're technically minded, make an mp3 file of key topic points and listen to them on the bus or in the car.
- ✓ Use highlighters to review work you have done in your exercise books
- ✓ Use appropriate and recommended websites but remember that looking at them without a pen in your hand and a notebook in front of you isn't revision.
- ✓ Get family and friends to test you on a topic you revised yesterday.

TOP TIP: One of the best ways to retain knowledge and build understanding is to teach it (ask the staff). Teach a topic to your family – explaining the digestive system over Sunday lunch is a good one!

And finally... **Good
Luck**