



Pleckgate
HIGH SCHOOL

Revision Guidance

For GCSE Examinations

2019

Preparation

Do's

- Plan your time – make a timetable
- Assign an appropriate amount of time to each subject
- Get organised – revision lists
- Take advice and ask questions
- Revise regularly and revisit
- Attend intervention classes
- Get going!

Don'ts

- Put it off
- Take shortcuts – reading is not revising
- Cram
- Rush
- Assume
- Bury your head in the sand!

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How?

Content/Knowledge - Learn

- Edited notes
- Mind maps
- Posters
- Record and listen
- Buddy up

Skills - Practise

- Make lists of key features of a good exam answer
- Practise with, then without, this
- Get it checked
- Go through previously assessed material
- Refine, revisit and improve
- Edit notes

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Example Revision Timetable



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	9-11	11-1	1-3	3-5	5-7	7-9	9-11
Mon		School		Homework	Maths		Physics
Tue		School		Homework		Biology	English
Wed		School		Homework	Geog		RE
Thu		School		Homework	Eng lit	Maths	
Fri		School		Homework	Chemistry		
Sat		Maths		Biology		English	
Sun	Physics	Football	Football	Geog	Homework	Business	

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Allow time for homework, school, Mosque, hobbies, food, breaks etc.....
 Work with your own life – you know when you’re most effective.
 Write a new timetable every week based on what you learnt from the previous week.
 Half term holiday will look very different.
 Remember 3 years, 9 subjects

The collage features several educational tools:

- Mind Map:** A central 'TIME' mind map with branches for 'EFFECTIVE REVISION', 'CLARITY', 'MONITORING PROGRESS', 'CONCENTRATION', 'SLEEPING', 'EATING', 'EXERCISE', 'STUDYING', 'RELAXING', 'TALKING', 'TEACHING', 'REVISION', 'MATHS', 'PHYSICS', 'BIOLOGY', 'CHEMISTRY', 'ENGLISH', 'GEOGRAPHY', 'HISTORY', 'REVISION', 'MATHS', 'PHYSICS', 'BIOLOGY', 'CHEMISTRY', 'ENGLISH', 'GEOGRAPHY', 'HISTORY'.
- Stack of Books:** A stack of colorful books representing a library or collection of study materials.
- Flowchart:** A flowchart for 'Distribute Study' with steps: 'Distribute Study' → 'Put it down' → 'When Appropriate' → 'Check it' → 'Revise it' → 'Evaluate it' → 'Check it' → 'Revise it' → 'Evaluate it'.
- Checklist:** A checklist for 'FREE VECTORS' with items: 'Post-It Notes', 'Push Pins', 'fuzzmo.com'.
- Notes:** A list of notes including: 'Summarise: Once you have written out your revision notes, it's time to condense that information into small manageable facts. This is where memory cards come in to play.', 'Word power: For each topic, write bullet points of key facts on a set of index cards.', 'Organise: Categorise the facts into sub-categories, then sub-sub-categories so you can understand how they all link together.', 'Link: Don't just remember the key facts on the cards, they should act as prompts for all the other revision faces you've been learning.', 'Portable: The great thing about small index cards is that you can put them in your bag/pocket and take them anywhere. That way you can look at them on the way to school or even when you're out shopping!'

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Keep to a timetable, pin it up. Ensure sufficient opportunities to revise all material studied since year 9 in all subjects.

Prioritise – what are your weakest subjects? In which subjects have you covered the most material?

Ensure you know what to revise for every subject. Ask your teachers what skills/content are going to be assessed.

Make sure that you have revision lists so that you can tick off topics as you work through your revision.

Organise all materials in chronological order – plug any gaps.

Make sure that you ask your teachers where the best place to access revision materials is. Ask them the best way to revise their subjects – there will be differences.

You don't revise by going over a topic ONCE. You should go back to things to improve.

Engage with all opportunities at school – lunch times and after school sessions are put on for exactly these reasons.

Don't spend ages thinking and planning. Just get on with revising!

So don't put it off, tomorrow, next week, in the holidays is wasting valuable time.

Don't look for easy ways to revise – these aren't revising. Reading is definitely not revising.

Don't try to revise too many things in one go – it doesn't work.

Give all topics the time needed so that you are sure that you have moved forward with your knowledge/skills.

Just because you could do something in year 9 – doesn't mean you still can. Plan for the hardest possible examination scenarios – don't assume that the easier questions on a topic will come up.

Worst of all don't pretend that this isn't happening or important. It is and you will reap the benefits of effective preparation or suffer the consequences of inadequate preparation NOW.

Exams are written so revision should be written!

Content to be learnt are facts, rules and methods and how to structure answers. Things you need to remember off by heart.

Notes – should be edited/summarised. Don't copy. Use headings and bullet points.

Be creative – different colours, mind maps, grids, highlighters, post-its, posters, revision cards, pictures, flow charts.....
Record and listen to passages rather than copy out.

Revise facts and knowledge with someone else – friend, parent.....

Skills are using the facts, methods and structures in answering different styles of questions.

Learn how to answer examination style questions – this is a skill that is different to subject knowledge.

Practise answering with notes first, until everything you've learnt becomes habit. Don't be scared to use notes and books. Never answer questions without getting feedback. Look at a markscheme, use things you've answered before or got model answers for.

Go through any past assessments with a fine tooth comb. Take notes on how you could have performed better and what you need to address before sitting your mock – then address these things.

Go back through things – effective revision does not happen first time around. In fact you may think you've remembered more than you have. Test yourself a few days later.

Correct, edit, improve and re-draft your notes

The cycle begins again!

For anything you are not successful with find help – internet, revision guides, teachers, tuition....