

Welcome to our Parent/Carer Revision Support Event for Year 11



*Mrs Hartharn Deputy Head
13th February 2025*

'Inspiring ambition and excellence, guided by Christ.'



**St Ralph
Sherwin**
Catholic Multi Academy Trust

Our School Prayer

Father, give me the courage to always do what is right.

Instil within me the grace that I may serve you today as Saint John Houghton once did through prayer and witness.

Empower me with the conviction to put my heart into all that I do for the good of others.

Provide me with the strength of mind to keep my faith.

And above all, grant me the fortitude to follow your Son Jesus, amid the mayhem of our often-chaotic world. Amen

Saint John Houghton, **Pray for us.**

Saint Ralph Sherwin, **Pray for us.**



Preparing for Summer 2025

Aim this evening is to share with Parents:

- Outline the key rules and regulations around the GCSE Examinations
- Key revision information and techniques
- To offer a parent/carer guide on how to revise.
- To support our students and parents with their wellbeing at this stress full time



2025 GCSE Key Information

- Friday 9th May – First written GCSE Exam Business Studies
- Last exam is June 18th
- National Contingency Day is the 25th June- Please do go away before this date.
- **Illness** – we do need some form of medical evidence OR if you are ill in school e.g. vomiting, we can act as witness. Special consideration is applied for on a case-by-case basis at the end of the whole exam session.
- **Missing an exam** – if there are no extenuating circumstances e.g. sudden illness and no supporting evidence can be submitted to explain the genuine reason behind missing the exam the candidate will be marked as Ungraded for that exam. Dentist/orthodontist/physio/doctors appointments are not reasons for missing an exam, that the exam boards will consider.



2025 GCSE Key Information



Exam Clashes

4th June - Religious Studies and Health and Social Care

(All Social care students will sit RE first then Social care)

9th June – GCSE PE and Creative iMedia

(only a few students overlap and will need to sit iMedia second)

Please do not worry – there are special procedures for exam clashes and all candidates and parents will be informed of the plan well in advance of the date. Supervised rest breaks, access to drinks/snack and the toilet are all organised.

2025 GCSE Key Information

Rules & Regulations:

Full copies of all JCQ regulations are on our website

My top picks!

No Phones – must be outside the exam room not just turned off.

No watches – even ordinary ones

Clear water bottles- no labels & **NO Food** (medical conditions exempt)

Clear pencil cases/clear plastic wallets only

No writing on hands/arms etc



2025 GCSE Key Information

**One individual case of malpractice can put at risk
the whole cohort's exam results**

Examples of Malpractice are:

- **Talking once inside the exam room – even when exam papers have been collected in.**
- ***Looking as if* you are trying to contact another student.**
- **Leaving the exam room once you have entered it**
- **Having a banned item e.g. mobile phone even if turned off.**





Year 11 English revision for GCSEs



Key Lines: Mr Birling

'A man has to mind his own business and look after himself and his own.'

'She'd had a lot to say – far too much – so she had to go.'

'If we were all responsible for everything that happened to everybody we'd had anything to do with, it would be very awkward, wouldn't it?'

Key Lines: Eric

'I wasn't in love with her or anything – but I liked her – she was pretty and a good sport.'

...The women's not the important...

Key Lines: Sheila

'But these girls aren't cheap labour – they're people!'

Key Lines: Mrs Birling

'When you're married, you'll realise that men with important work to do sometimes have to spend nearly all their time and energy on their business. You'll have to get used to that, just as I had.'

'You're quite wrong to suppose I shall regret what I did.'

'I blame the young man who was the father of the child... He should be made an example of!'

ink saving Eco





Carousel – answering questions on the quizzes
Revising / Filling gaps

Weekly online revision session – 5pm to 5.30pm on Teams
Targeted areas for improvement

Visible and Tracked Revision

Independent Revision – Self Study

Knowledge Booklet – all students get this week

Key Knowledge to Know

SJH YouTube Channel – videos on how to answer the exams

Modelling how to approach the paper

Practising papers – planning and preparing answers for what could come up

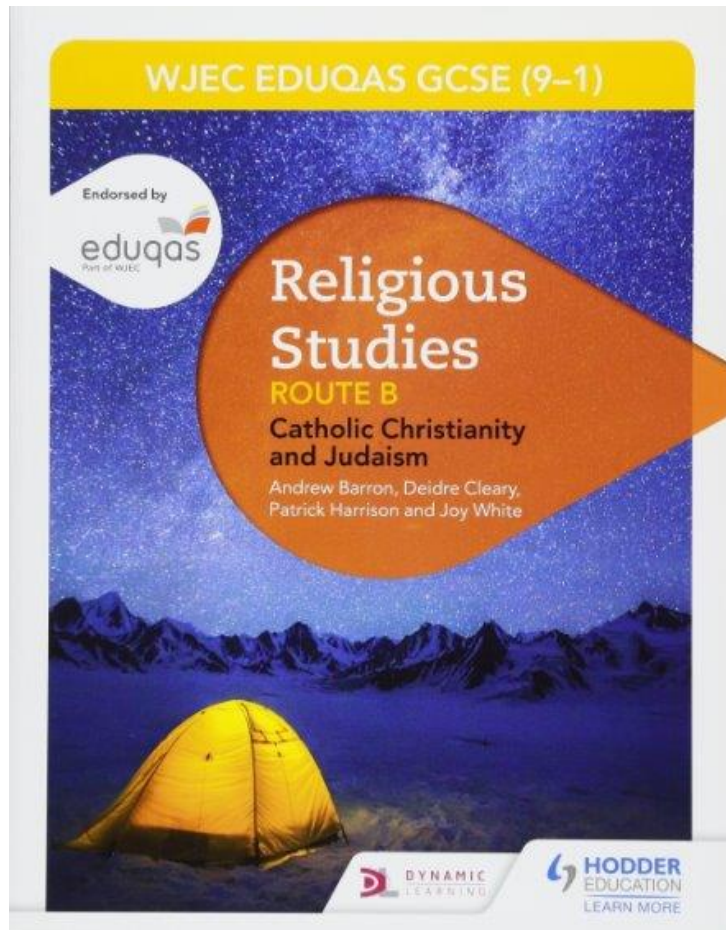
Building confidence

ChatbotGPT – AI to help guide and improve writing

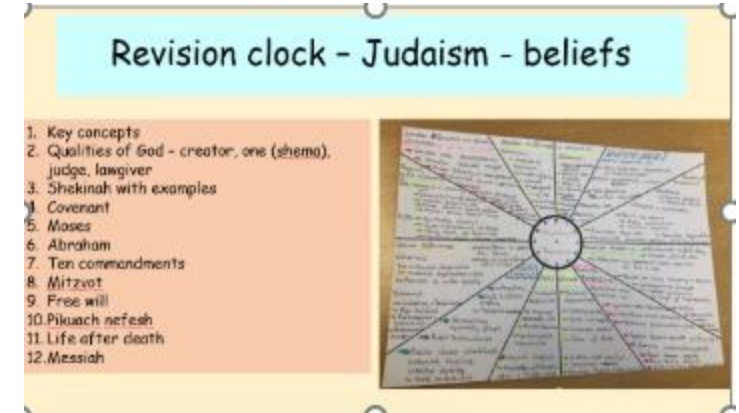
Drafting and redrafting



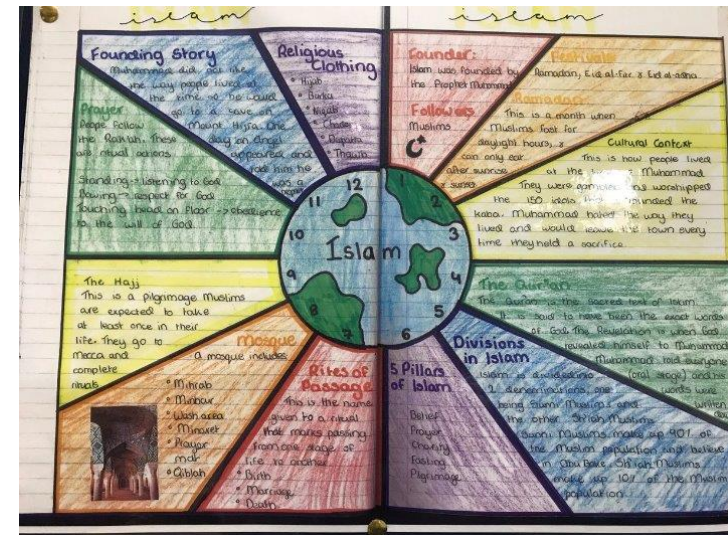
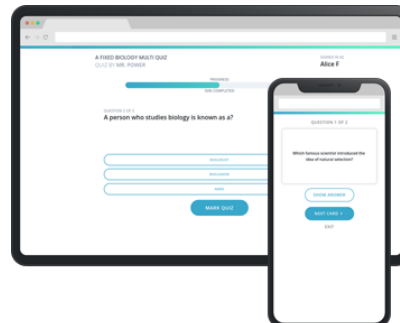
Year 11 Religious Studies revision for GCSEs



Revision book
Available through School Gateway



Carousel Learning

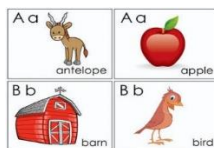


Revision Techniques for Religious Education

Flashcards

For key information and facts. You can carry them around with you and test yourself anywhere.

Use it to remind and test yourself on: religious key words, objects in a place of worship



Read-Cover-Recall-Check

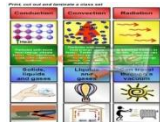
Read the information you want to remember. Cover it up, write out what you remember. Check to see how much you forgot.

Use it to test yourself on; Spellings, keywords, A sequence of simple events such as in a religious service or festival.

Online quizzes or revision guide exam questions

Answer the questions, note down your score, revise the topic some more, have another go at the questions later. Did you improve?

Use it to test yourself on; key words, teachings



Make a card sort

Make a set of cards that you can cut out, mix up and match – you'll be assessed on topics more than once so they are always there for you to use again before your next assessment.

Use them; When you need to remember pieces of information that go together e.g. parts of a religious celebration, special objects

Key word cards

Include definitions on the back. You can test yourself on the definitions, sort them into groups (e.g. festivals, beliefs, keywords) put them into a sequence.



Describe or explain a belief/festival/celebration to someone who does not know it or a classmate – or make a PowerPoint/presentation/poster as if you were teaching it to someone else (like your parents).

They can ask questions to fill in any gaps you missed and if they are also revising it may help them understand the work better.

Use it when; Explaining historical events, beliefs or religious celebrations that have some detail



Mind maps

Start with a central theme and organise the information from it, grouped into subtopics. Label the branches with the relationships. To summarise a whole topic after revising it in detail. Only put in the key words, everything else should come to mind when you read it.

Past exam questions and analysis

Complete some sample exam questions. Make up your own questions – be the teacher/examiner. Think of a question and then think what answer you would be looking for. Mark your answers. Fill in the answers you missed.

Go through your unit PLC and colour code each topic (Red-need to revise, Amber-Need to go over a few bits again, Green-I've got it) – you can write this in your exercise book next to pieces of work.

Use it to test your ability to; recall the information you have revised, to answer the question asked, not just write down everything you know, to follow the **command words** in an exam.



EDUQAS: RELIGIOUS STUDIES B

PAPER 1: FOUNDATIONAL CATHOLIC THEOLOGY KNOWLEDGE BOOKLET



Q1. Origins and Meanings

Q2. Good and Evil



NAME: _____

RE GROUP: _____

EDUQAS: RELIGIOUS STUDIES B

PAPER 2: APPLIED CATHOLIC THEOLOGY KNOWLEDGE BOOKLET



Q1. Life and Death

Q2. Sin and Forgiveness



NAME: _____

RE GROUP: _____

EDUQAS: RELIGIOUS STUDIES B

PAPER 3: JUDAISM KNOWLEDGE BOOKLET



NAME: _____

RE GROUP: _____

KNOWLEDGE BOOKS FOR ALL THREE UNITS:


- Key information about content of exams
- Revision checklists
- Key concept definitions
- Core knowledge



Year 11 Maths revision for GCSEs

**AQA GCSE Mathematics - 3 papers
(1 non-calculator, 2 calculator)**

Sparx Maths
Student Login
You're logging in to Sparx at Saint John Houghton Catholic Voluntary Academy.
[Not your school?](#)

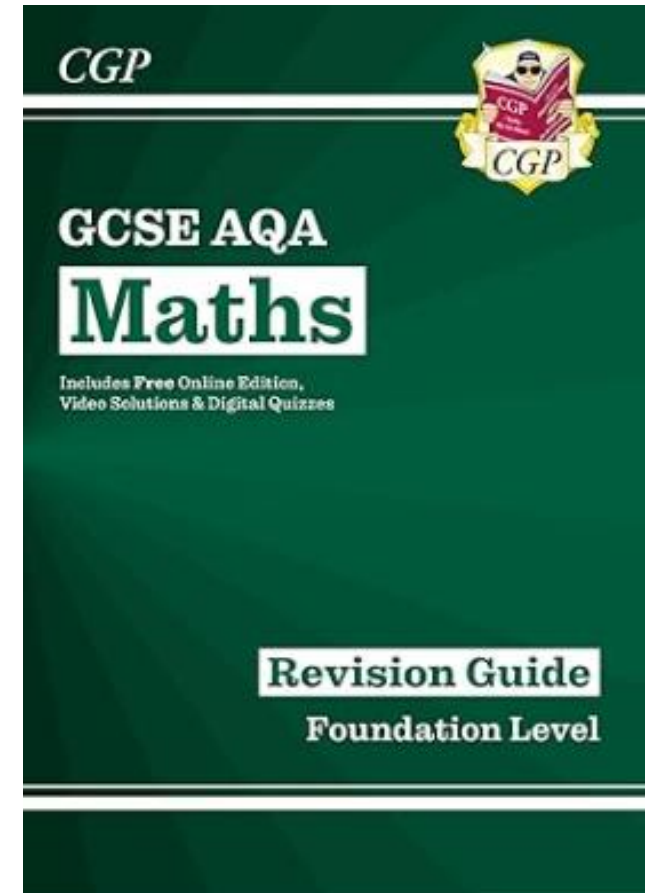
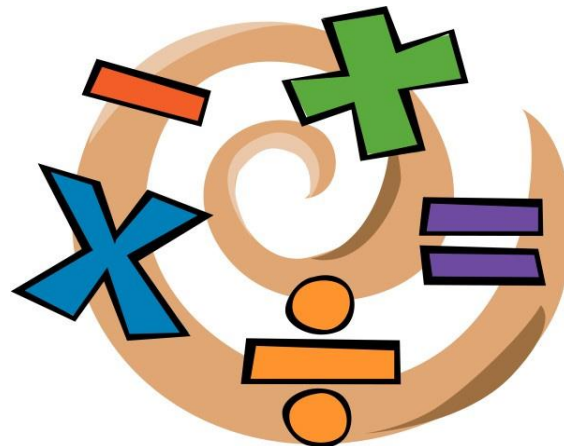
Log in to Sparx using Microsoft 

or

Use your Sparx login

Username:

Password:
 [Show](#)





1) Start early using a “little and often” approach:

- 100 days to go Corbett Maths revision videos,
- 5-a-day on Corbett Maths,
- Revision guide and work books from CGP,
- log onto your Sparx account and complete an XP boost homework.
- If you can't remember how to do a question, watch the video on it to give yourself a reminder. You can find the appropriate video on Sparx Maths or Corbett Maths. Speak to your maths teacher if you are unsure of the topic name or where to find the video.

2. Revise Strategically –

- Ensure you have a list of the topics that are in the exam. Your teacher will have provided you with these, please see ask them if you need another copy.
- Establish what topics are your strengths and those that need attention,
- **Green** – You understand the topic well. Little/no revision needed.
- **Amber** – Focus your revision on these areas first – with a little effort you will be able to improve your understanding of these topics.
- **Red** – These skills will require more time and effort to revise them thoroughly

3. Past Papers, Past Papers, Past Papers.....

By completing loads of past papers, you will be fully prepared for can't the questions, it will also help you identify what topics are your “weaknesses” and will let you know which videos and practice questions you will need to work on next.

4. Timings – If the exam has 80 marks and is i.5 hours long then "a min a mark" is a good rough guide.

5. Use your lesson time wisely – you still have 4 hours a maths a week so stay focussed.

6. Create a cheat sheet – a one-page sheet with all the key facts you struggle to remember will help you recall them quickly. Use it to practice with someone to test you. It will also help you on the day of the exam.



Maths GCSE H & F Level - some useful websites:

<https://thirdspacelearning.com/secondary-resources/gcse-maths/>

<https://www.1stclassmaths.com/>

<https://sparxmaths.com/>

<https://corbettmaths.com/>

**For those studying Level 2
Further Maths the
following sites will help
with revision:**

<https://www.draustinmaths.com/level2fm>

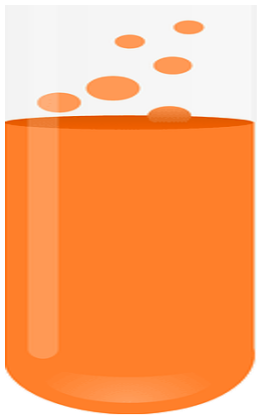
<https://corbettmaths.com/more/further-maths/>

<https://www.drfrost.org/courses.php?coid=684>

<https://www.1stclassmaths.com/l2-further-maths>



Year 11 Science revision for GCSEs





Revision ideas that work well in science

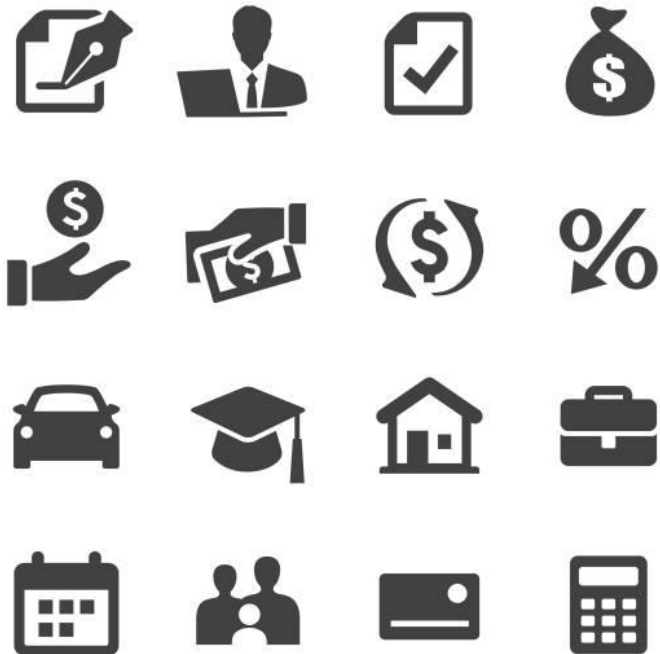
- **Century app** – revises sticky knowledge – preprepared flash card testing of key terms and ideas multiple choice
- **Sticky knowledge booklets** provided for each topic – use to create flash cards
- **Kerboodle** access to the text books we use in school and revision resources
- **YouTube** – access to videos showing all the required practical activities
- **Revision guides** – **CGP** are good but any AQA revision guide for the appropriate science GCSE is fine (up-to-date)



- Flash cards for sticky knowledge/century/QQQ booklets
- Mind maps to link ideas
- Learn the methods for all the required practical in detail – a good method is one that anyone can follow without asking questions (including volumes, concentrations and masses)
- Teaching the ideas to someone else is a brilliant way of remembering your stuff!



Year 11 iMedia, Computing & Business revision for GCSEs



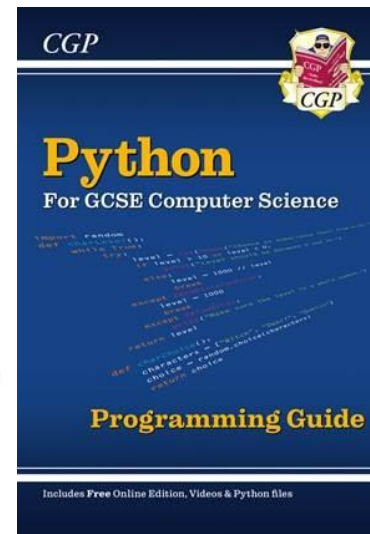
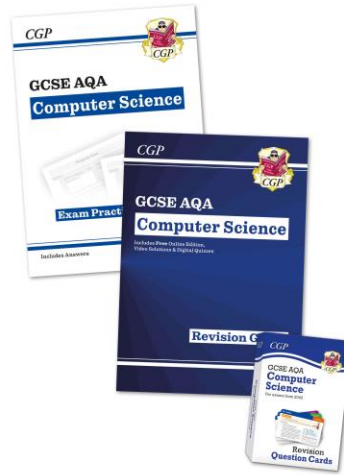
Computer Science

Spec: AQA Computer Science 85
Paper 1 is the Python (b) spec
paper, no other programming
languages are taught.

This is where students are writing
code

Paper 2 Computing Concepts,
knowledge and theory covering
hardware, networks and data
representation

Available on
SchoolComms



Business and Computing



Online boosters:

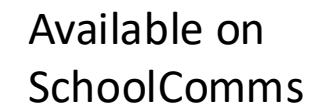


go to isaacomputerscience.org/events GCSE
boosters take place from 4.30-6.00 Mondays,
Tuesdays and Wednesdays

Booster events are for GCSE students who either
want to revise computer science or are less familiar
with the material and want a primer. Each session
focuses on a different computer science topic and
gives you the understanding and confidence to use
the concepts involved during your studies.

OCR Cambridge National iMedia
1hour30min exam R093: Media in
the Industry

Students have access to PowerPoint workbooks and lesson materials shared via OneDrive (accessed through their school email)



Business Studies

AQA GCSE Business (8132)

2 x 1 hour 45min exams – 90 marks each

Units studied:

1. Business in the real world
2. Influences on business
3. Business operations
4. Human resources
5. Marketing
6. Finance

Paper 1 – Influences of Operations and HRM on business activity (units 1, 2, 3, 4)

Paper 2 – Influences of Marketing and Finance on business activity (units 1, 2, 5, 6)

Helpful resources

Students have been provided with:

- a link to all resources and lesson power-points
- a 'toolkit' containing guidance on exam technique practice questions, sentence starters, key terms and more...
- A revision timetable

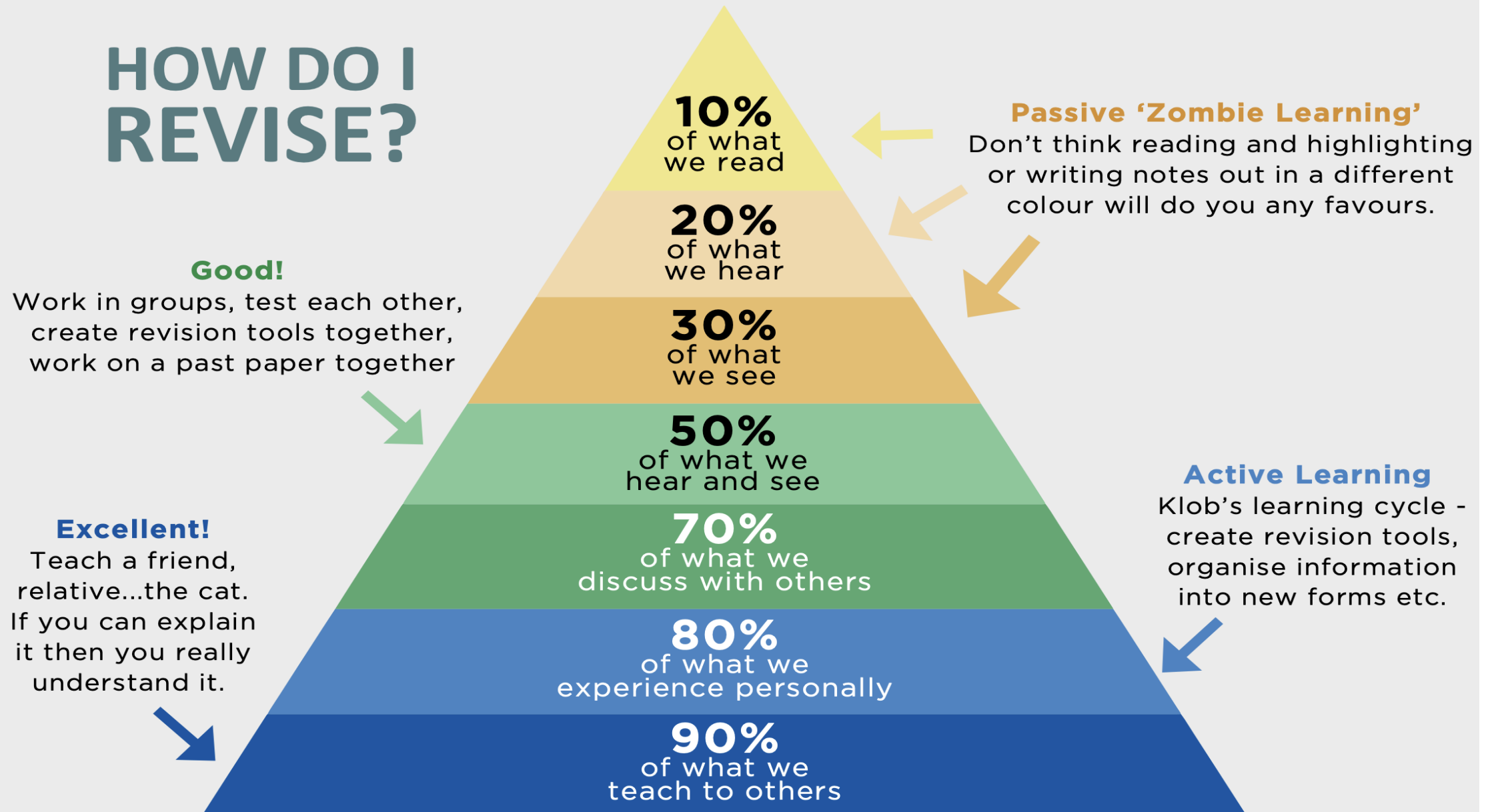
**Available on
SchoolComms**



Useful websites



HOW DO I REVISE?



1. Getting started...
2. The science behind revision...
3. What do I need to revise?
4. Revision myths
5. Revision strategies

Preparing Your Study Space

The place where you do revision is crucial for your ability to concentrate.

Your study space should be a **quiet** space away from any distractions. You can't focus on your revision whilst singing along to your favourite song.

The main distraction you are likely to have while trying to study is your **mobile phone**. If you really want to maximise productivity while revising, remove your phone from the study space. This will require discipline but will be worth it.

Wellbeing

Your diet is important. Don't skip meals and stay consistent with a healthy balance of meals and don't forget to **stay hydrated!**

Staying up late to revise is a bad idea. Sleep deprivation can have a negative impact on concentration, performance and memory.

Take **regular breaks** from revision with exercise. Take part in a sport you enjoy or go for a walk.

Relax. It is essential to make time to switch off and have a break. Watch Netflix, read or talk to your friends.

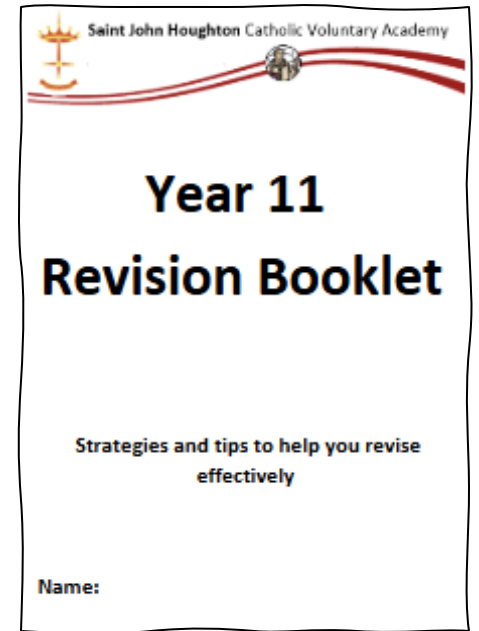
Planning

Planning your revision in advance will help you to stay on track with your revision. It is easier to commit to a plan when planning is done week-by-week

Make sure your plan is realistic or you won't stick to it.

Be focussed: 20 minutes work followed by a 10 minute break is a good starting point.

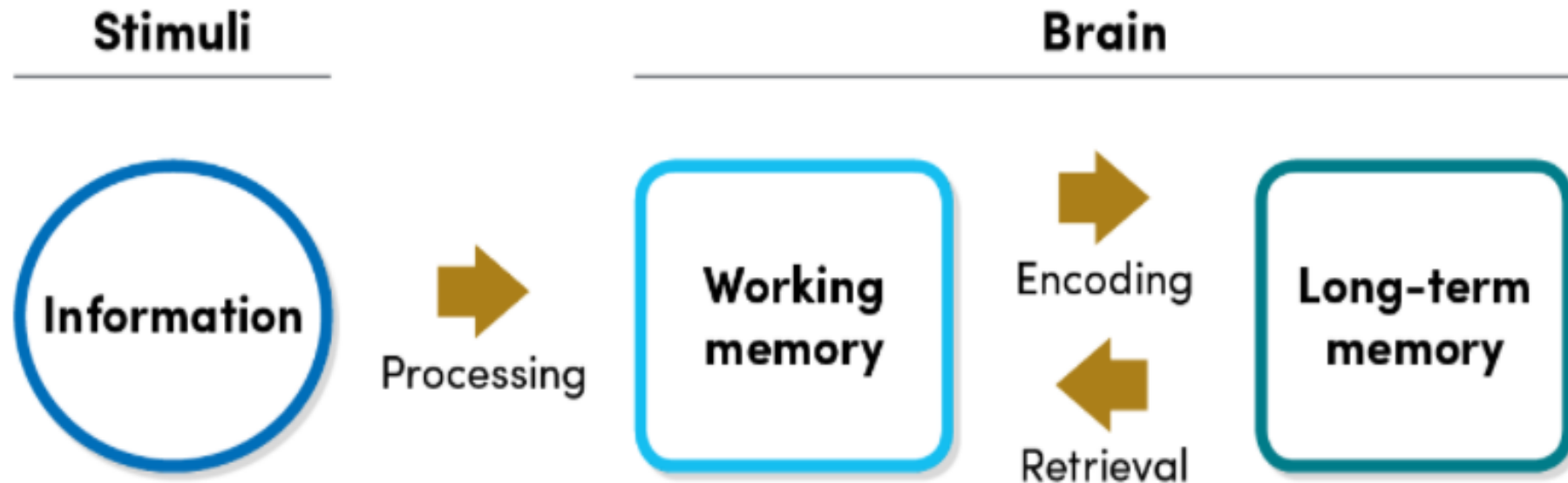
Mix and combine **multiple subjects** while you revise. This has been shown to be more effective than blocked practise when revising.



The science behind revision....

When we revise, we are trying to alter our memories (we want to remember what we are revising).

Our memory is divided into two areas - our working (or short-term) memory and our long-term memory.



Long term memory has an unlimited capacity and can process and store vast amounts of information indefinitely.

When we revise

- We are trying to **transfer knowledge** and information to our **long-term memory**
- We need to practise getting the information out of our long-term memory and into our working memory (this is called **retrieval**)

What do I need to revise?

Even though it makes no sense, we are all guilty of hiding from what we don't know, from challenges, and sometimes we focus on the wrong things.

We all like to practise things we are good at – because we know we will be successful.

But, if we only revise what we already know and what we are already good at... how will that help us to **improve**?

What do I need to revise?

Previous assessments and mock exams – which topics/questions did you perform well in and where did you struggle? For example, if you got full marks on the question on osmosis in your science test there will be little benefit revising that topic further – you already know it! However, if you scored less well on the question on the reactivity of metals that would be a great place to focus some revision.

Use the **revision lists** given to you by your teachers. RAG rate yourself on each topic and focus your revision on the amber and red topics.

Red – lots of revision needed as the content may be tricky and you do not remember/understand the topic well

Amber – some revision needed – you remember some aspects of the topic, but your knowledge is not secure

Green – no revision needed – you know and understand the topic well

You will be doing lots of **retrieval practise** in your lessons – use these activities as an opportunity to help you identify what knowledge hasn't been transferred to your long-term memory... yet!

Revision Myths

The day before an exam is the best time to revise: By cramming, all you'll do is make your brain tired and lose whatever memories you did manage to build up.

I revise better when I listen to music: Research has shown that students who revise in a quiet environment perform 60% better than students who revise when listening to music (with lyrics).

Rereading is an effective revision strategy: This is one of the most common strategies students use when revising. When you reread notes, you will **recognise** the information and fool yourself into thinking you **know** it.

Highlighting text will help you remember information: Although we are attracted to bright colours, there is no evidence to suggest that **highlighting material will help you to remember it**. Using a highlighter will help you to trick you into thinking you're revising... but it won't actually help you to remember anything!

Total Recall

For this technique you will need

- A blank sheet of paper
- Pens
- Timer

- (1) Choose a topic that you want to focus on. Set a timer for between 3 – 5 minutes (this will depend upon how much content there is)
- (2) Put away all of your exercise books, notes, revision guides etc.
- (3) Switch on your timer and begin to write down everything you know about your selected topic.
- (4) Once finished, check what you have written down against your exercise books, notes and revision guides. Have you covered all of the key points? What did you miss?
- (5) Fill in any information/content that you didn't recall in a different coloured pen. You will need to prioritise learning this information for next time.
- (6) Build in another 'Total Recall' session on the same topic in the future



If you struggle to write quickly you could always try recording voice notes instead and listen back to them to see what you missed.

Flashcards

Flashcards are an excellent tool that can be used across all subjects.

To create flashcards you will need

- Different coloured index cards (you can cut up coloured paper to A6/A7 size instead)
- Pens

A common error when using flash cards is to create cards full of detailed notes and diagrams. When you do this, you're actually just copying down your notes and re-reading (and we know this isn't an effective method of revising – you'll **recognise** the information which will trick your brain into thinking you **know** the information... but you don't)

Flashcards



When you test yourself (or others) it is important that you either **say the answer out loud** or **write it down before** you turn over to check the answer (if you turn over to read the answer too soon – you'll **recognise** the answer but remember... that isn't the same as knowing the answer!)

Some other useful strategies include

- Shuffle the cards every time you use them. You want to make sure you are remembering the answers to the questions... not just that the first answer is always '1945'!
- Mix flashcards from **different topics** or subjects together

Revision Menu

Quizzes	Flash cards	Past Papers
Use your notes to create a quiz that other people can use to test you	Create a set of flashcards with questions and answers, ready to test yourself	Complete a past exam paper and use the mark-scheme to self-assess (this is a great technique to identify topics that you need to revise)
Revision Clock	Total Recall	Mind Map
Break down a topic/subject into 12 sections and complete a revision clock	Write down everything you can remember on a topic (in 3-5 minutes) and then check your notes to see what you forgot	Create a mind map from memory, then check, review and add to your mind map
Infographic	Summarise it	Retrieve, Record and Review
Create an infographic with sketches and notes from memory	Write an overview of the key topics from memory then refer back to your notes	Record yourself retrieving as much as you can verbally then listen back and review

We are here to support



SJH recognise this is very stressful time for Y11 so;

- Please talk to your form tutor and other adults in school – they can refer you to our wellbeing team for more bespoke support.
- Please come to the intervention sessions after school to get that bit of extra support – emails go out weekly.
- Please don't avoid classes or work, it won't go away, come and talk to us – we can help.
- Please know that so far you have 100% success record in tackling life!

We are here to support



It's normal to feel stressed and on edge about exams.

Stress is your body's natural response to pressure. It can help you focus and get things done, but sometimes it can all get a bit much.

Exam stress can affect anyone and it can show up in loads of ways, like:

- feeling [anxious](#) or down
- getting irritable and [angry](#)
- struggling to [sleep](#)
- changes in your [eating habits](#)
- having bad thoughts about yourself
- worrying about the future
- losing interest in stuff you usually like
- finding it hard to concentrate
- feeling unwell – like headaches, feeling sick or tired

If any of these feelings are beginning to take over your life, there is help.

Coping with exam pressure



Be kind to yourself



Talk about feeling under pressure



Don't compare yourself to others

In the lead up to your exams

- Ask for any practical help you need
- Check in with your friends
- Join or start a study group

When exams start

- Get organised the night before
- Try relaxation techniques
- Don't compare your answers
- Reward yourself



Coping with life pressures



Sometimes, life can throw you curveballs that make it hard to study, like moving house, looking after a family member, dealing with a breakup or general life stress.

If life's throwing you something like this, don't feel you have to go it alone. Talk to someone you know or [contact a helpline](#). Whatever it is you're going through, you deserve support.



The importance of self-care



When exam stress hits, it might feel like there's no time for [self-care](#), or that you should be spending every second revising. Revising is important, but it's going to be harder if you're not looking after yourself.

Try to eat right, get some sleep, and give yourself a break – whether that's gaming or hanging with your friends. We're not robots – we all need a breather now and then.