Year 11 Information Evening

24th September 2026

- Expectations for Year 11 Students
- Revision Techniques
- Advice to Parents from the Core Subjects
- Post 16 Progression
- Final Summary

Orsett Heath Academy

Your support really matters



What do expect from Year 11 students?

- Excellent attendance and punctuality
- Having a growth mindset and being positive that you can be successful with the right attitude
- Working hard in school and at home
- Completing all homework to a high standard
- Starting revision when asked to by your teachers
- Revising using high impact strategies
- Attending any intervention or revision sessions
- Application to post 16 courses – minimum of two by December 18th
- Letting staff know if they have any questions, worries or need help



Attendance

To succeed students must…
Have excellent attendance

Every School Day Counts

0 days off school	100%	Perfection
Equates to 2 days off school each year	99%	Excellent
Equates to 5 days off school each year	97%	Good
Equates to 10 days off school each year	95%	Slight Concern
Equates to 20 days off school each year	90%	Concerned
Equates to 30 days off school each year	85%	Very Concerned

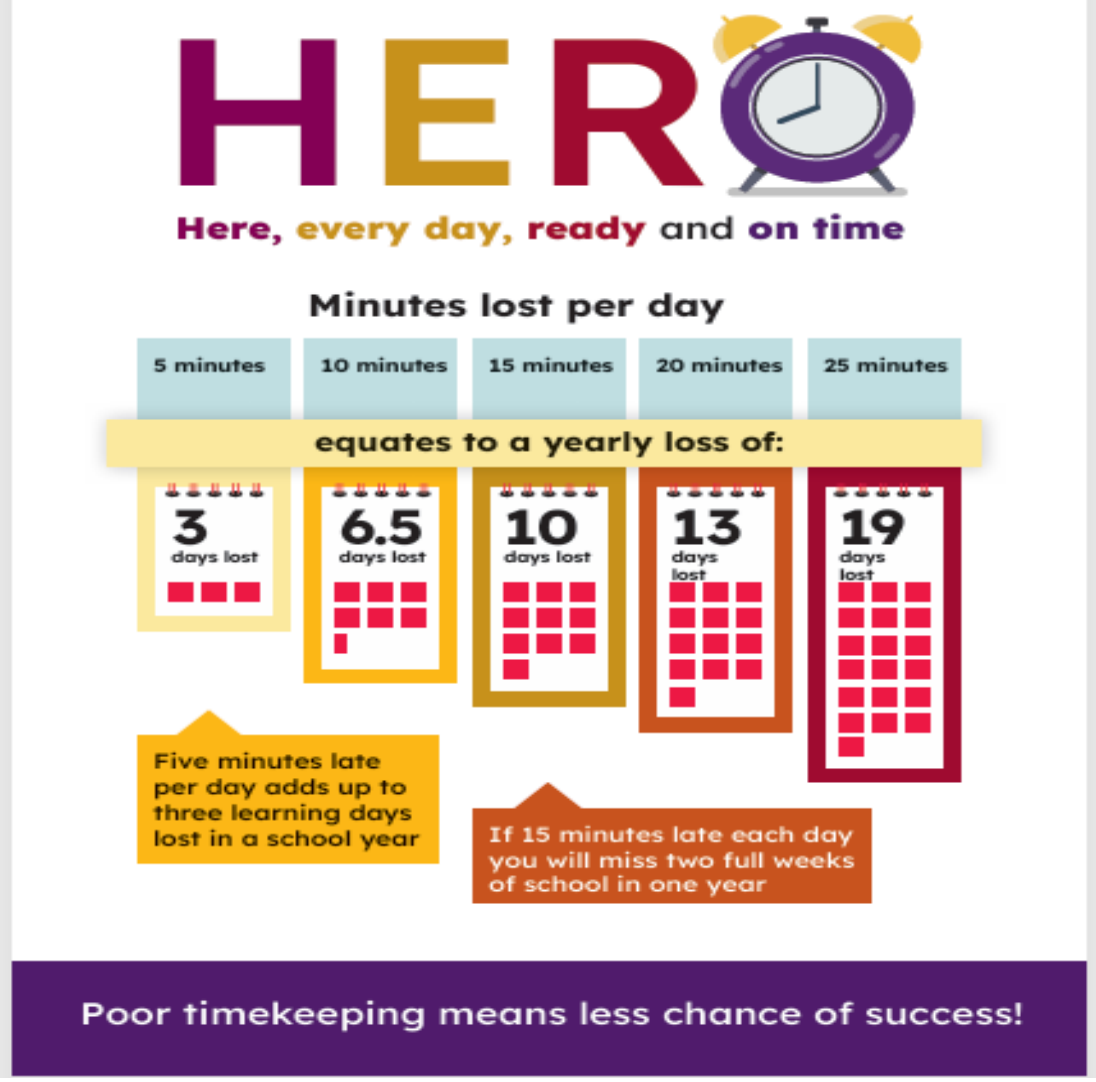
5 days absence over the whole year	20 days absence over the whole year	20+ days absence over the whole year
97% - 100%	90%	Under 90%
Good chance of success and progress	Less chance of success. Harder to make progress	Detrimental to success and progress



To succeed students must…
Have excellent attendance



To succeed students must...
Have excellent punctuality



We will be doing our part to keep your child's attendance above 95%

- Catch up prep – Students will have to stay behind after school or at breaks to catch up on missed work for days they don't attend school
- Supporting you at home – Year Leader and tutors will call home regularly to ensure you have the support you need to get your child's attendance above 95%
- Phone calls home – If your child does not turn up to school, we will be giving you a call in the morning asking if your child can get into school as soon as possible
- Tutor Reports – tutors and the Year Leader will use reports positively to monitor attendance and punctuality to encourage good habits

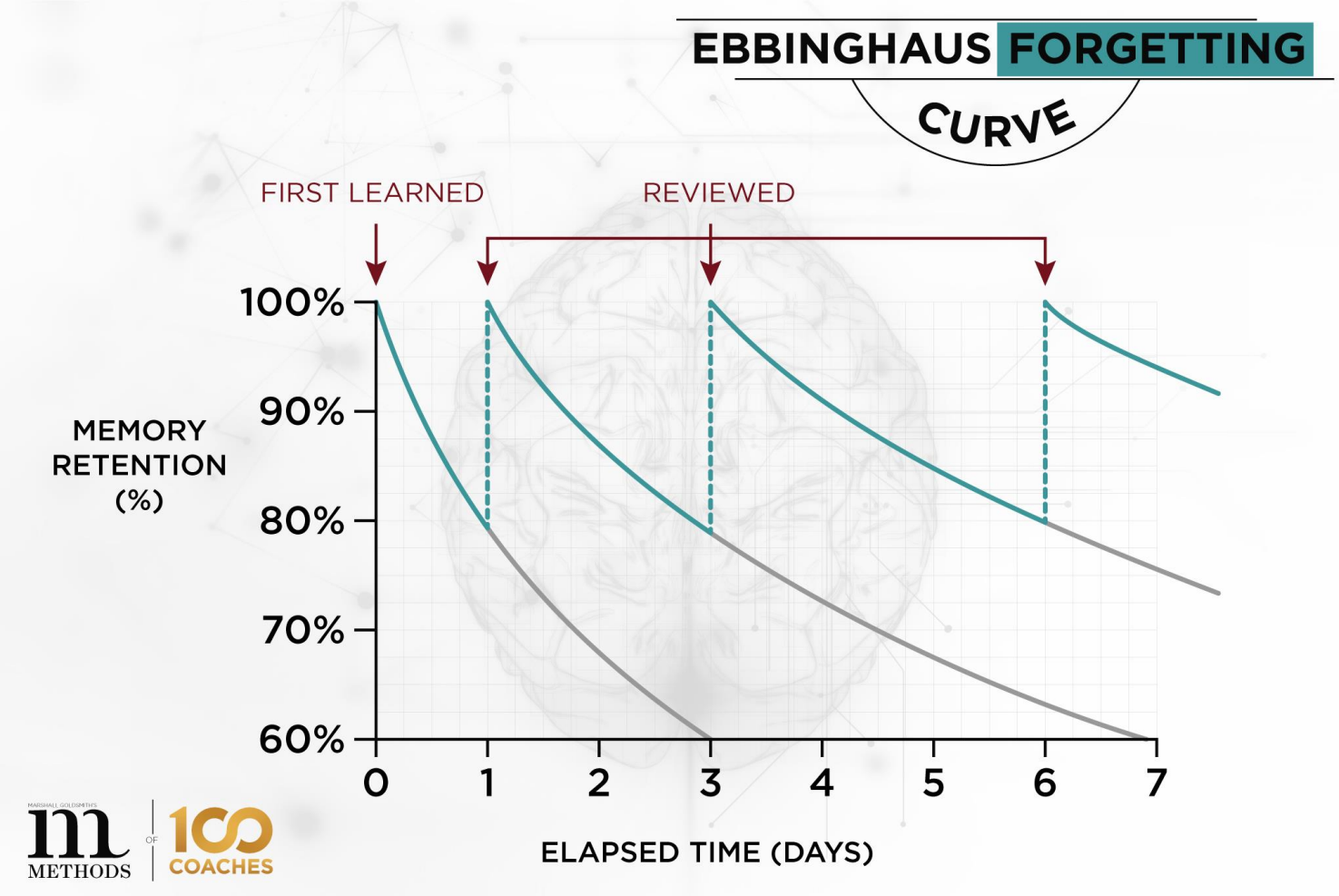
Please support us by helping to get your child into school every day on time and ready to learn

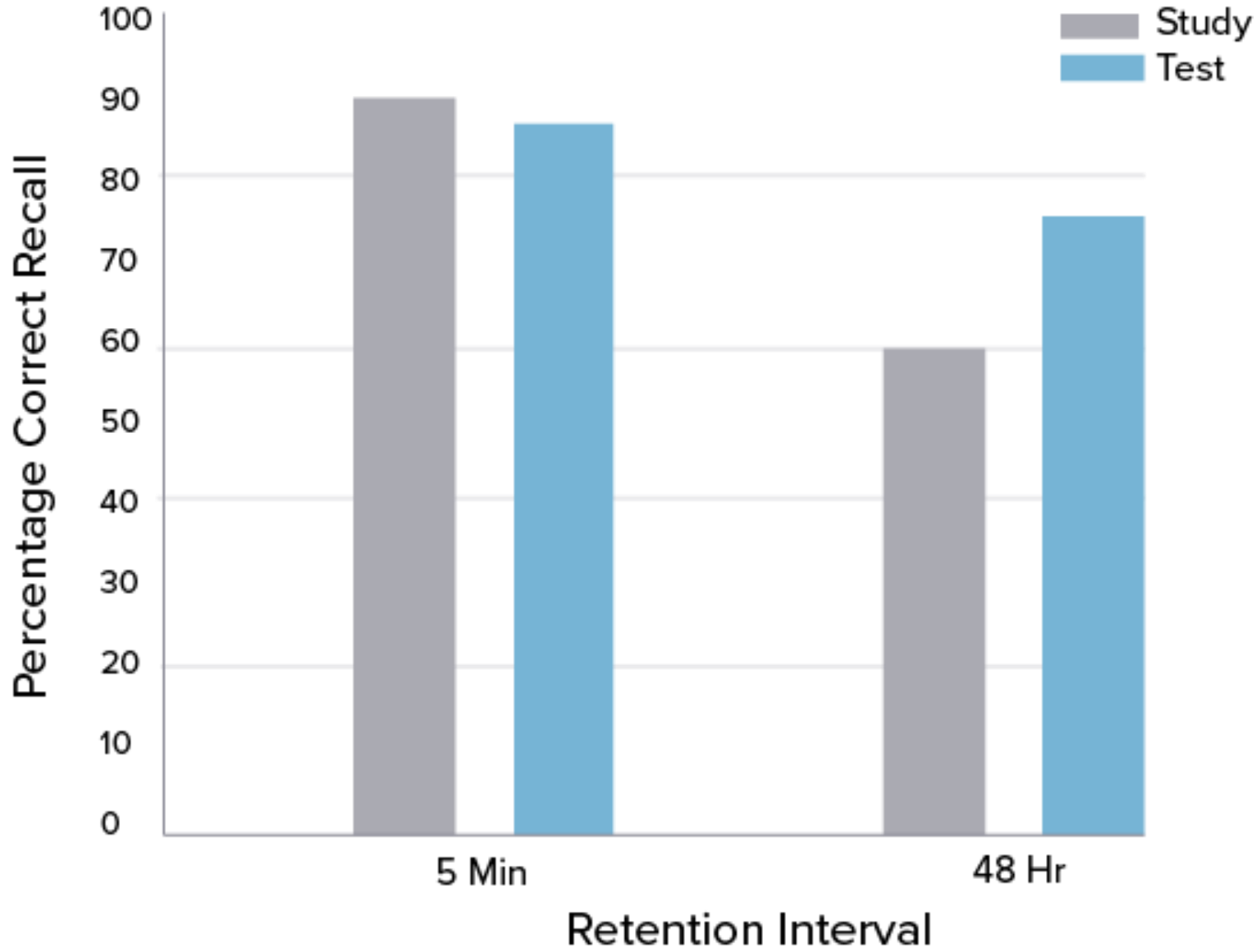


Revision Techniques



What do we know about effective revision?

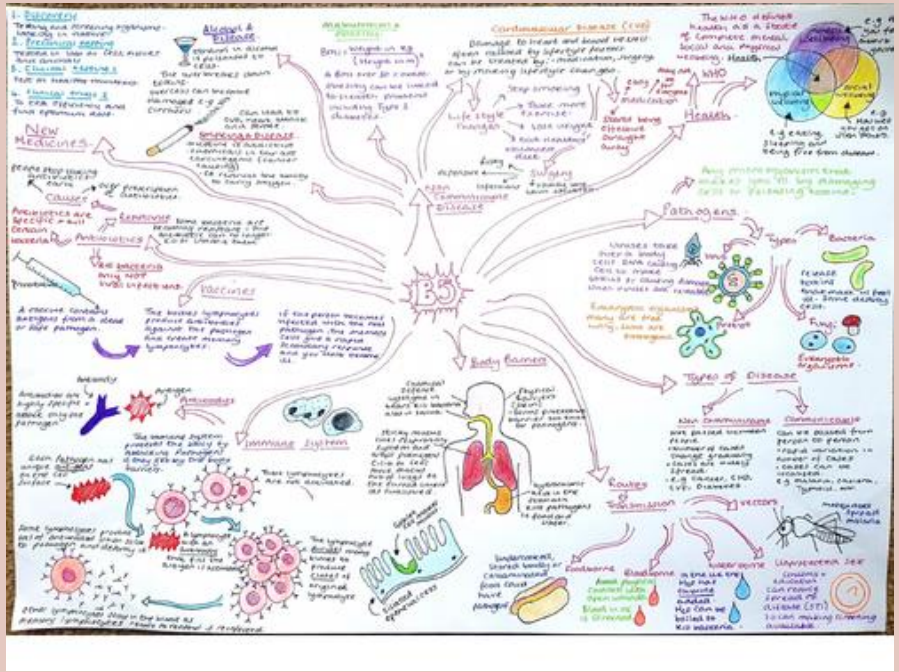




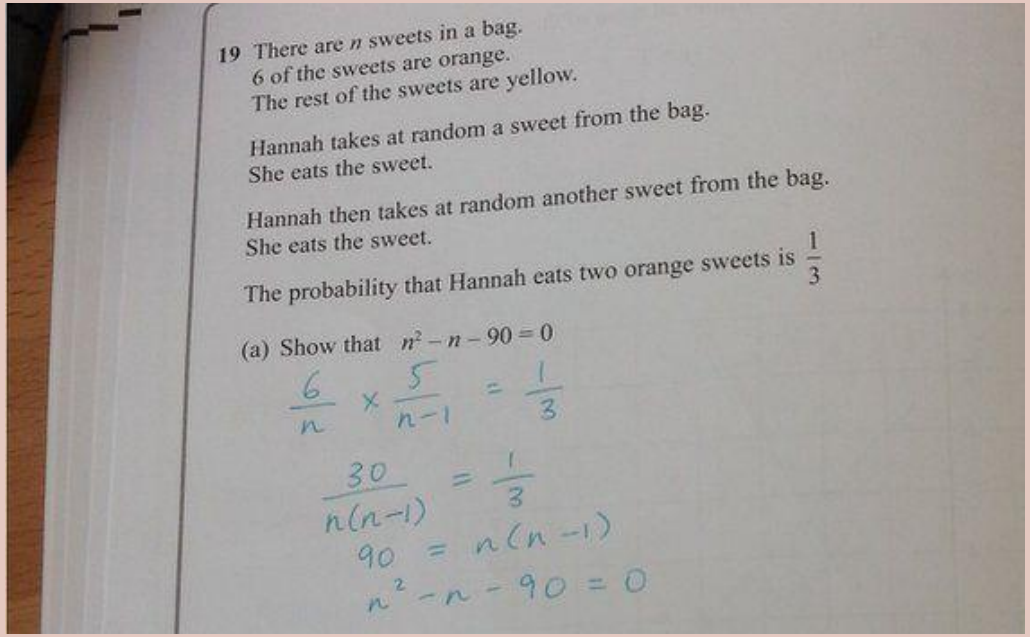
Toppino & Cohen: The Testing Effect and the Retention Interval

Examples of Revision

Activity 1: Creating a mind-map using your notes. Using lots of colours, pictures and different fonts.



Activity 2: Answering GCSE maths exam questions.



19 There are n sweets in a bag.
6 of the sweets are orange.
The rest of the sweets are yellow.

Hannah takes at random a sweet from the bag.
She eats the sweet.

Hannah then takes at random another sweet from the bag.
She eats the sweet.

The probability that Hannah eats two orange sweets is $\frac{1}{3}$

(a) Show that $n^2 - n - 90 = 0$

$\frac{6}{n} \times \frac{5}{n-1} = \frac{1}{3}$

$\frac{30}{n(n-1)} = \frac{1}{3}$

$90 = n(n-1)$

$n^2 - n - 90 = 0$

Poor Revision Techniques

- rereading notes
- highlighting notes
- copying/summarising information from a revision guide
- watching a YouTube/TikTok video

The Core 5 Revision Techniques

1

PAST PAPERS

Practise questions, timing and exam technique

2

FLASHCARDS

Test precise recall of facts, quotes and formulae

3

MIND MAPS

Organise and connect a whole topic

4

BRAIN DUMPS

Reveal what you can recall and what is missing

5

LOOK • COVER • WRITE • CHECK

Learn accurate knowledge through repeated retrieval

4

BRAIN DUMPS

Reveal what you can recall and what is missing

1. Choose a topic
2. Write down everything you remember about that topic, without looking at notes.
3. Check what you have written down against your notes.
4. Make any corrections and fill in gaps in a different coloured pen.
5. A few days/weeks later, complete the same brain dump again. Did you remember more this time?

2

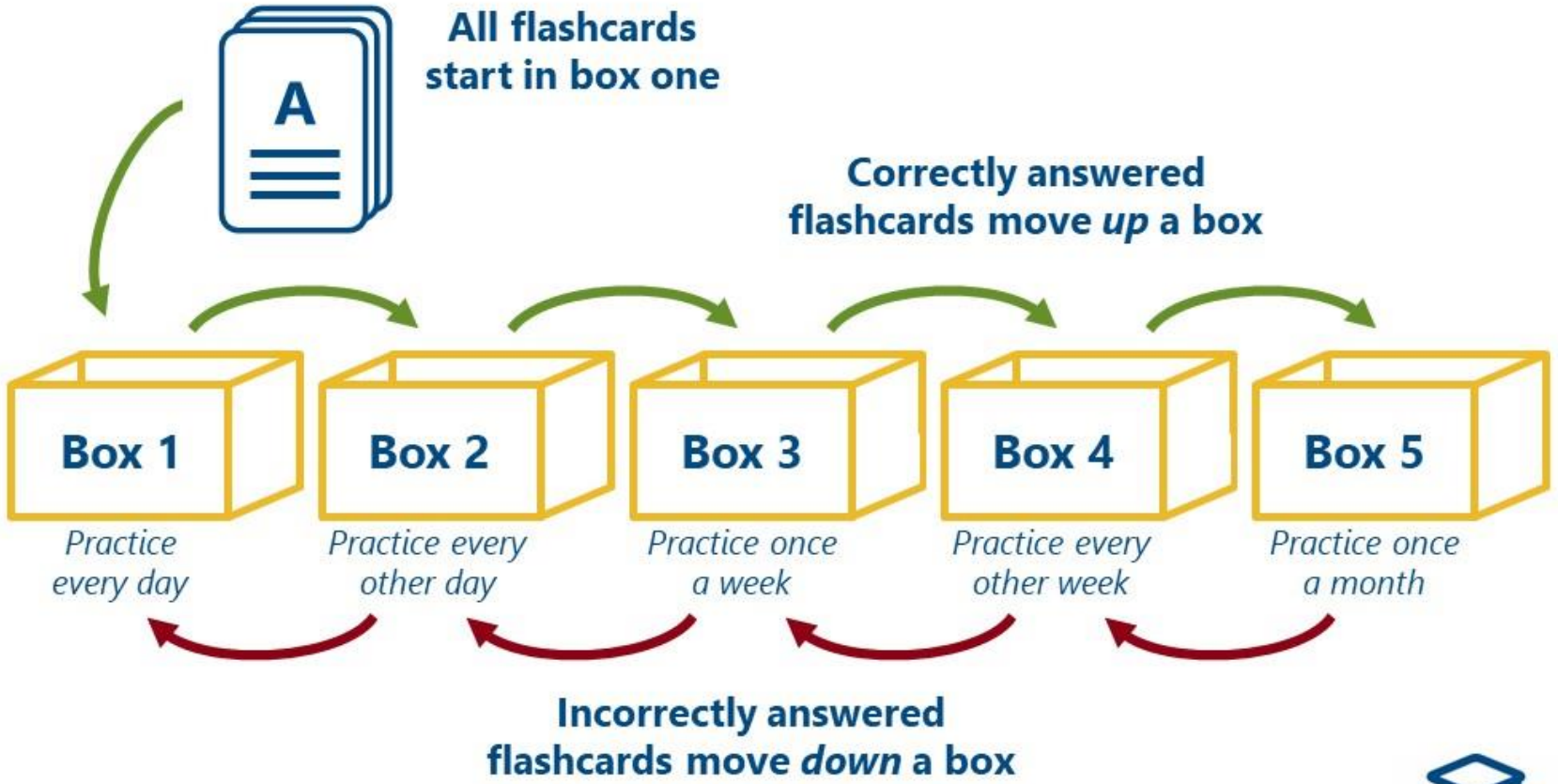
FLASHCARDS

Test precise recall of facts, quotes and formulae

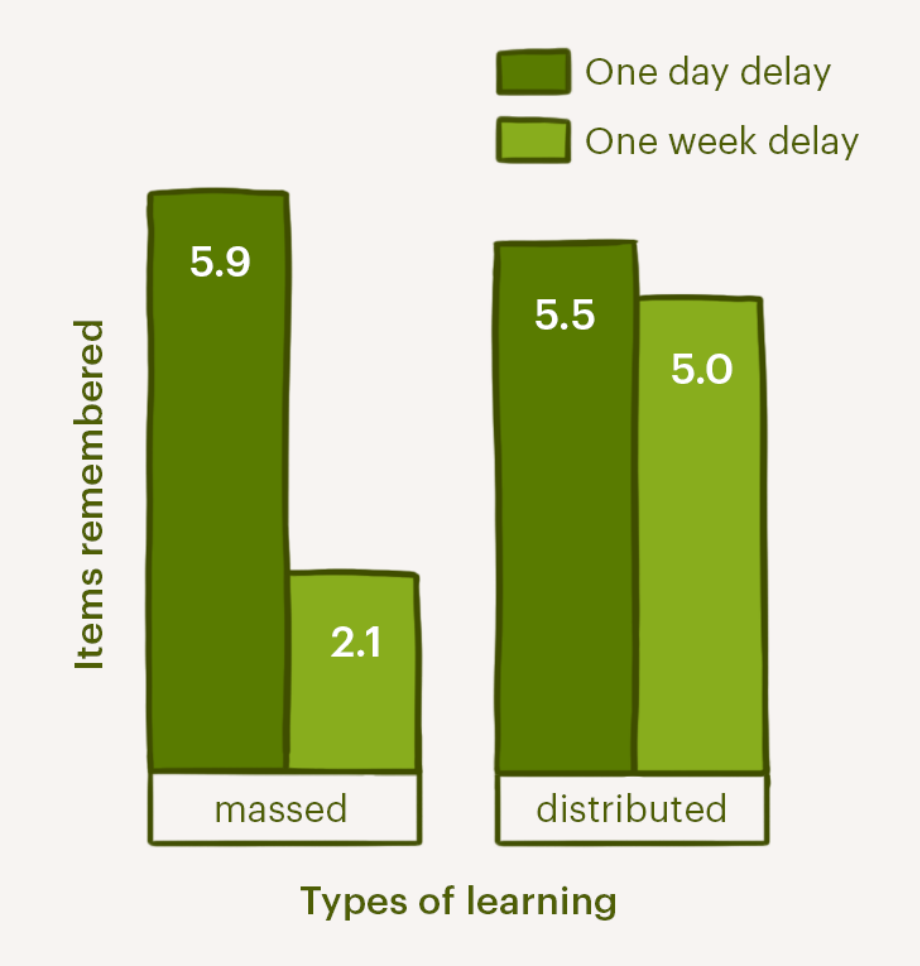
Dos	Don’ts
• Put a single question/key word on the front of the flashcard, and the answer or definition on the back • Create ‘decks’ for each topic, with different colour cards • Use family/friends to test yourself!	• Spend ages making flashcards, and never actually use them for retrieval • Put too much information on each flashcard

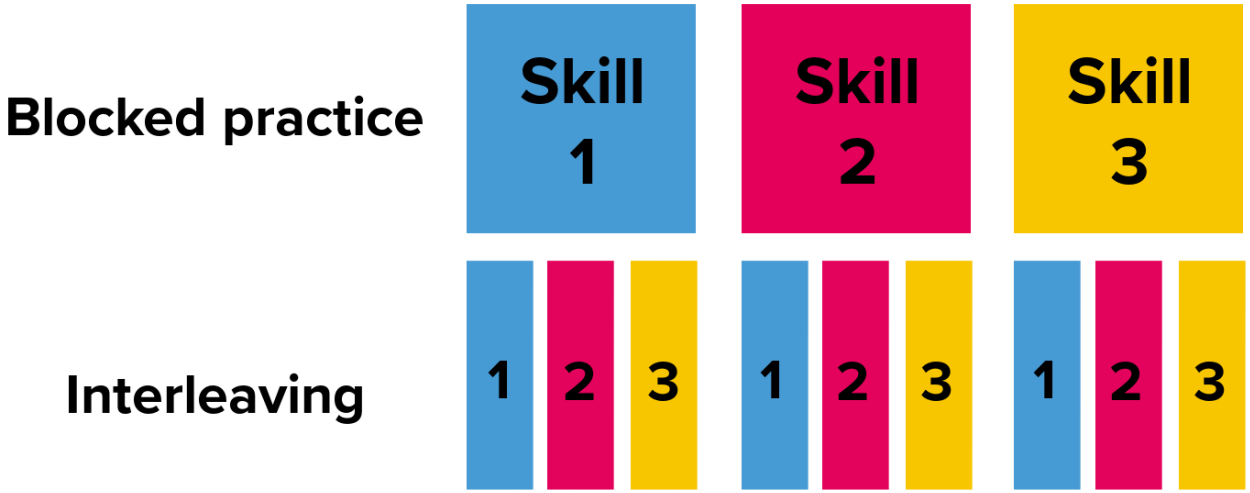
How to use the Leitner system for flashcards

Increase your memory with spaced repetition and active recall



Spacing and Interleaving







English Language and Literature

Exam Board : Eduqas

Language paper 1 (1 Hou nutes) **Monday 24th May**

Language paper 2 (2 Hou **ay 8th June**

Literature paper 1 (2 Hou **sday 12th May**

Literature paper 2 (2 Ho nutes) **Wednesday 19th May**

55 Language Lessons Left!!!!

60 Literature Lessons Left!!!!

Grade Boundaries

Exam	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Language	27	47	68	89	102	115	129	141	153
Literature	24	45	66	88	101	114	128	139	151

NO HIGHER or FOUNDATION paper – everyone sits the same exam.

These are the total marks needed for each GCSE. Each GCSE is out of 200 marks.
Each question/section is out of 40

In Class Topics

Language Content

- **Topics Covered:**
  - Paper 1 Component 1 Reading Fiction
  - Paper 1 Component 2 Writing (creative)
  - Paper 2 Component 1 Reading Non-Fiction
  - Paper 2 Component 2 Writing (transactional)

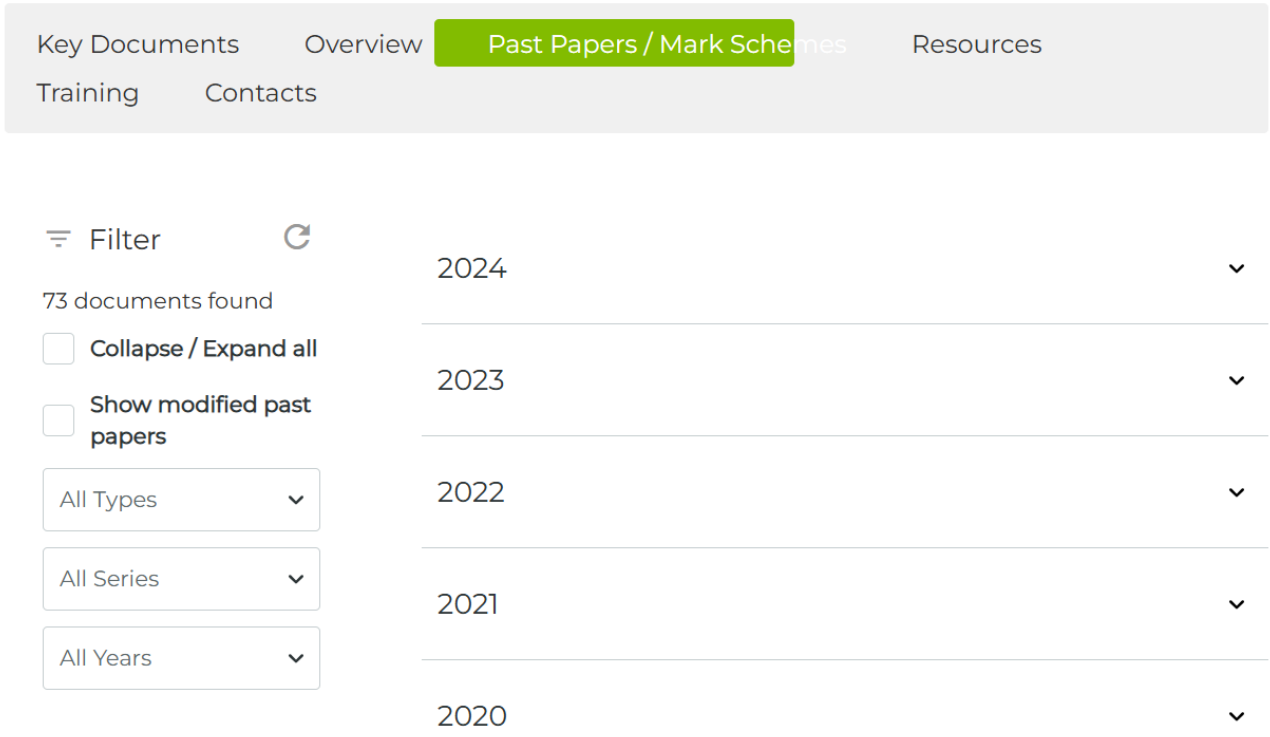
In Class Topics

Literature Content

- **Topics Covered:**
  - Paper 2 - A Christmas Carol
  - Paper 2 - An Inspector Calls
  - Paper 2 - Unseen Poetry
  - Paper 1- Poetry Anthology
  - Paper 1 – Romeo and Juliet

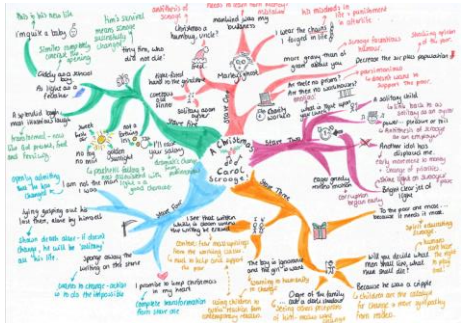
Revision Strategies - Language

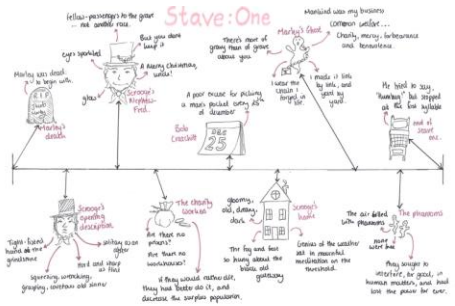
- Completing Past Papers in timed conditions.
  - Reading sections 1 hour, Fiction writing 45 minutes, Non-Fiction Writing 30 per task.

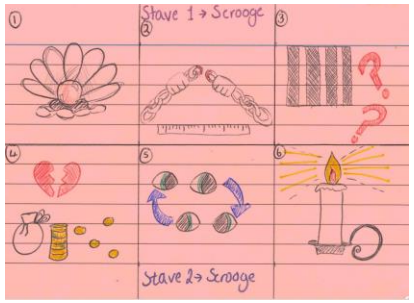


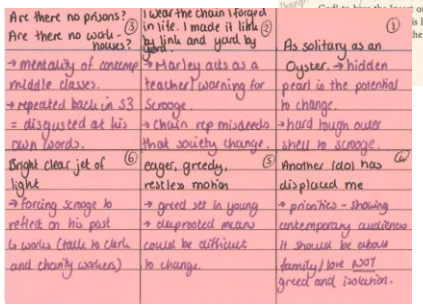
Revision Strategies - Literature

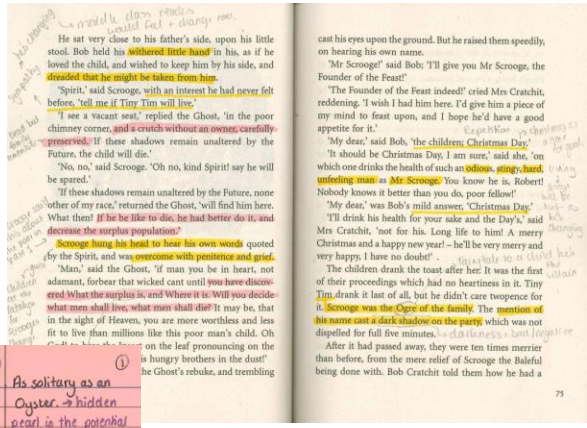
- Completing flash cards with key quotes for each theme/character/chapter and make sure you revise with them!
- Use mind maps and timelines to link themes and characters together OR to see how much you can remember.
- Reread the books we have studied!
- Answer past paper questions in the time limits.







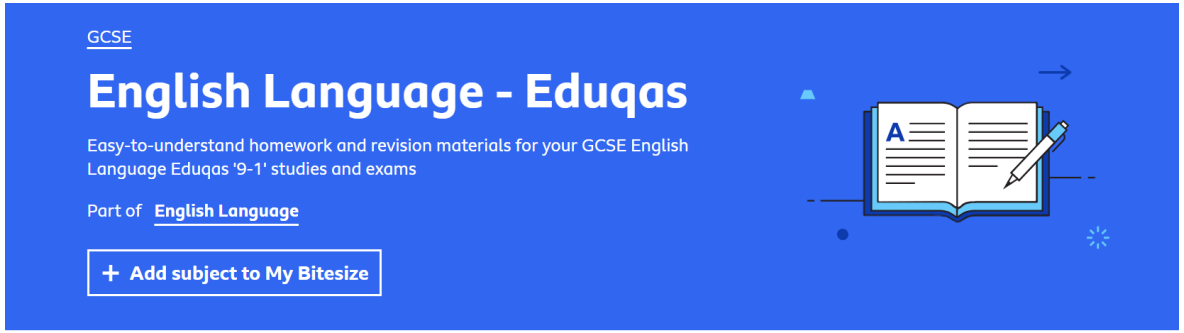


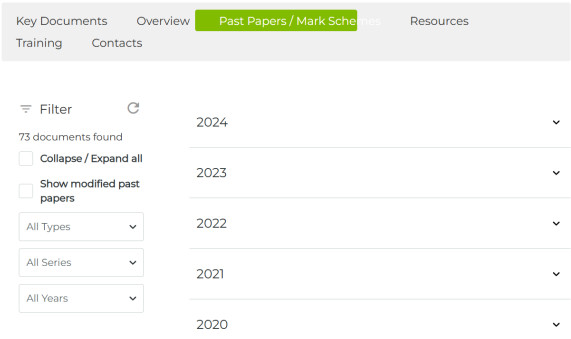


Useful Websites

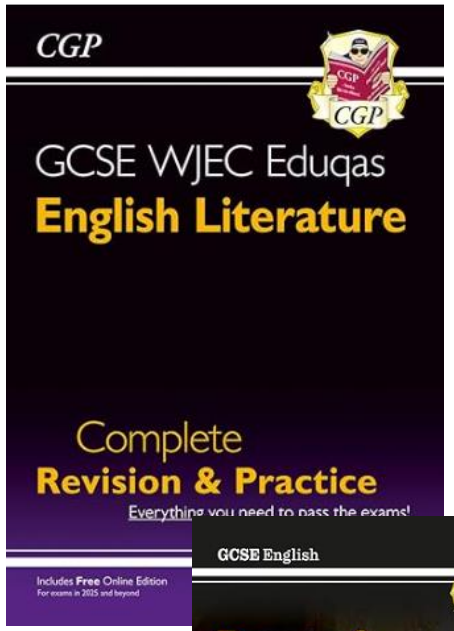
- GCSE Pod!
- Youtube videos and annotations.
- BBC bitesize
- Eduqas Online sources
- MAKE SURE YOU ARE LOOKING AT EDUQAS RESOURCES!

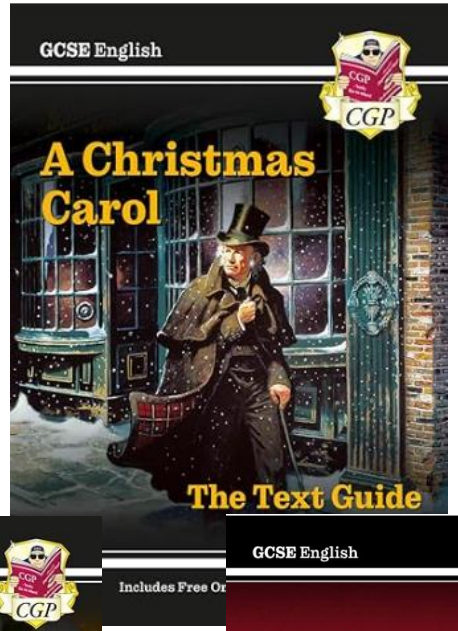


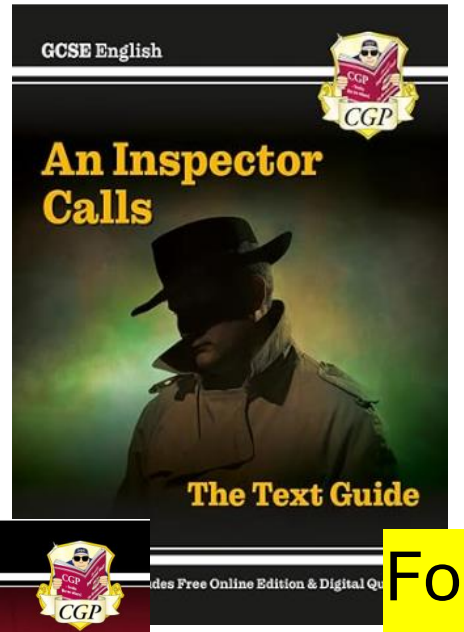




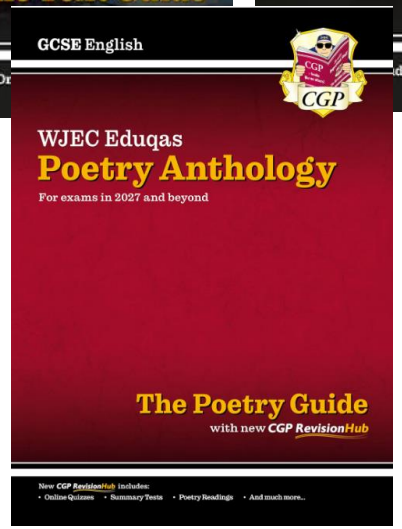
Useful Revision Books



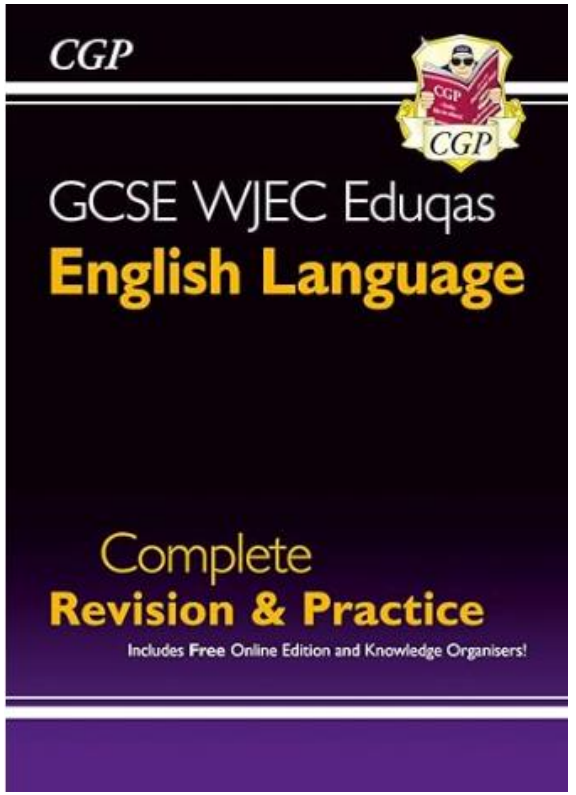








For poetry, make sure you pick the 2027 EXAM!!!



Where do I start?

A Christmas Carol		Notes	Red (No Idea)	Amber (some idea)	Green (confident)
Context	*Children*				
	Christmas				
	Death				
	Industrial Revolution				
	Poverty				
	Role of Women				
	Society				
	Thomas Malthus				
	Ghost Stories				
	Work Houses				
Theme	*Family*				
	Isolation				
	Wealth				
	Morality				
	Poverty				
	Social Injustice				
	Redemption and Change				
	Regret				
	Christmas				



Maths

What we'll cover tonight

- Top tips for success in GCSE Maths
- Effective revision and independent study
- Making the most of Sparx Maths and revision resources
- The importance of regular practice
- How parents can support their child

Top Tips for Success in GCSE Maths

- Attend every lesson
- Complete Sparx Maths homework every week-homework due every Monday
- Revise little and often- Just 15-20 minutes per day, 4-5 times a week, can make a significant difference over the course of Year 11
- Learn from mistakes – review them and make notes- This is where the most learning happens.
- Practise exam-style questions regularly
- Ask for help when needed

Maths is a subject that improves through regular practice.

Effective Revision and Independent Study

15-20 minutes, 4-5 times a week is more effective than cramming.

Day	Activity
Monday	Sparx Maths
Tuesday	Revise one topic
Wednesday	Retrieval practice
Thursday	Exam-style questions
Friday	Rest
Saturday	Past paper practice
Sunday	Review mistakes

Making the most of Sparx Maths and Revision Resources

Maths Links

www.mathslinks.co.uk

A one-stop hub for:

- Maths Genie
- Corbettmaths
- Dr Frost Maths
- Exam Questions
- Past papers and mark schemes
- Topic-specific revision videos and resources

Sparx Maths

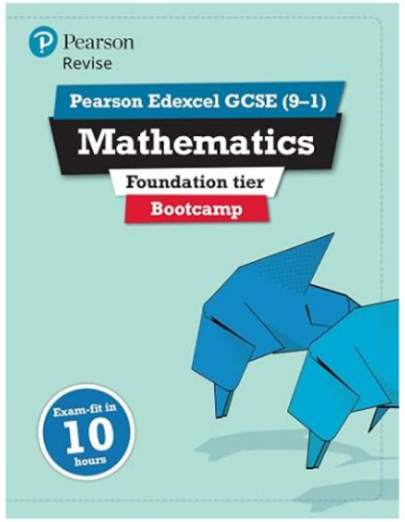
- Personalised homework and practice
- Builds confidence and fluency
- Identifies gaps in knowledge
- Works best when completed regularly

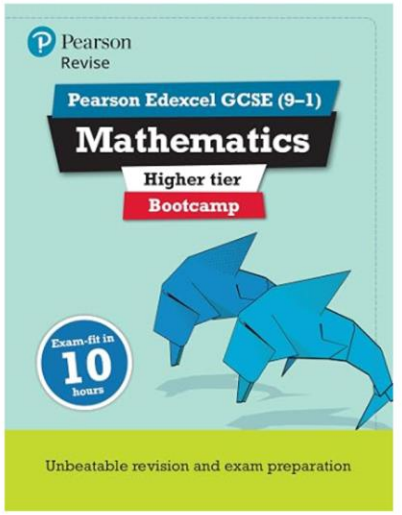
If your child is unsure about a topic, search for it on Maths Links and spend 15-20 minutes working through examples and questions. This is an excellent way to support independent learning at home.

Additional Revision

Pearson REVISE GCSE Maths Bootcamp

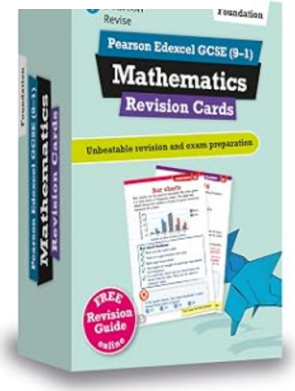
- Breaks revision into manageable chunks
- Revision notes, practice questions and exam tips
- Ideal for students who don't know where to start

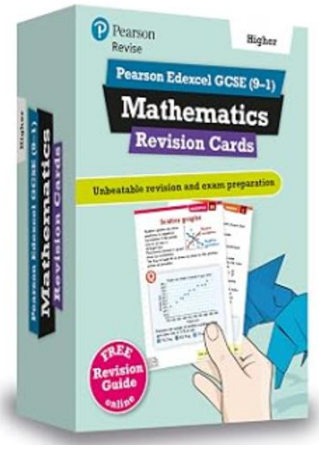




Pearson REVISE Revision Cards

- Key facts, formulas and worked examples
- Quick questions to test understanding
- Perfect for short revision bursts





The importance of regular practice

Just like learning a musical instrument or improving in a sport, success in maths comes from regular practice over time.

- **Strengthens mathematical skills and methods**
- **Improves confidence and fluency**
- **Helps students remember key knowledge and formulae**
- **Identifies misconceptions before exams**
- **Makes exam questions feel more familiar**

What Regular Practice Looks Like: Completing Sparx Maths each week. Revisiting previous topics. Using retrieval questions. Practising exam-style questions. Reviewing and correcting mistakes

How parents can support their child

You do not need to be a maths expert. You can help by:

- **Encouraging regular revision**
- **Providing a quiet place to study**
- **Check homework completion**
- **Asking your child what they learned**
- **Celebrating effort and progress.**
- **A simple question such as "Can you teach me what you learned today?" is often one of the most powerful ways to support learning.**

Every mark matters, and small improvements across the year can have significant impact on a student's final grade

Grade boundaries change every year, but as a guide:

- **Your child need around 144/240 for a Grade 4 in a Foundation paper.**
- **Your child need around 53/240 for a Grade 4, 87/240 for a Grade 5 and 156/240 for a Grade 7.**



Science

Preparing for the AQA GCSE Science Exams

- **Overview of AQA GCSE Combined Science**

- **Specification:** AQA Combined Science: **Trilogy** (8464)
- **Content:** Includes Biology, Chemistry, and Physics
- **Assessment:** Six papers (two for each subject), each 1 hour 15 minutes
- **Grading:** Combined grade from 9-9 to 1-1
- This qualification is worth 2 GCSEs!

Biology Content

- **Topics Covered:**
  - B1 Cell Biology
  - B2 Organisation
  - B3 Infection and Response
  - B4 Bioenergetics
  - B5 Homeostasis and Response
  - B6 Inheritance, Variation, and Evolution
  - B7 Ecology

Chemistry Content

- **Topics Covered:**
  - C1 Atomic Structure and the Periodic Table
  - C2 Bonding, Structure, and the Properties of Matter
  - C3 Quantitative Chemistry
  - C4 Chemical Changes
  - C5 Energy Changes
  - C6 The Rate and Extent of Chemical Change
  - C7 Organic Chemistry
  - C8 Chemical Analysis
  - C9 Chemistry of the Atmosphere
  - C10 Using Resources

Physics Content

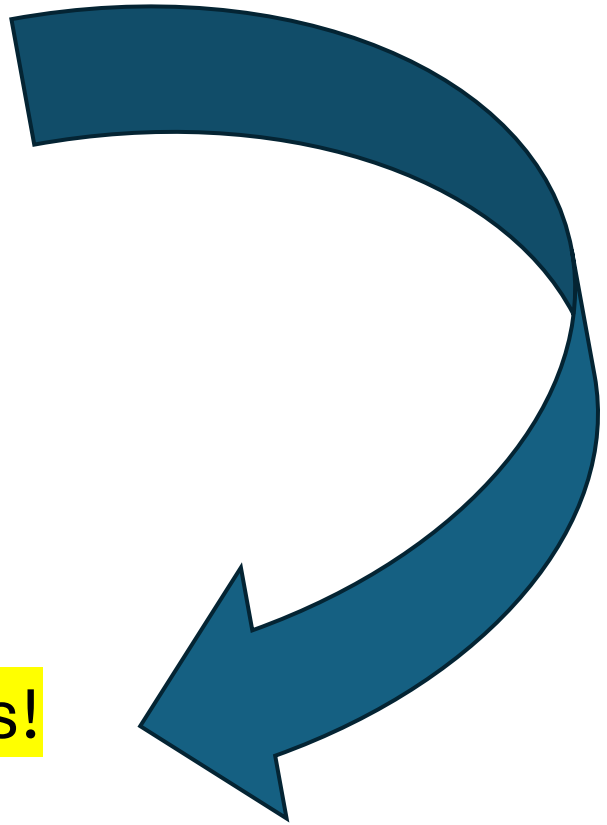
- **Topics Covered:**
  - P1 Energy
  - P2 Electricity
  - P3 Particle Model of Matter
  - P4 Atomic Structure
  - P5 Forces
  - P6 Waves
  - P7 Magnetism and Electromagnetism
  - **Triple Physics Only** – P8 Space

Required Practicals

- **Importance:** Practical skills are crucial and are assessed in exams
- **Examples:**
  - Biology: Microscopy, Enzymes
  - Chemistry: Titrations, Electrolysis
  - Physics: Specific Heat Capacity, Resistance

Revision Strategies

- **Timetable:** Create a comprehensive revision timetable
- **Past Papers:** Practice with past exam papers and mark schemes
- **Active Revision:** Use flashcards, mind maps, and quizzes
- **Seneca:** Encourage study groups for collaborative learning
- **Breaks:** Revising in small chunks is more effective



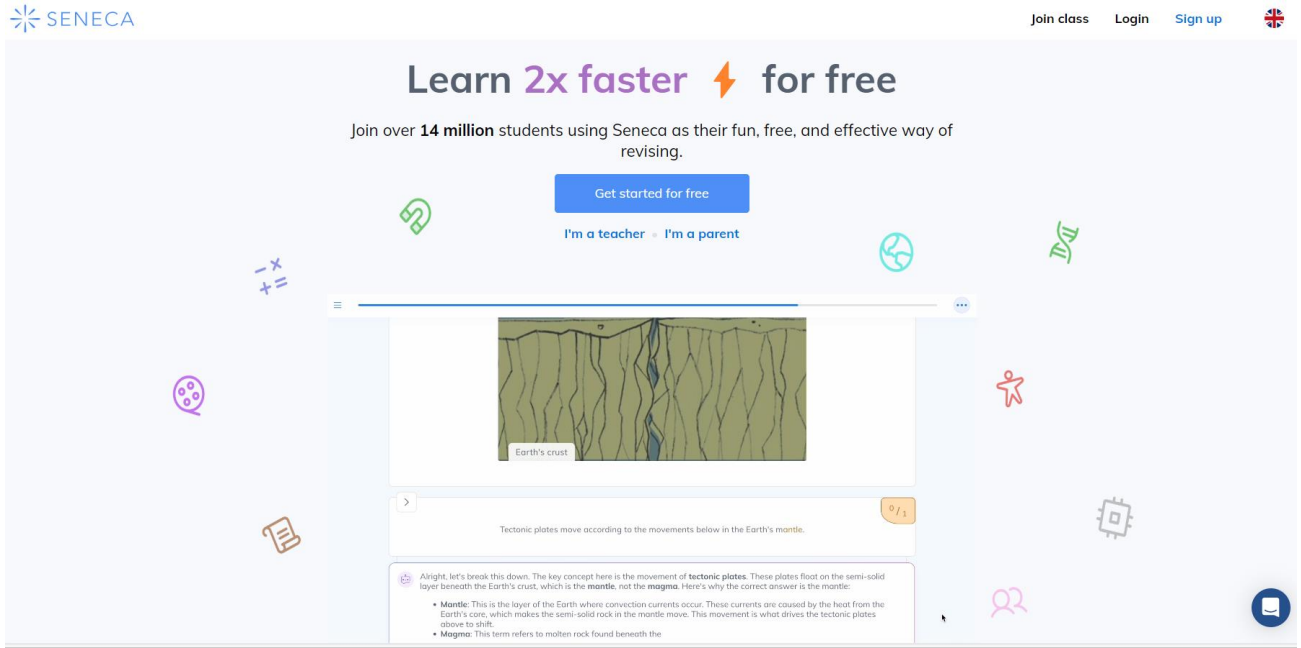
- Remember - This qualification is worth 2 GCSEs!

Useful Resources

- **Websites:**
  - AQA
  - BBC Bitesize
  - Save My Exams
  - revision science.com (past papers & mark schemes)
  - Science Shorts YouTube channel
  - SparxScience
- **Books:** CGP Revision Guides, Oxford Revise
- **Apps:** Quizlet, Seneca Learning, GCSEPod

How to Use

- **Sign Up:** Create a free account at Seneca Learning.
- **Select Course:** Choose the AQA Combined Science course.
- **Study Regularly:** Encourage your child to use Seneca as part of their daily revision routine.



Using SENECA for Science Revision

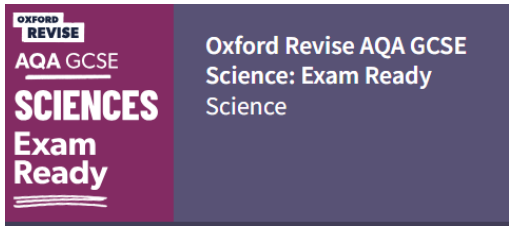
- **Overview:** Seneca Learning is a free online platform offering interactive courses for GCSE Science.
- **Features:**
  - **Interactive Content:** Engaging lessons with GIFs, quizzes, and videos.
  - **Exam Board Specific:** Tailored to AQA Combined Science specifications.
  - **Immediate Feedback:** AI marking provides instant feedback on practice questions.
  - **Progress Tracking:** Monitor your child's progress and identify areas for improvement.
- **Benefits:**
  - **Effective Learning:** Research shows students using Seneca achieve 2x better exam results.
  - **Motivating:** Earn rewards and compete with friends to make learning fun.

SENECA Quiz Examples

- **Topic:** Cell Structure & Microscopy (Biology)
- **Question:** Which of the following is a function of the cell membrane?
  - A) To control the movement of substances in and out of the cell
  - B) To provide energy for the cell
  - C) To store genetic information
  - D) To produce proteins
- **Answer:** A) To control the movement of substances in and out of the cell
- **Interactive Feature:** Seneca quizzes provide immediate feedback and explanations for each answer, helping students understand their mistakes and learn effectively

Kerboodle – Exam Ready

- **Kerboodle – Exam Ready - How to Use:**
  - **Login:** https://www.kerboodle.com/
  - Your username is the same as your school computer login. For example, 22bloggsj
- Your password is the same as your username initially (22bloggsj) but it will ask you to change it.
  - The school institution code is 'fkh0'
  - **Select Course:** Choose the AQA Combined Science course.
  - **Study Regularly:** Encourage your child to use Exam Ready as part of their daily revision routine.



Supporting Your Child

Supporting Your Child

- **Encouragement:** Provide positive reinforcement
- **Environment:** Create a quiet, distraction-free study space
- **Balance:** Ensure a healthy balance of study and relaxation

Remember!

Remember - This qualification is worth 2 GCSEs!

Post-16 Options

YEAR 11 CAREERS: LOOKING TO THE FUTURE

Supporting Your Child's Next Steps

September 2026



THIS TERM'S CAREERS JOURNEY

Exploring post-16 options and making confident, informed decisions.

- Understand next-step pathways colleges, sixth forms, apprenticeships
- Attend visits and open events
- Prepare for applications and interviews
- Prepare and take part in Mock Interview Day



WHAT ARE THE MAIN POST-16 PATHWAYS

An apprenticeship:

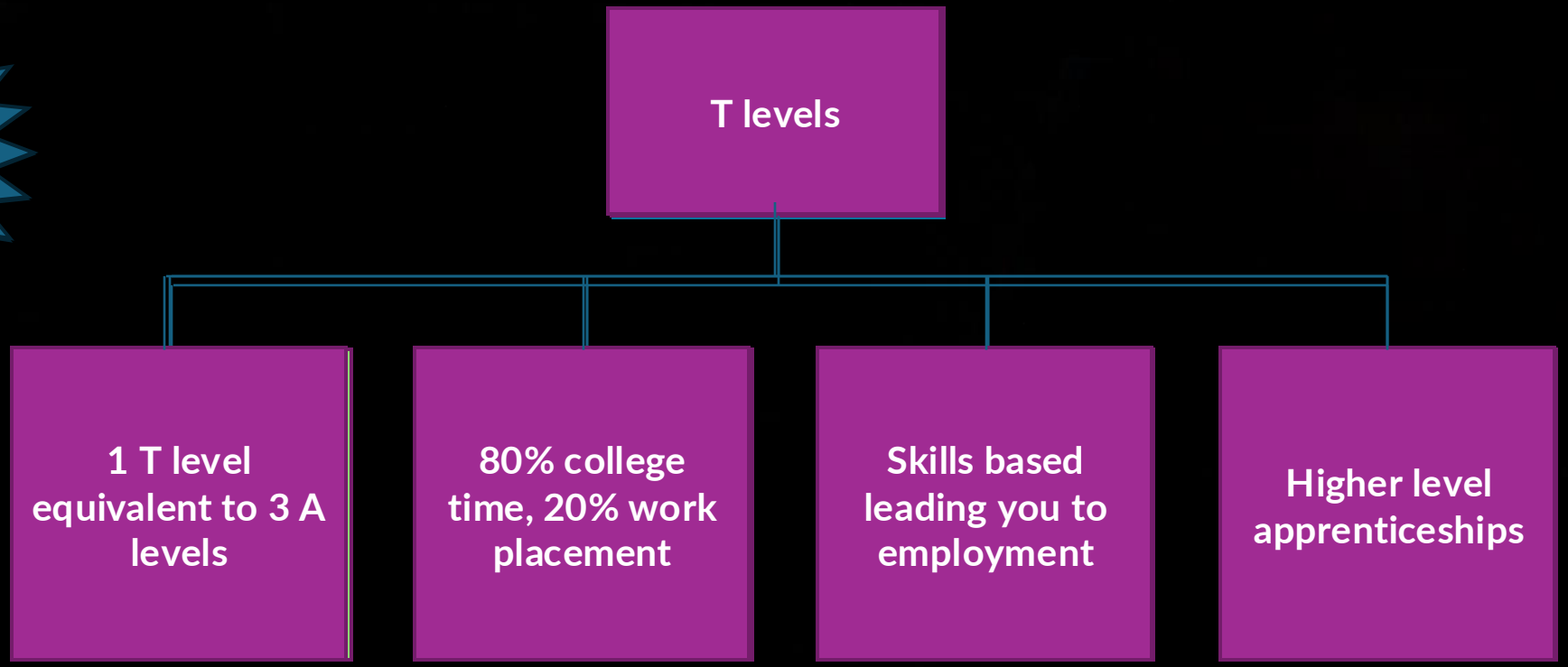
- Apprenticeships are real jobs which combine work with training and study: 80-20 split.
- Apply now while still in school.
- You'll earn a wage, gain a qualification and experience.
- In some cases, you may be offered a job at the end of your apprenticeship.
- There are over 700 types of apprenticeships in different areas of work.

Find an apprenticeship - GOV.UK



FULL-TIME EDUCATION
A-LEVELS, VOCATIONAL & T-LEVELS

You will need Grade 4 in English and Maths



NEXT-STEP DECISIONS

01 Explore your options and shortlist colleges, sixth forms, or apprenticeships

02 Visit open events and virtual tours to get a real feel

03 Choose subjects and pathways that match your goals – be mindful of entry requirements

04 Start applications early and stay on track for deadlines



KEY DATES FOR YOUR DIARY





WE'RE HERE TO SUPPORT YOU AND YOUR CHILD EVERY STEP OF THE WAY.



Summary

Year 11 Timeline – Autumn Term

Term	Key Events
Autumn half-term 1 **Attendance and attitude to learning**	~~• 02-Sep : Start looking at post-16 options, off-timetable focus day~~ ~~• 03-Sep : Humanutopia motivational growth mindset, off-timetable focus day~~ ~~• 21-Sep : 6-week targeted intervention for selected students begins~~ ~~• 24-Sep : Y11 Parent Information and Support Evening~~ • 05-Oct : Year 11 mock Exam Prep Weeks (2 weeks), including walking talking mocks in each core subject area • 18-Oct : Mock Interview day
Autumn half-term 2 **Careers and college applications**	• 20-Oct : October half-term holidays – One-day Boost Days targeted intervention for selected students • 02-Nov : November mock exams begin (2 weeks) • 02-Nov : Mock period breakfast warm-up revision sessions will be run • 16-Nov : NEA Focus Week (1 week) • 30-Nov : Mock results morning and Year 11 Reports sent home • 03-Dec : Year 11 Parents Evening • 07-Dec : Year 11 Targeted Fortnight begins • 18-Dec : Ensure applications for sixth form/colleges are completed (including back-up choices!)

Additional support in Year 11

- In class support
- Subject revision sessions before and after school
- Small group intervention with mentors
- Tutor time interventions
- Saturday schools and masterclasses
- Breakfast 'warm-ups'
- Half-term Boost Days
- Mental health practitioners
- Additional parent information evenings
- A series of workshops throughout the year

Parent KS4 Support and Information Booklet

Coming home tomorrow morning

- Every Year 11 family will receive our Parent KS4 Support and Information Booklet.

The booklet brings together:

- exam information and key content for every subject
- hyperlinks to useful websites, past papers and revision materials
- recommended revision guides and subject-specific resources
- clear guidance on how students can revise each subject at home
- The resources featured in the booklet are also on display outside the hall this evening.

Please use the booklet with your child to choose the right resources, plan regular revision and focus support where it is most needed.

What to do if you have a question or concern

- The first port of call is the teacher
- Contact the Head of Department if the matter is specific to a subject and contacting the teacher has not helped
- Contact your child's Year Leader – Mr Stafford if your concern is more general
- Communication between home and school is vital. It needs to be just right
- Please make sure you are on Class Charts to help you receive all school communications
- Check the school website regularly

Final thoughts

- No excuses
- Keep your child focused on their success at school
- Support us in supporting your child
- Regularly speak to your child about their education
- Ensure they are in school everyday and on time
- Ensure they are revising and completing homework

Your support really matters

