

# Top Tips for ...



## 10 Key Revision Tips

1. Never revise too much in one go. It is important to focus on a set topic within a subject. Try not to 'skim' through your topics. Revise topics in detail until you understand, and not just remember.
2. Revise in small chunks. Keep your revision time to approximately 20 – 30 minutes, and then have a short brain break before you restart.
3. Make sure you balance your lifestyle. Music, Sports and other hobbies should continue. It is important to keep doing the things you enjoy, as this will help you relax. However, it is incredibly important to ensure quality time is spent on your revision – you are only doing this once after all!
4. Motivate yourself to revise – it is important to remember why you are doing this. Where do you want to be in 2, 5, 10 years' time? You will never get there without 100% effort... Only you can do it.
5. Ensure you revise at a time of a day where you feel at your best. You may be a morning worker, or you may be an evening worker. Help yourself out, and plan your days in advance.
6. Start early. 'Cramming' is proven not to retain information over long periods. Starting early and planning your revision will ensure you are fully prepared. This will enable you to contact your teacher concerning problem areas.
7. Start with your hardest subjects/topics first – people tend to revise the topics they find easiest, which means you save your hardest information to the end. This can lead to running out of time and not fully understanding key information.
8. Find the right environment to revise. This may be at a table, or on your sofa. You may like background noise, or may like silence. Family homes can also be a busy place. Choose a place where you can concentrate without being disturbed.
9. Talking of being disturbed, turn off any device with access to social media. It is just too tempting! Switch off your television and favourite shows. It will be worth it. You can always catch up with it later.
10. Finally, speak with your subject teacher about revision techniques. Your teacher can recommend subject specific resources and methods to support you.

## REVISION METHODS

It is important that you revise in the way that suits you best. By doing so you will be able to understand and retain as much information as possible.

Below gives you a number of ideas for methods of revision:

1. Mind Mapping – use pictures, topics, titles and bullet points. This will help you to picture and break down subject/topical information
2. Bullet points – summarise topics and key aspects of the syllabus
3. Rewrite your work to a point where you can remember it by bullet points – re writing is great for memory.
4. Test yourself – past papers, exam questions; this is proven to be one of the best methods of revision and retention.
5. Test with a friend/parent. Read sections of your work for a set time, and then ask somebody to ask you any questions on the topic. Highlight information you were unsure of.
6. Apply your knowledge to another context – do you understand or can you just recall? This is a great way of checking understanding.
7. Sticky labels, highlighting, pictures and anything visual may help you remember key information.
8. Index cards are a great tool for summarising and revising key topics. They are easy to look at and a good way to refresh your knowledge.