

GCSE Information Evening



welcome

CLASS OF

2022

&

2023

This information will also be shared with students in form time and we will continue to communicate with you as we progress in the coming weeks.

If you have any questions following this presentation please feel free to contact me.

jsayce@acle.Norfolk.sch.uk

Purpose of the Evening:

- **Give you key information to help you maximise your child's potential at GCSE.**
- To give you an overview of the key processes and subject specific information surrounding your child's GCSEs.
- To update you on any government or exam related changes to the curriculum and schooling that affect current students.
- Allow you to access all the key information which can support your child at home with their GCSEs.
- Answer any questions you might have about your child's GCSEs.



Coming Soon- January- Revision Evening...

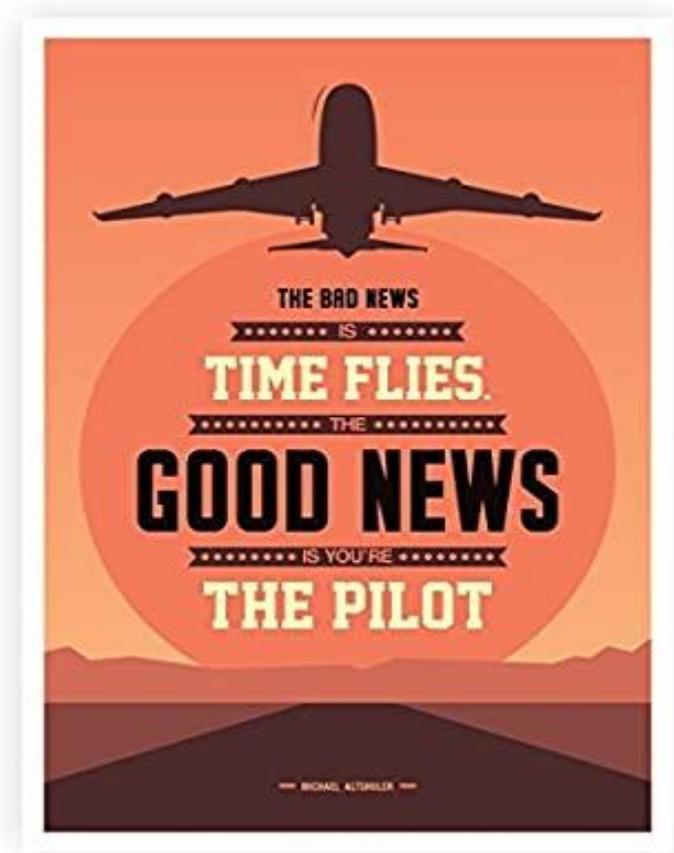
- Focusing more on...
- Importance of revision.
- How to revise effectively.
- Balancing time and stress to cope with the exam workload.



2020-21 18 months like no other



The journey ahead



Key qualities we will work

with you on:

- ✓ Well-being
- ✓ Confidence
- ✓ Organisation
- ✓ Time-management
- ✓ Revision planning
- ✓ Maximising opportunities
- ✓ Aspirations
- ✓ Seeing the long-term value of your GCSEs.

‘The bad news is that from now onwards time flies, the good news is you’re the pilot’

Structure of the year- key dates

Mock exams- from Monday 29th Nov in hall- lasting 2 weeks- 10th Dec 2021

Year 11- tracking 1- Monday 29th November 2021- reports to follow shortly after this

Year 11 mock results morning-
Tuesday 11th January 2021

Year 11 parents evening-
Thursday 13th January 2021

Exam boards release more info on exam content- Monday 7th February 2022

In class mock exams- March 2022 (tbc)

Summer exam series- May-June 2022

GCSE Results Day- Thursday 25th August 2022

Your support network

- ✓ Mr Sayce and all of LT
- ✓ Form tutors
- ✓ Subject teachers
- ✓ Heads of subject
- ✓ Intervention staff
- ✓ Inspire
- ✓ Engage/Reflection



Work with us- Teachers aren't the enemy

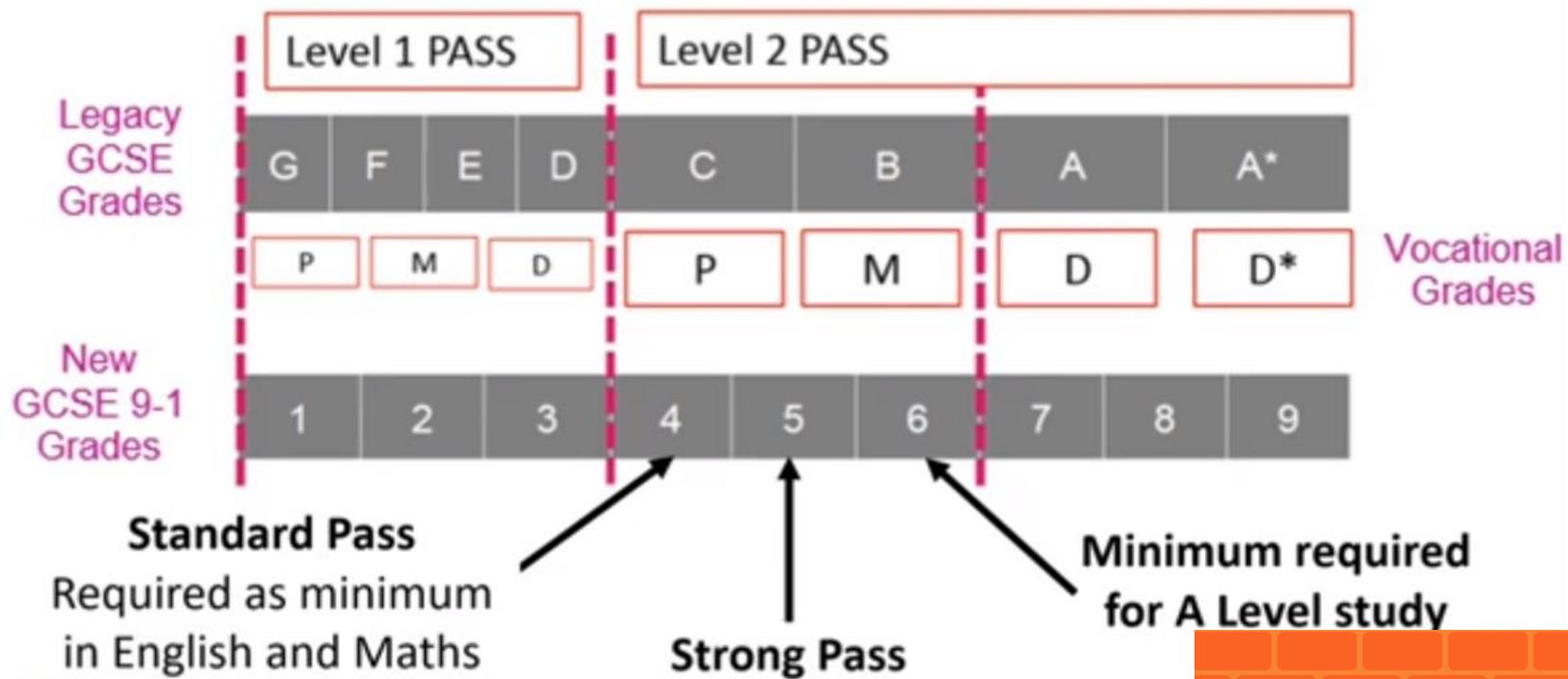
Communication is key- if you need specific help or guidance then please speak with us.

Current Covid-19 concerns

- Need for isolation
- Academy closure/ year group isolation
- Exam season
- Need for Centre Assessed Grades again.



GCSE grades explained



GCSE

Exams in 2022- Everything you need to know

The Department for Education have released their plans for this our Year 11 cohort and **exams are back for 2022**.

There is recognition from the Department for Education that nationally students have had a disruptive two years and have put measures in place to make sure students have not been disadvantaged.

Why are you bringing exams back?

Exams are the best and fairest form of assessment.

We recently ran a consultation, with the exams regulator Ofqual, on what adaptations we should make to GCSE, AS and A level exams in 2022 in response to the pandemic.

The consultation gathered more than 6,000 responses – with almost a quarter from students – and showed that more than 90 per cent of students and parents were in favour of giving advance information on the focus of exams next summer to support students with revision, and around 80 per cent or more agreed with offering choices of topics in some GCSE subjects.

When will GCSE exams happen in 2022?

GCSE exams will happen in May and June, as normal. The Joint Council for Qualifications (JCQ) will confirm the summer exam dates shortly.

When will advance information be made available for GCSE and AS and A level students?

Advance information on the focus of summer exam content will be given in early February, though we are keeping the timing under review in case the course of the pandemic worsens. For English language and maths GCSE exams in November 2022, advance information will be given in July.

When will students get their results?

GCSE results day will be held on 25th August 2022.

What measures will be in place to make sure they are fair when different students have missed different amounts of time?

Students will benefit from a range of adaptations to GCSE, AS and A level exams in England – these adaptations will help them reach their potential following the disruption they've faced. They include:

1. A choice of topics or content on which students will be assessed in GCSE English literature, History and Geography.

1. Providing advance information on the focus of exams to support students' revision in subjects where there is not a choice of topics. This will follow in Feb 2022.

1. Giving students formulae sheets in GCSE maths and revised equation sheets in GCSE combined science and physics.

1. Changing requirements for practical science work and practical art and design assessments to ensure fairness.

1. While it is the Government's firm intention for exams to go ahead next year it is right for contingency plans to be in place in the event they cannot. Ofqual and the department plan for Teacher Assessed Grades to be used and are today launching a consultation on how this might work in 2022, building on the 2021 process.

What about grading – are you making any changes to that?

For the past two years, summer exams haven't been able to take place and, instead, students have been awarded grades by their teachers. Due to the difference in assessment approach, we have seen higher outcomes.

As we return to exams, we want to get back to the pre-pandemic standard, but in the interests of fairness, Ofqual (who take the decisions on grading) won't do so in one jump.

Instead, **2022 will be a transition year** to reflect that we are in a pandemic recovery period and students' education has been disrupted. In 2022 the aim, therefore, will be to move grading to a point close to midway between 2021 and 2019.

Results are likely to be higher than in 2019, but not as high as in 2020.

Ofqual aims to return to results that are in line with pre-pandemic years in 2023.

Access Arrangements:

Some students may need access arrangements for their GCSE exams.

Possible access arrangements are as follows:

Reader, Scribe, 25% extra time, use of overlay, use of laptop, prompter, smaller room

If your child has an EHCP then they will automatically be granted access arrangements depending on their needs.

If your child does not have an EHCP then we can either test them to see if they qualify for extra support or if they have a medical condition, then medical evidence can be submitted as evidence to support the access arrangement/s.

We have already sent out letters about confirmed Access Arrangements but if you have any questions or queries, please contact Miss Frary:

Lfrary@acle.Norfolk.sch.uk

Remote learning at Acle

We have detailed preparations for you in the event of an absence from school.

If you are off ill with suspected/ confirmed Covid 19:

- **Rest and conserve energy to feel better soon.**
- You will be added to our remote learning Google Drive. You will have access to all normal lessons and we encourage you to contact your teachers and submit work online/ upon your return.
- Make use of online resources such as Oak National Academy, GCSEPod, Pixl Apps or Seneca Learning to boost your subject knowledge.
- You have full access to the school's online 'revision zone' which has been updated for 2021. All subjects have uploaded important revision documents/guides and PowerPoints for their topics.
- **If access to online learning is limited let us know as we have a small surplus of devices.**



Making use of the resources available to you

We have wealth of incredibly useful and proven revision resources at our disposal to help GCSE students attain highly.



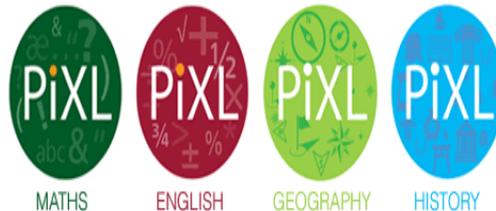
GCSEPod



Acle Academy GCSE Revision Zone



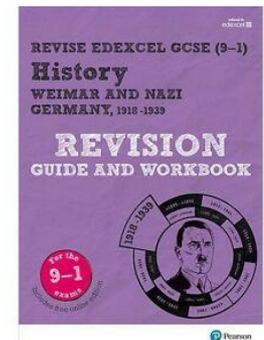
Seneca



Pixl Apps



Oak National Academy



Traditional revision materials

Acle Academy Revision Zone



Hover over 'students' along the top bar and click on 'Revision Resource Zone'

Revision Zone > Revision Zone 2020

Now you can block people in Drive To prevent people outside your organisation from sharing unwanted files with you, right-click on a file they've shared with you, and choose **Block**. [Learn more](#)

Name ↓	Last modified	File size
Textiles	2 May 2019 C Gould	–
Technology	2 May 2019 C Gould	–
Sports Studies	7 Oct 2020 N Hurren	–
Science (Separates)	2 May 2019 C Gould	–
Science (Combined)	2 May 2019 C Gould	–
PIXL	15 Feb 2019 C Gould	–
Music	2 May 2019 C Gould	–
MFL	2 May 2019 C Gould	–
Media	2 May 2019 C Gould	–
Maths	17 May 2019 C Gould	–
Independence	2 May 2019 C Gould	–
Hospitality& Catering	2 May 2019 C Gould	–
History Revision Resources	2 May 2019 C Gould	–
Geography	2 May 2019 C Gould	–

All subjects have specific folders full of resources, lessons, revision PowerPoints and past exam questions as well as model answers.

What is GCSEPod?

3-5
minute
'Pods'

28+
subjects

Easy
to use

57.9 million
pods
watched

17.4 million
pods
watched in
2020

10 years experience as an
award
winning educational
publisher

- Mapped to the
curriculum
- Available on all
platforms

1 in 3 secondary schools in the UK
subscribe

- In use across 40+ countries

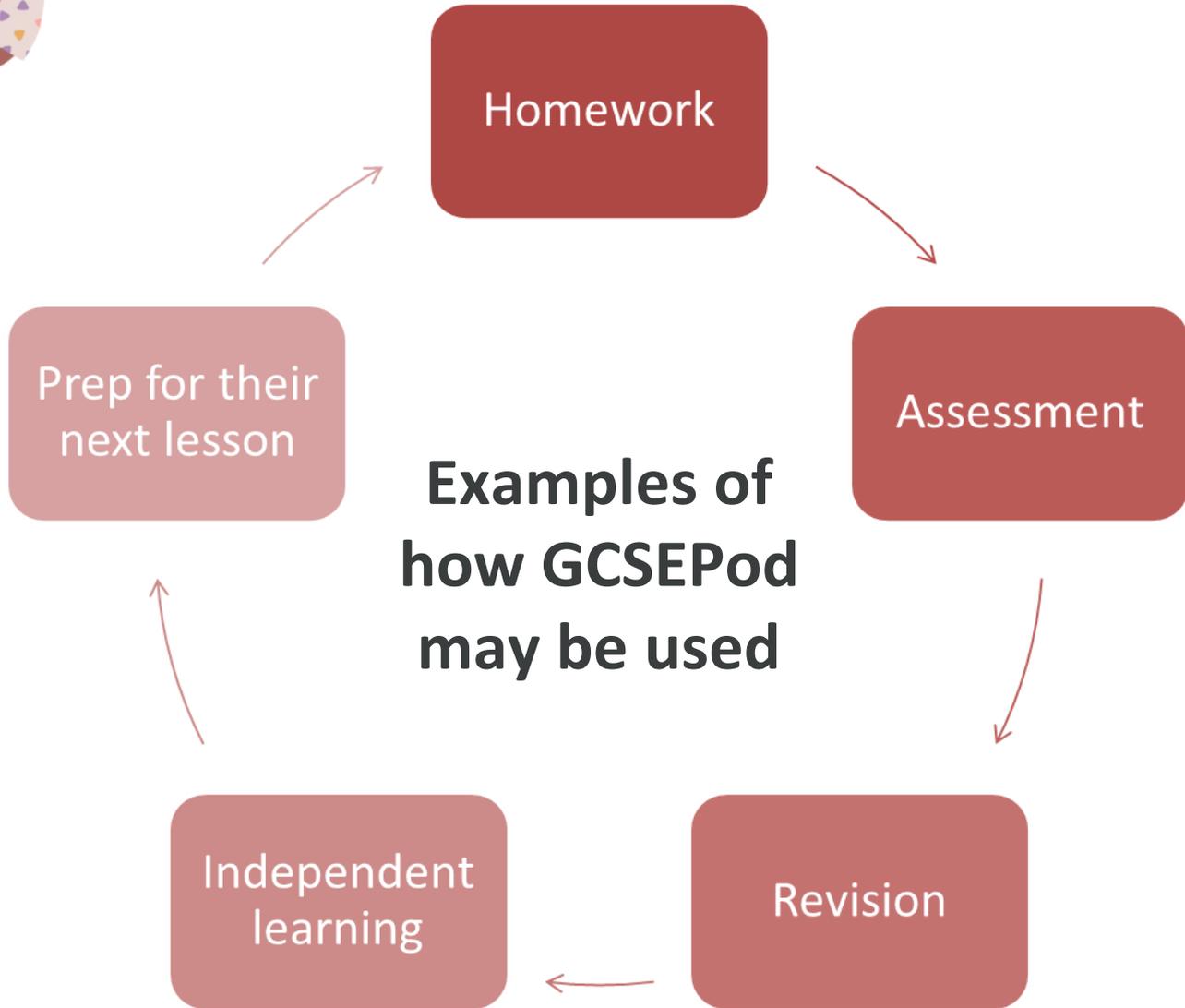
- **“The Netflix of GCSE
Content”**



GCSEPod covers a broad range of subjects

The subjects are filtered on your child's account to what they study and their exam boards





Check and Challenge – *The independent learning tool.*



- Allows your child to test their knowledge after watching a Pod

- Provides scaffolded support like a teacher would

→ 1-2-1

Helps identify misconception in knowledge and prepare for exams

- Get hints, win diamonds and watch their progress improve

All Content ▾

 All Content

 Check & Challenge

To find what subjects have Check and Challenge available simply go to 'All content' on the home page and select Check and challenge.

Study smart



Study Smart Pods help you and your child learn how to learn smarter

The Pods look at the theory behind the science and helps to identify new methods of learning and revision

APRIL

Find the sweet spot just before you'd forget

Best way to improve potential for learning

It's always better to be over-generous

Mind map

Write down the keywords that appear onscreen

Write down as much as you can remember

APRIL

Return to the information to review it

Repeat this process 4 or 5 days later

Select the information to revise

Language techniques

Study Plan

	am	pm
Mon		
Tues		
Wed		
Thu		

Revision

Switch between different ideas

Move to a related or similar topic

Use the information more flexibly

"I carving out me identity"

Find it easier to remember the poems and bring them quickly to memory

"Paper that lets the light shine through"

Might even be able to match new poems to the correct poets

"A samurai sword in the cockpit!"

Keeping fit and healthy



Keeping Fit & Healthy Pods are ideal to watch together and focus around techniques to cope with stress and the importance of a good night's sleep

Help people understand how we're feeling

Helps our brain decide how we're feeling

Way we move

Posture we hold

Expression

This pod features illustrations of diverse people's faces and hands, a brain icon, and a list of factors influencing how we feel.

All behaviour is learned and can be relearned

Things you do every day

When we do things enough times

Habit

This pod includes an illustration of hands holding a coin, a person thinking, and a list of daily activities.

60% of our body weight

≈73%

- Provides structure to cells and tissues
- Transports nutrients and hormones
- Lubricates joints
- Keeps bodies at right temperature
- Supports cardiovascular system
- Regulates blood pressure
- Helps our hearts to function

This pod features a brain icon and a list of functions related to body weight and health.

We are constantly losing water

To keep water level balanced

Whilst asleep you can lose up to 2lbs of water

Dehydration
Happens when we don't drink enough to replace water we lose

This pod includes illustrations of a hand, lungs, heart, and kidneys, along with a cup of coffee, a cucumber, and a bowl of soup.

Is your child striving for a grade 4/5 or in KS3?



GCSEPod's **Achieve Maths** and **Achieve English** are 12 week foundational programs, designed to support students in gaining a good pass at GCSE level



The assignments provide a **structured approach to independent study** and can be adapted to support the individual needs of the learner



Each subject contains 12 modules, made up of 1-4 lessons.
Assignments use a four-step system: **Pod • Quiz • Practice • Apply**
This system replicates approach of a teacher or tutor



Achieve resources contain: • **Mark schemes** • **Fully worked solutions**
• **Model answers** • **Tips for success**

The resources allow for pinpoint knowledge status reporting



Achieve **offers a strong foundation** for learners to build their knowledge. Using Achieve resources they can independently assess themselves and evidence their progress

Why it works!

Year 11 Impact Analysis

On average, regular users of GCSEPod achieved

0.7

more Progress 8 points than non-users

On average, the highest users achieved

20

Attainment 8 points more than non-users

Regular users of GCSEPod achieve, on average

1

grade higher per subject than non-users

Want to know more?

Visit www.gcsepod.com/parents to find out more and get exclusive access to additional resources that will help you support your child

Register for a free parent/carers webinars to find out more

Watch the parents introductory video I have uploaded to the school's website.

www.gcsepod.com/podup-presents-webinars/





A SUCCESSFUL STUDENT.....

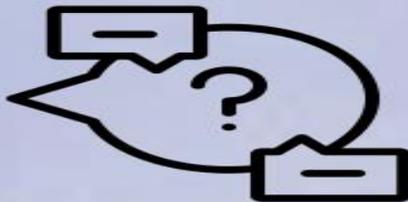
WHAT ARE THE BEHAVIOURS OF A SUCCESSFUL STUDENT?

MAKES MISTAKES AND LEARNS FROM THEM.



Mistakes are a vital part of the learning process. They help us to think differently and develop problem solving skills.

ASKS FOR HELP WHEN THEY NEED IT.



You are **NOT** alone! There are people there to help you. Asking for help doesn't show weakness or make you a bother. It shows you want to do well.

IS ORGANISED AND PRIORITISES.



Organising and prioritising can help you feel in control of your learning and ensure that you meet all your deadlines.

IS PATIENT



Learning is not instantaneous, it is a process and one that is life long. You may not get something first time through but that doesn't mean you won't understand it ever. Give yourself time to learn

IS BRAVE



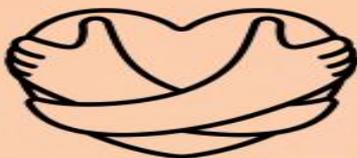
A fear of failure will stop you from trying new things that can improve your learning. Don't be afraid to ask questions, take risks, and experience new things.

MAKES CONNECTIONS



Look for the connections between your different subjects, to what is happening in the world around you. This will reinforce what you are learning and show its relevance.

LOOKS AFTER THEMSELVES



You will not be able to learn if you are not well.

Get a good nights sleep, eat well, exercise and take time to relax.

If you are struggling reach out.

IS PROACTIVE



Go beyond the tasks set by your teacher, seek out information to add to what is taught in the lesson.

Listen to podcasts, watch documentaries, read around your subject and ask questions.

IS NOT PERFECT



No one is perfect, and trying to be can limit your success and affect your health.

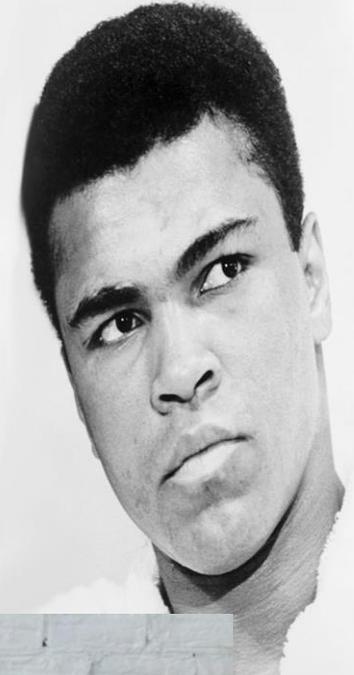
Acknowledging your areas of weakness can help you to improve as well as focus your revision on a study.

A successful student- metaphor

- **Boxer-** the student
- **Coach-** The teacher
- **Promotor/manager-**
Parent/carer

The fight is won or lost far
away from witnesses - behind
the lines, in the gym, and out
there on the road, long before
I dance under those lights.

Muhammad Ali



A successful student- metaphor

- **Boxer-** the student

Parents and teachers cannot sit the exams for you. We cannot make you revise or perform at school. We cannot make every decision for you whilst at school. You are in control of what happens in 'the ring' / exam hall.

- **Coach-** The teacher

Any good boxer needs to be prepared for their fight. It is our job to prepare you for your GCSEs, train you with subject content, exam skills and mental agility so that you are ready for the exams.

- **Promotor/manager-** Parent/carer

Boxers need promoters and managers working behind the scenes supporting them. They will provide the morale boosts, offer advice and guidance when needed/ they ensure you are motivated and pick you up mentally when you are struggling. They provide you with all the resources you need to be successful.

How parents can help with GCSEs?

- ‘Parental support is **8 times more important** in determining a child’s academic success than social class.’
- A recent study found that parental involvement in a child’s education can mean the **difference between a grade 9-8 and an ‘average grade’ at GCSE.**
- One of the hardest demands on students is that of understanding the **long-term importance of doing the best they can**, and **learning to shelve short-term fun** at times in the interest of long-term benefits (not easy for adults).

Isn't it the school's job to get my child through the exams?

- Yes, the school has an important role to play and it provides the expertise and resources to help your child to gain the skills that they need to do their best in each subject.
- Year 11 students differ in their levels of maturity, their ability to take responsibility for their learning, organisational skills and levels of motivation.
- This is where you come in. You are the expert on your own child and have always been their most important teacher.
- Your support, encouragement and interest can make a big difference to your child's motivation and ability to cope with the academic and organisational demands of the exams.

Your role may include some or all of the following

- **Attendance officer-** Making sure your child attends school on time every day and understands the importance of making the most of lesson-times. Government statistics show that there is a link between attendance, punctuality and results at GCSEs. Every day lost in attendance reduces your child's chance of achieving their best.
- **Provider of the tools-** for homework and revision A quiet space for study, pens, paper and other necessities.
- **Banker-** Paying for the tools, files and revision guides they need.
- **Study buddy-** Showing an interest in the subjects, helping with the homework (but not doing it for them), testing them when they ask you.

Your role may include some or all of the following

- **Adviser** Helping your child to break tasks down so that they are manageable, keeping a subtle eye on progress and celebrating achievements. Seeing a positive way forward when things go wrong.
- **Project manager** Agreeing the rules for homework or revision, helping them to make a realistic timetable, balancing work time against recreation time and reviewing the plans as necessary.
- **Go-between for your child and the school** when necessary; making sure problems are addressed quickly.

Staying motivated

- GCSEs are hard and they can become very pressurised.
- One of the hardest things to maintain in this situation is motivation.
- **Without motivation, very little can be achieved.**

So, how do you stay motivated when it gets difficult?



KEEPING THE MOTIVATION UP

Students:

1. Don't stop working in lessons you find hard or dislike – talk to someone about any difficulties you are having – there is always a solution

1. Prepare a home learning schedule if necessary and stick to it – even when you don't feel like it. Don't wait until you are in the mood – the further behind you get the less you will be in the mood (agree the schedule with your parents for a hassle-free life)

1. Resist the temptation to bury your head in the sand if things are getting out of hand – talk to your parents/tutor/teachers/Engage/ Mr Sayce

1. Ignore what friends and others are doing or saying – you are working for an easy life for YOU now and later – let your friends have the hassle of redoing coursework or even their GCSEs

KEEPING THE MOTIVATION UP

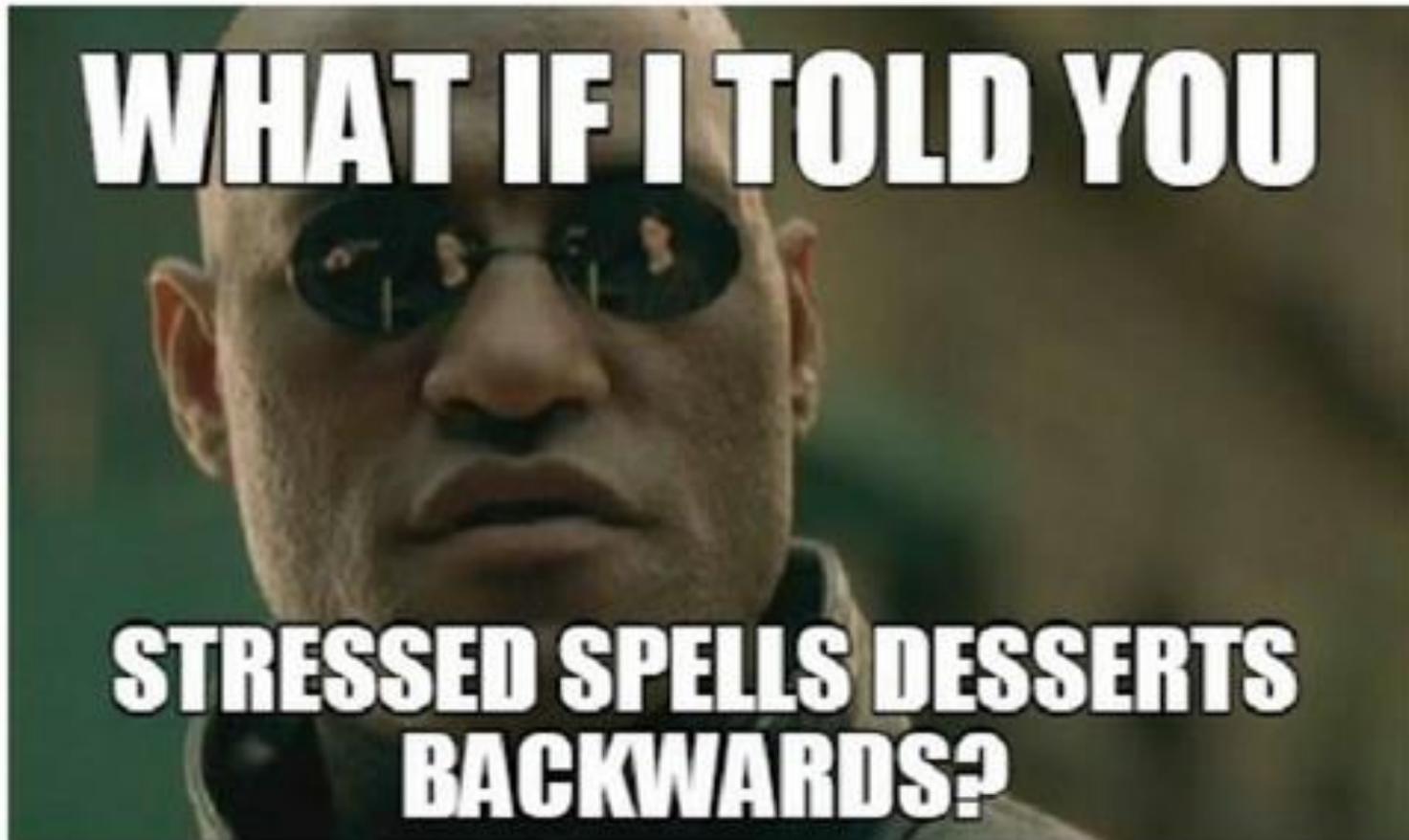
Parents:

1. Agree the **balance between work and social life** and stick to the agreement. Flexibility is the key – if a special night comes up, agree that they can make up the work at a specified time.

1. Be flexible – use the 80/20 rule. If your child is sticking to what they are supposed to be doing 80% of the time, they will be doing alright.

1. If your child asks for your support, encourage them by helping them to see the difficulties **in perspective**. Teenagers often take an all or nothing ‘catastrophic’ approach to difficulties – “I’ve messed up this essay, I might as well give up.”

Dealing with GCSE stress



GCSE stress- key advice on managing this

Take regular breaks when working at home

- Even the most intense GCSE work timetables will allow a little time for a study break.
- This can include **20-minute breaks** during your revision days, and longer activities that you can look forward to.
- **Spending a little time away from the books/computer** will leave you feeling more refreshed and relaxed the next time you revise.



GCSE stress- key advice on managing this

Exercise and go outdoors

- Easily one of the most frustrating things about exam season is that it seems to occur just as the weather brightens up.
- Use this to your advantage and go out for a walk, or a run.
- As well as keeping you healthy, exercise is known to boost your mood and can help to make you more productive while revising.



The Power of Sleep

“Research shows that if children are sleep-deprived by just an hour a night, it could reduce their cognitive academic performance by up to two whole years”.



GCSE stress- key advice on managing this

Don't (always) listen to others

- As the old saying goes: "**comparison is the thief of joy**". While it is helpful to discuss topics with fellow students and often to revise together, try not to compare other peoples' revision to your own.
- Chances are you're doing just fine, and listening to other people talk about what they've learnt will only stress you out. If they themselves are stressed this can rub off on to you and other people's stress is not what you need right now.



GCSE stress- key advice on managing this

Speak to someone

- If the stress gets to a point where it is overwhelming, and is affecting your day-to-day life, try and speak to someone about it.
- Speak to your family or us about your concerns, and we will be able to offer more advice on how to manage it.
- You won't be alone in feeling like this and there is help and support.



Is it ever too early to begin revising?

- Students who do their best in the GCSE exams, work hard all through Year 11 rather than relying on last minute revision.
- It is best for students to start revision early and to keep revising during the year by doing little but often.
- This will give your child time to review what he/she has studied and to strengthen the memory and this will avoid the panic of leaving things to the last minute.



Memory

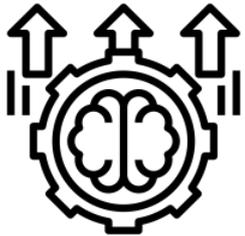
What do we know about memory?



Your working memory is easily overloaded, cramming doesn't work



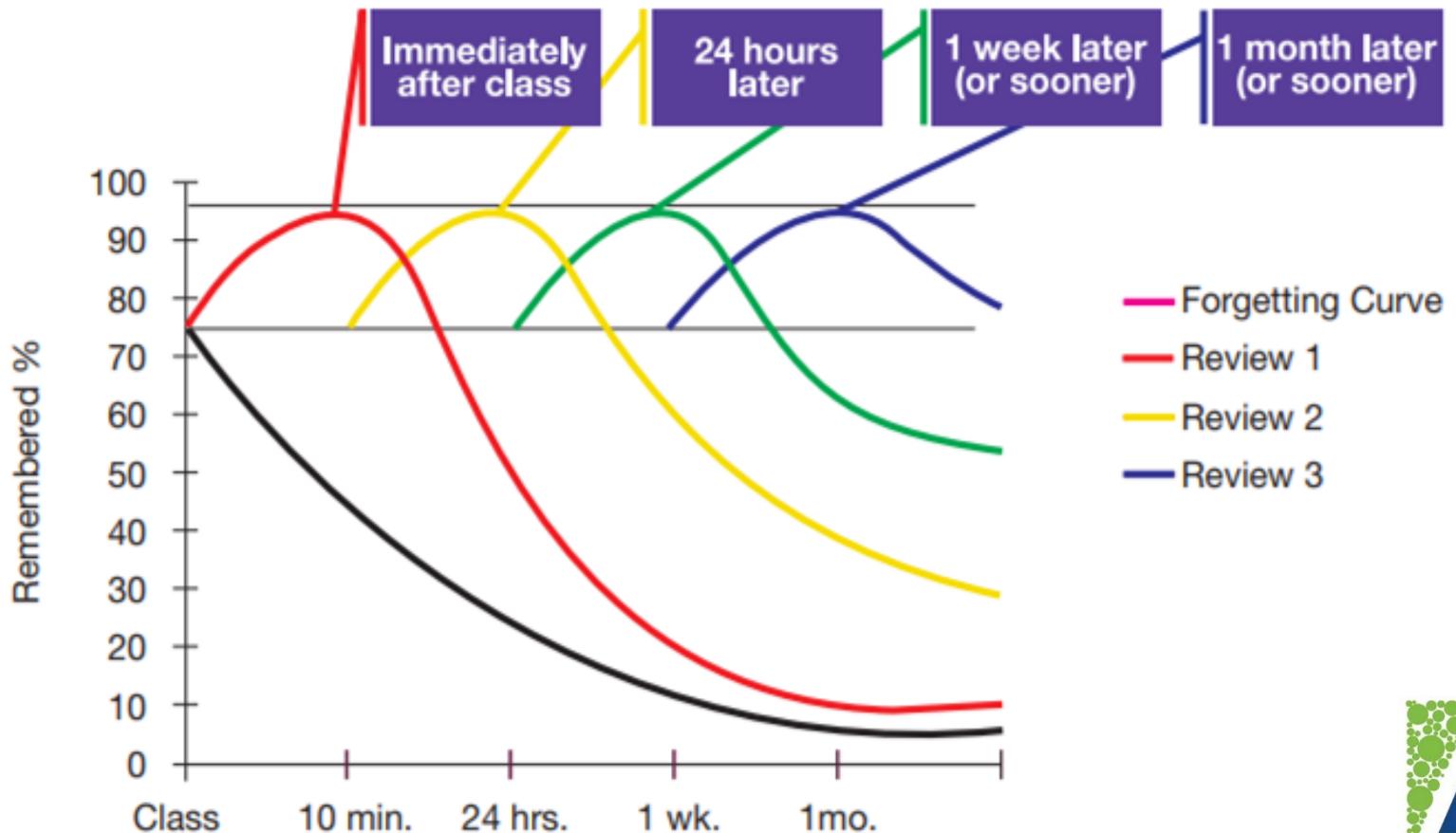
Information is forgotten if not revisited, it's natural.



Practice and retrieval helps strengthen long term memory & boosts learning

Why is home learning and revision at home so crucial to success?

This diagram called the Ebbinghaus Forgetting Curve – it illustrates how information is quickly forgotten unless it is reviewed at spaced intervals.



What can parents do to help to reduce the memory burden?

- If homework and revision are left to the last minute, this will limit your child's chance of doing their best.

Over the next few months:

1. Ensure that your child **attends school** and is always on time. Every day lost in attendance reduces their chance of achieving their best at GCSE.
1. Encourage your son/daughter to persevere and to begin working hard now in preparation for the exams. Check that they are **keeping up with homework** and **attending any and all in-school revision sessions** on offer.
1. Encourage your child to **begin revising now at home!**

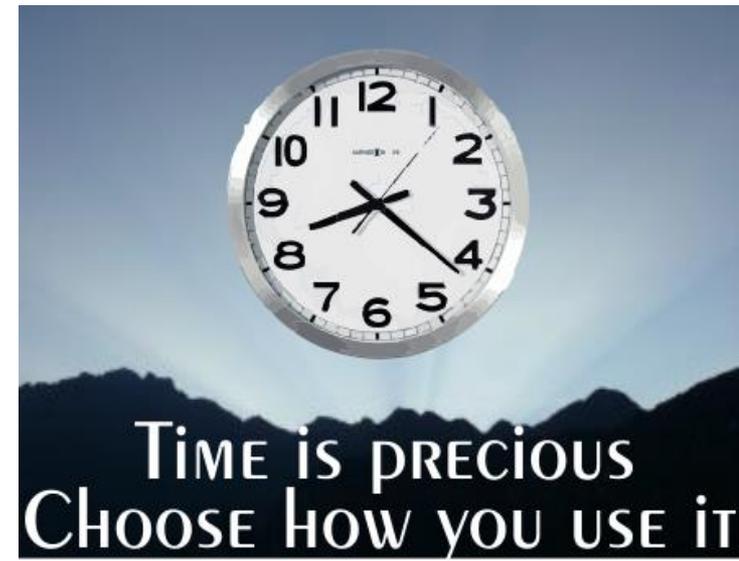
How much time should they be spending on home learning?

- This will vary occasionally as sometimes homework will come in patterns.
- On average most studies say that Year 10/11 students should be completing approximately **1 and half hours homework a day.**
- Getting into good habits linked to completing homework and using time effectively will benefit pupils when revision starts to step up.



Revision and preparing to maximise your time...

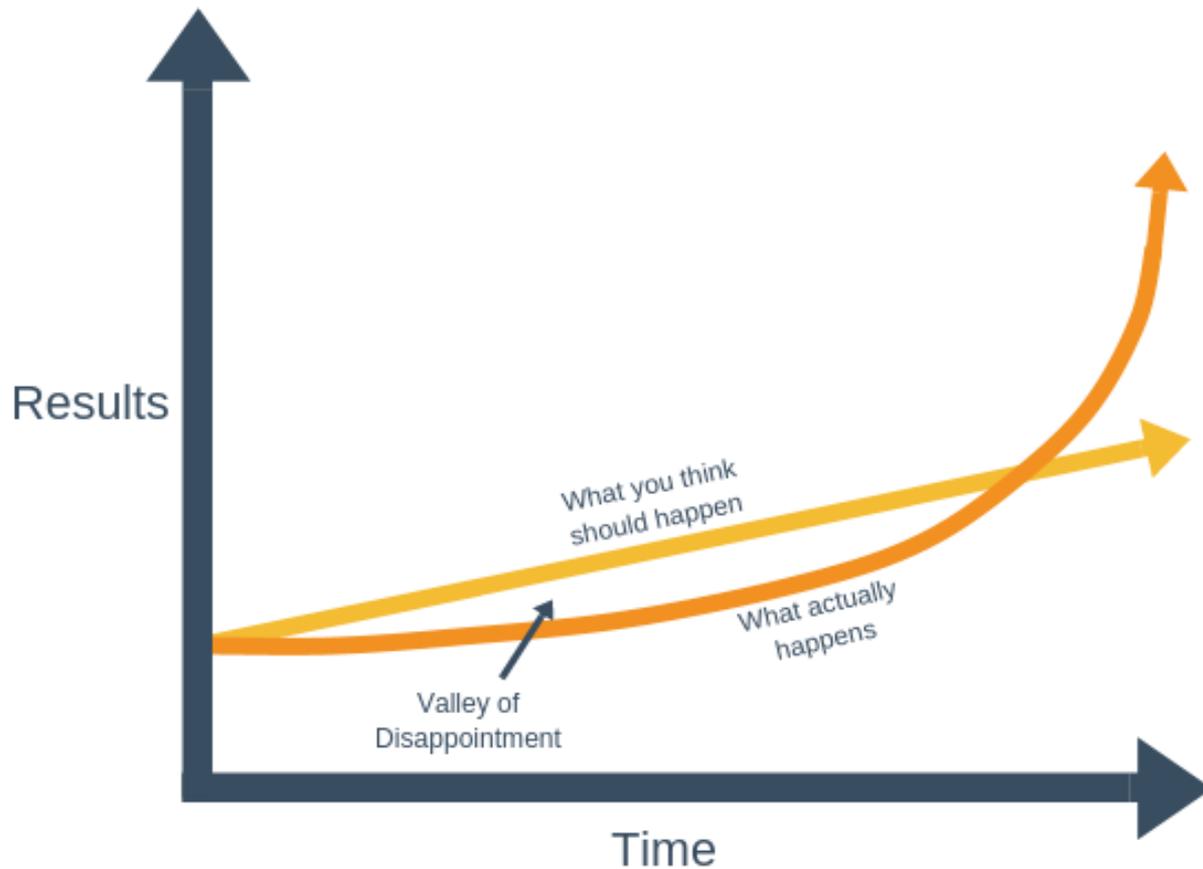
Time is precious, use it wisely...



You will not see instant results

Creating a new habit

Plateau of Latent Potential



Habits

Forming good revision habits



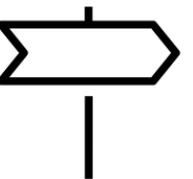
Make it Easy – Start small (10 minutes, & build up), reduce distractions where you revise, get family to encourage creating a timetable & placing on your wall



Make it Attractive – Revise with friends & attend revision classes, do something enjoyable as a reward
“Once I’ve revised for 30 mins, I’ll then play Xbox”



Make it satisfying – Small steps to build success, *“I’m a hard worker”* not *“I want a Grade 8”* & challenge, track revision progress & never miss twice.



Make it obvious – Revise in one area, leave your materials out ready, write a revision contract to schedule revision and stack habits together

Habits

Habit forming.

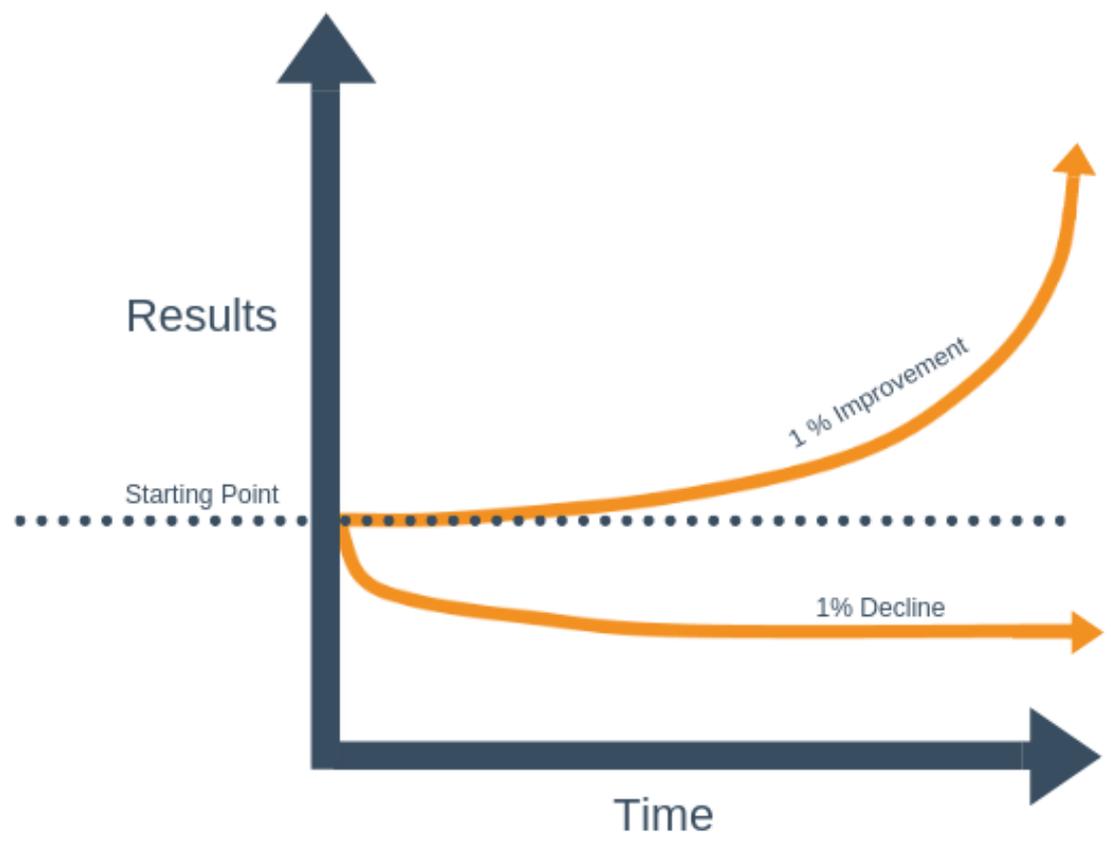
“Getting one percent better everyday counts for a lot in the long-run”



Habits

Habit forming.

1% Better Every Day

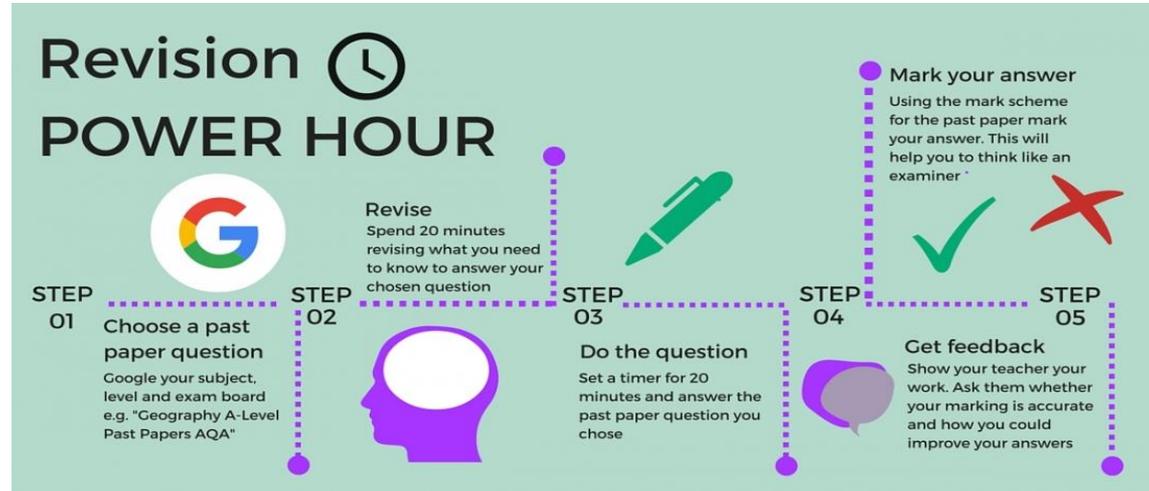


Strategies

The Science of Learning

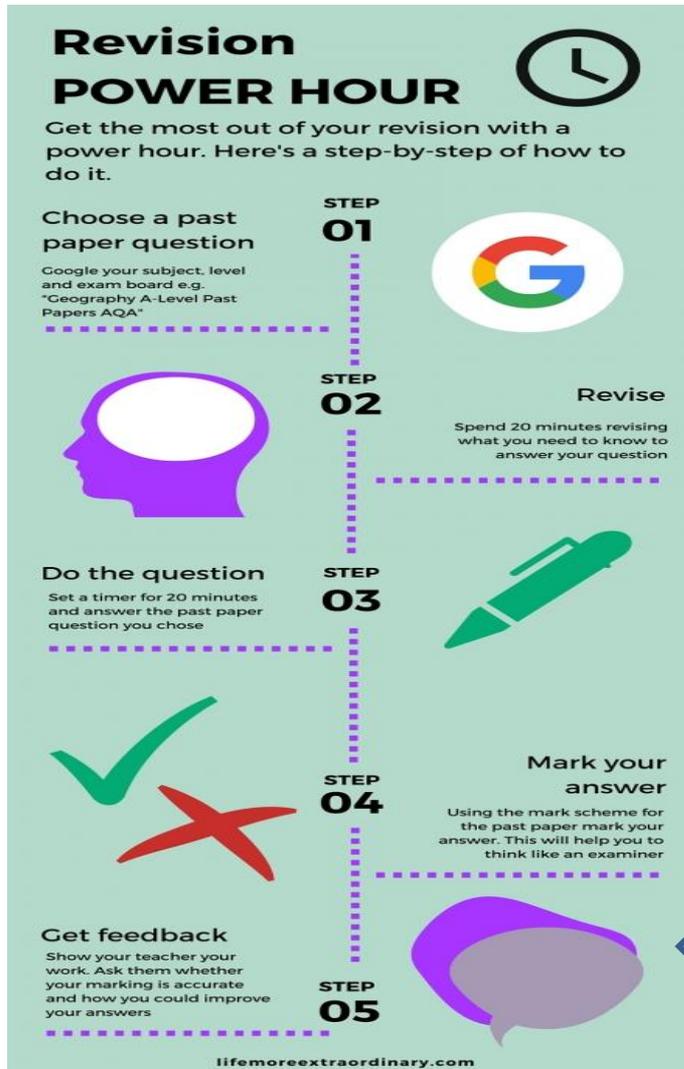
Most Powerful Strategies	Least Powerful Strategies
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Practice• Quizzing• Flashcards• Mind-maps• Spacing out your revision	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Re-reading• Summarising• Highlighting <p data-bbox="1006 861 1850 1239">These three make you feel you are doing something, but your brain isn't working hard!</p> <hr data-bbox="1006 1200 1850 1239"/> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Cramming

Power Hour technique



- *'We were bored with you going on about the Power Hour'*
- *'It was so repetitive and you were so annoying...'*
- *'It clearly worked though, so thanks!'*

What is the 'power hour'?



1. Speak to your teachers or use the school revision zone to access all the past papers you could need.

2. Take notes, create a mind-map/ flashcards. You have revision guides and resources provided by teachers.

3. Practising exam questions is hard but it is effective.

4. Again, ask your teacher for a mark scheme or check the revision zone.

5. Hand in your exam answer. Your teacher will be happy to check it and provide further feedback.

More to come in January 2021

- Focusing more on...
- Importance of revision.
- How to revise effectively.
- Balancing time and stress to cope with the exam workload.



Quotes to reflect upon for 2021-22

“

Let your hopes,
not your
hurts, shape
your future.

ROBERT H. SCHULLER

KEEPINSPIRING.ME

ATTITUDE
IS A LITTLE THING
THAT MAKES A
BIG DIFFERENCE

WINSTON CHURCHILL

**“HARD WORK BEATS
TALENT WHEN TALENT
DOESN'T WORK HARD”**

-TIM NOTKE