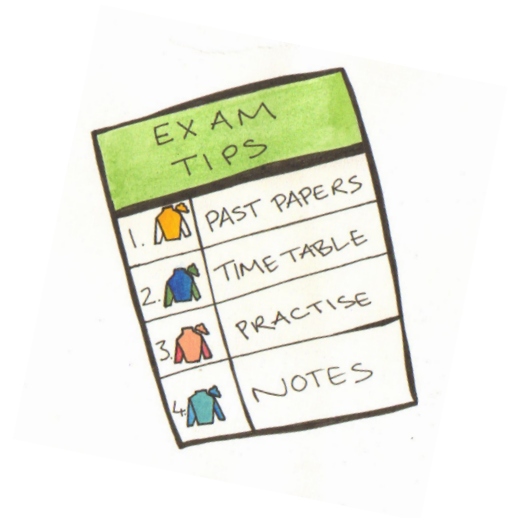
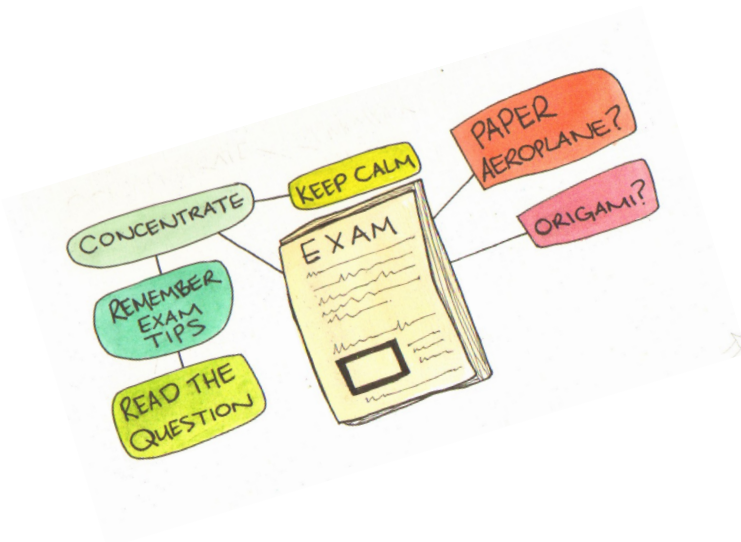




YEAR 11

REVISION SKILLS

2020 - 21



Name: Form:

Dear Year 11 students,

Firstly, I would like to **congratulate** you on your return school and for the way in which you have adapted; it has been a challenging time but you have returned to your studies in a **calm and focussed manner**.

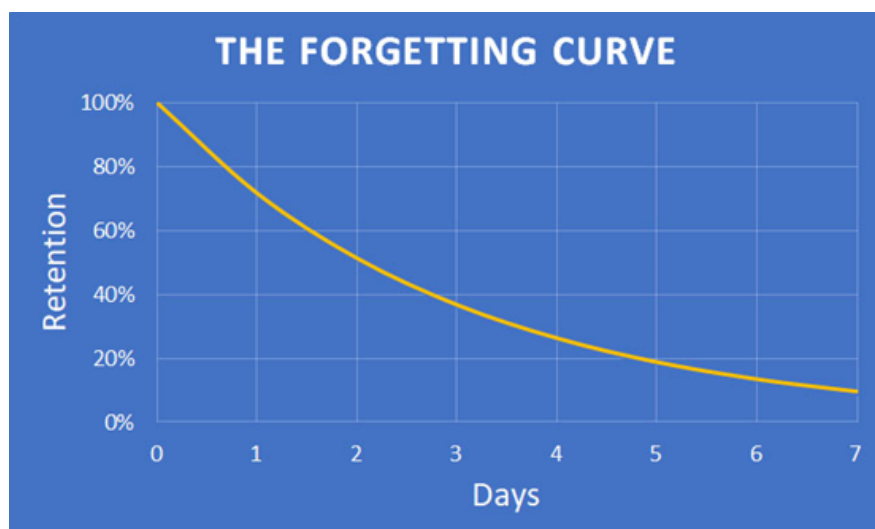
Over the coming weeks and months, we want to support you fully to ensure that you are **equipped with the skills** you need to succeed in your GCSEs; the upcoming months will be very busy but they are crucial to your success.

This handbook outlines a wealth of ideas about **how to revise**; it includes revision tips and ideas. An example revision planner / timetable for you to use will also be available for you

We strongly suggest that you **create a revision timetable** and stick to it as much as possible. This will allow you to feel prepared for all your upcoming mocks, assessments and the real exams later on next year.

Remember to ask your teachers if you are **confused or stuck**; you can do this in person or through email and Google Classroom.

Mr Lay
Assistant Headteacher



Here is an example of the 'forgetting curve' so you can see the importance of revision to help you remember all the key information!

10 Top Hints for Study, Home Learning and Revision



1. Keep up with all your home learning assignments.

2. If you don't understand what to do, ask your teacher.

3. Have an 'emergency contact' of a friend from class.

4. Do your home learning as soon as you get home.

5. Try to share your learning – eg revise with somebody.

6. Do the worst first - get it over and done with!

7. Complete long term assignments as soon as possible.



8. Get holiday home learning done at the start of the holiday.

9. Do your best in the time expected.

10. If home learning is really horrible, tell your teacher.



Extra Study Support

If you are struggling, let us know. Teachers often put in additional study sessions for individuals/groups or classes. They may not realise you need extra help.



What should I do before I start?



Organise a revision work area. If everything is in one place, you will be able to make a fast start to your revision. Make sure that you have a supply of Post-it notes, highlighters, cards, pens, pencils etc. Locate a room or area where you will not be disturbed.

- Make sure it is well lit.
- Do not let your revision area get too hot or stuffy as you will feel tired.
- If you can, have a wall space for notices, timetables, calendars, goals, quick notes etc.
- Only have background music on if it is relaxing and not too loud.

Take a break every 30-40 minutes. Mini-exercises eg walking about, are a good idea.

Planning your timetable - use the revision planner provided:

- Work backwards from the date of your first exam.
- Mark any planned days when you know you won't be able to revise due to family commitments or appointments.
- Colour coding your chart may help.
- Write the subject and sub topic you will aim to cover in each revision period.
- Work out how much you can realistically do in a revision session. (10, 20 or 40 minute chunks).
- Cover all topics for each subject.

Remember to build in time to revisit each subject briefly after 1 day, 1 week, 1 month and just before each exam.

Remember, this is only a plan. Be prepared to revise it when subjects turn out to take longer (or less time) than you have anticipated.

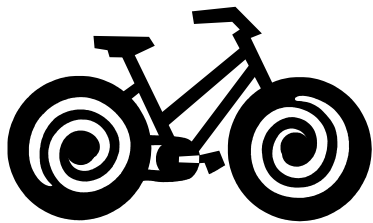


The Reflective Cycle



A cycle has a beginning, middle and end and repeats itself. For example, we could see each day as a cycle (morning, afternoon, evening, night) and each week as a cycle (Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday...).

Rather than viewing the time between now and the end of your exams as one hard slog, it is helpful to break down your revision into a set of short cycles. Each of these cycles is known as a reflective cycle because it requires you to reflect on the progress you have made.



Revision Tip: Use images and pictures to make associations. They are easier to remember than words. (This one represents the reflective cycle!)

The **beginning** of the reflective cycle involves vision (eg to clarify the topics you intend to revise today).

The **middle** involves action (eg to muster up the discipline and concentration required to revise those topics)

The end involves **evaluation** (eg to write a journal or discuss with a friend the topics that you have revised).



Vision



Action



Evaluation



Coping with Stress Tearing My Hair Out!



Levels of stress experienced when revising and taking exams depend, to a certain extent, on external circumstances. Trying to revise in a hot and poorly ventilated room in which your little brother is watching TV at full volume and your sister is having an argument with her boyfriend is likely to prove very stressful. To this extent, taking positive action to create and maintain an environment that is conducive to effective revision (e.g. spacious, bright, cool and quiet) is a form of stress management.

Ten Top Tips to Stop Stress:

1. Study in short bursts. You'll relax and remember more.
2. Take regular, scheduled breaks.
3. Take exercise. Fresh air and physical activity are great concentration and confidence boosters.
4. Don't worry too much about missing a session, work out how to catch up at a later time.
5. Build in variety and avoid stressful monotony.
6. Know what to expect in the exam.
7. Practise old exam questions.
8. See your friends. Isolation can be stressful.
9. Do your best – not anybody else's. Decide what works for you and stick with it!
10. Don't be afraid to ask your parents, teachers, tutor, friends or doctor for help if you need it.

If you feel things are getting on top of you, speak to a friend, your parents/carers and your teachers.

Effective Revision – ideas for active revision.

To pass an exam, you need to remember what you have read and learnt. The way you note down the information can make a great deal of difference to how much you remember.

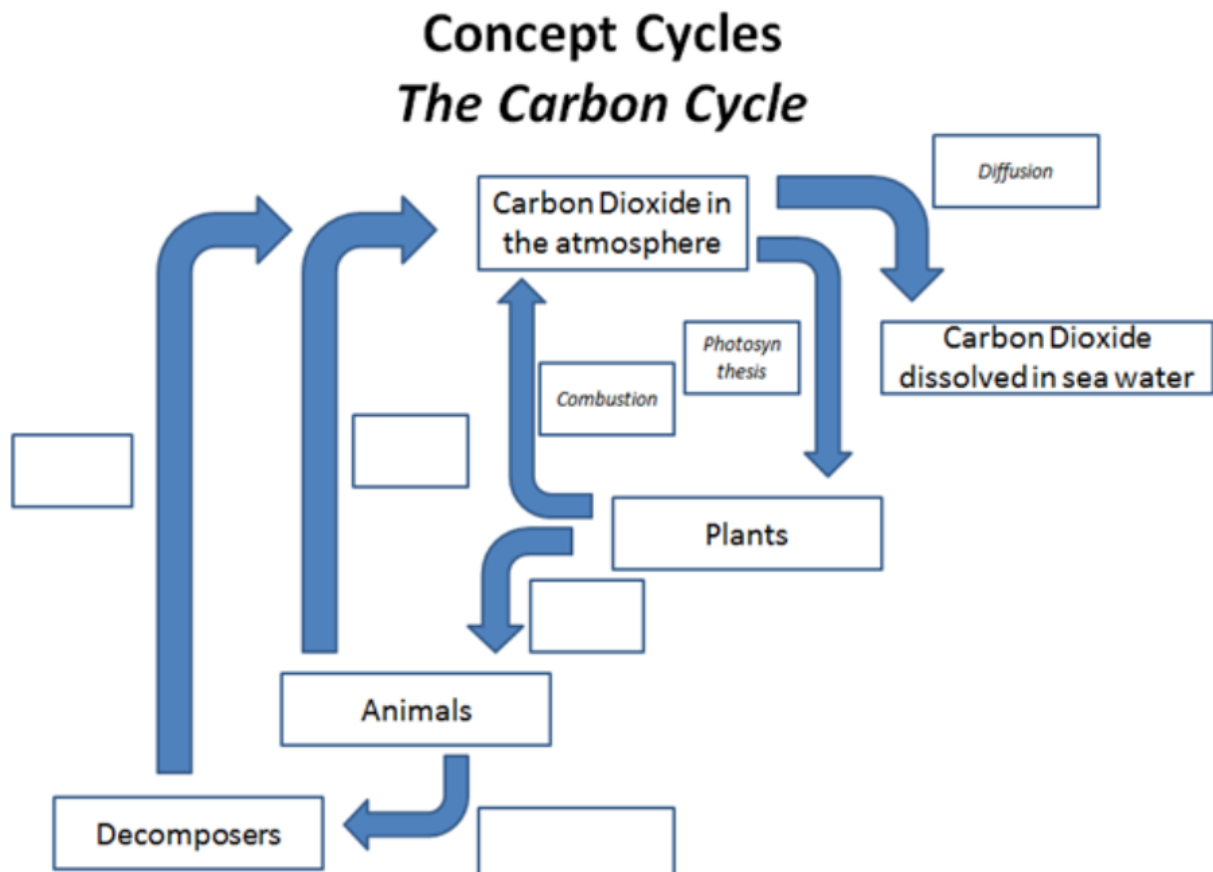
We remember

- 20% of what we read.
- 30% of what we hear.
- 40% of what we see
- 50% of what we say.
- 60% of what we do,
- 90% of what we READ, HEAR, SEE, SAY AND DO



Revision Methods and Strategies

Concept Maps – Take a key topic from a subject. Write the name of it in the centre of a blank page. Draw lines out from here and see how many you can remember about the topic. Now read through your notes. What have you forgotten? Close your book and make any additions in a different coloured pen. Now check this information again in your book.



Flash Cards – Write key words on flash cards and use them to test yourself and your friends and see how much you remember about the issues covered by the key words. An effective revision card should include diagrams and short notes. Do not overload a revision card!

Tests – Write 20 – 30 questions of varying difficulty that cover the module. Now see if you can answer them.

Past Papers – To gain a top grade it is useful to get as much exam practice as possible. Your teacher will have past papers, but they are also available from the examination board websites.

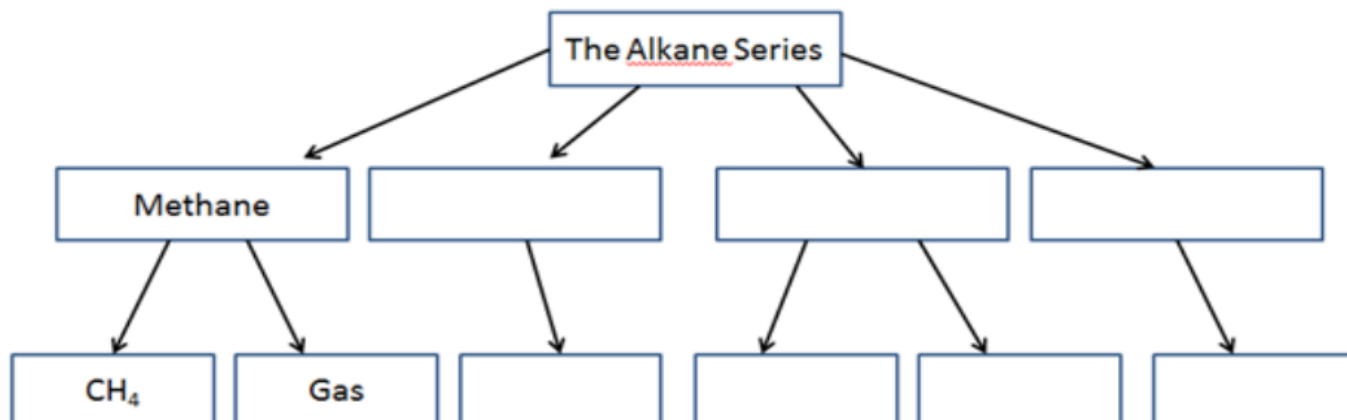
Diamond Ranking – Write out 9 important pieces of information from the topic. What is the most important point for this topic? What is quite important? What is not so important? Again, this helps us to think about the information.

Traffic Lighting - Use colour to highlight important information eg red for very important information, orange for important information and green for quite important information.

Summary Shapes - A symbol represents or reminds us of something else eg a circle may remind us of a wedding ring. Draw symbols in margins to represent key information in each paragraph. Make a summary sheet. Use the colours, key words and symbols that you drew in the margins of the original passage to create a summary sheet. Complete a summary sheet from memory then look back at the original to correct mistakes.

Network Trees

The Alkane series of hydrocarbons

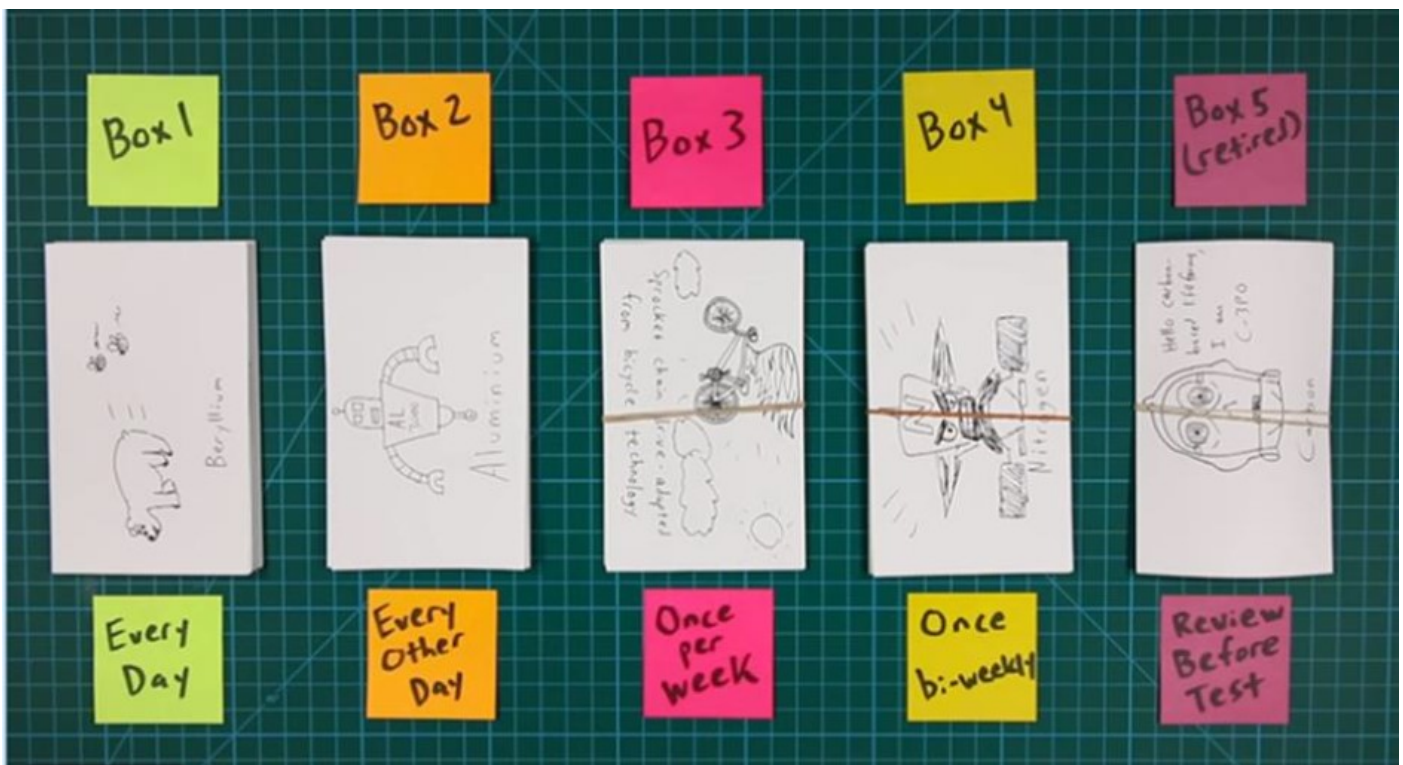


Effective use of revision cards

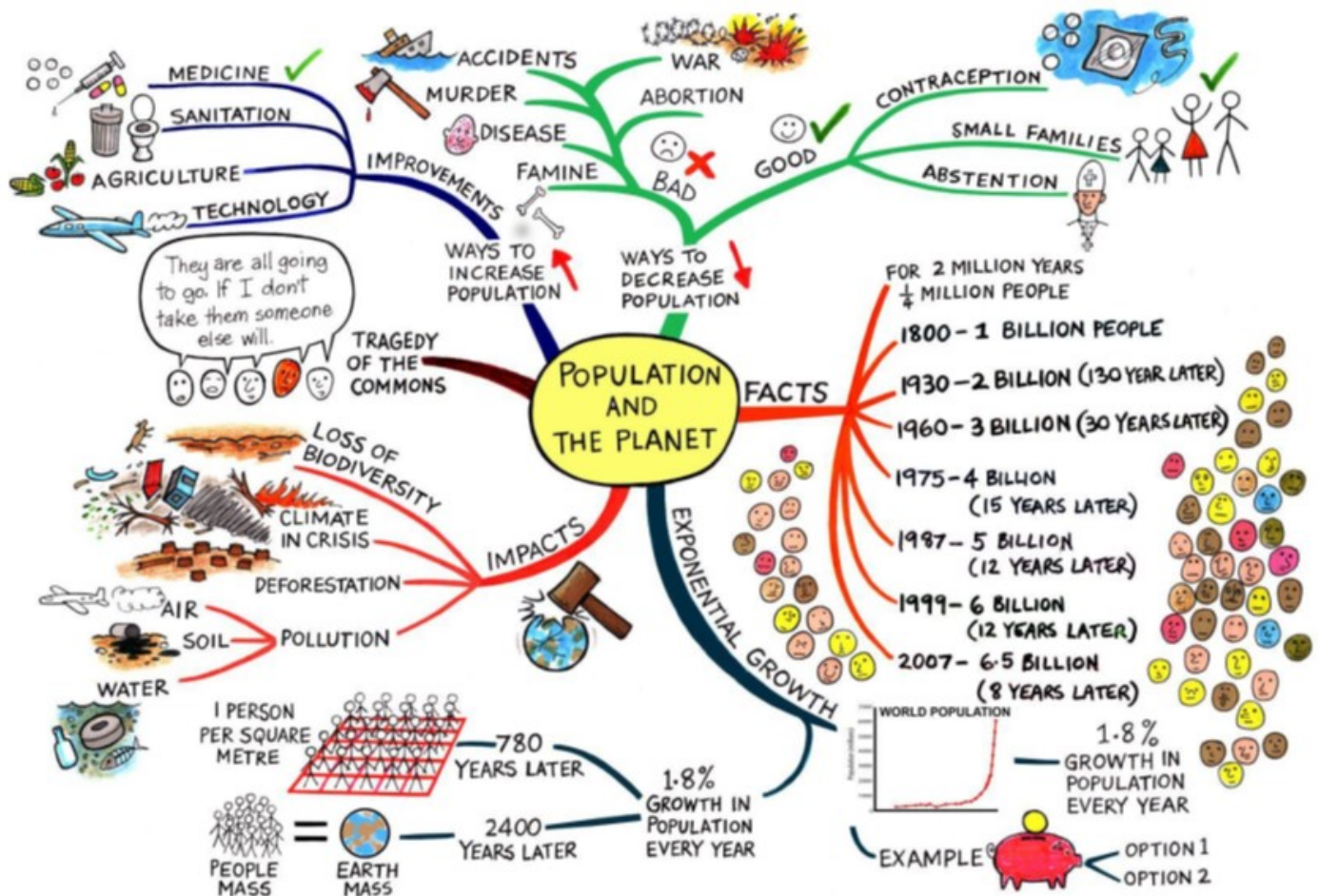
Revision cards are a very effective way to help space out learning and memory recall. Some tips on the effective use of revision cards:

1. Make your own
2. Use pictures and colour
3. Use mnemonics
4. 1 card - 1 question
5. Break down complex ideas into simple ones
6. Say your answers out loud
7. Not the only way to learn
8. Learn first, then use flash cards to review

Spaced Repetition Technique



Mind Maps - A mind map is a visual aid to help you to remember a topic. Use different colours, diagrams and key words to summarise what has been learned.



Cause and Effect

The witches' promise



Macbeth's belief in the possibility of being King



Macbeth's willingness to contemplate murder of Duncan



Macbeth's decision to carry out the murder of Duncan

Lady Macbeth's ruthless desire for power and her manipulative skill



Do a little more each day than you think you possibly can.

In the lead up to the exam:

Do make sure that you get all that you can from each lesson.	Don't let yourself get tired.
Do Discuss your work with your friends.	Don't worry if you haven't solved every single problem before you finish the evening's work.
Do go over your day's work at home.	Don't worry if you miss a session.
Do practise doing exam questions.	Don't revise for long sessions without taking regular breaks.
Do Develop ways of memorising new information.	Don't let what you can't do interfere with what you can do. Be Positive!

Remember to use all available time to your advantage. The bus journey to and from school and tutor time are great opportunities for 'chunks' of revision or for learning quotations.