

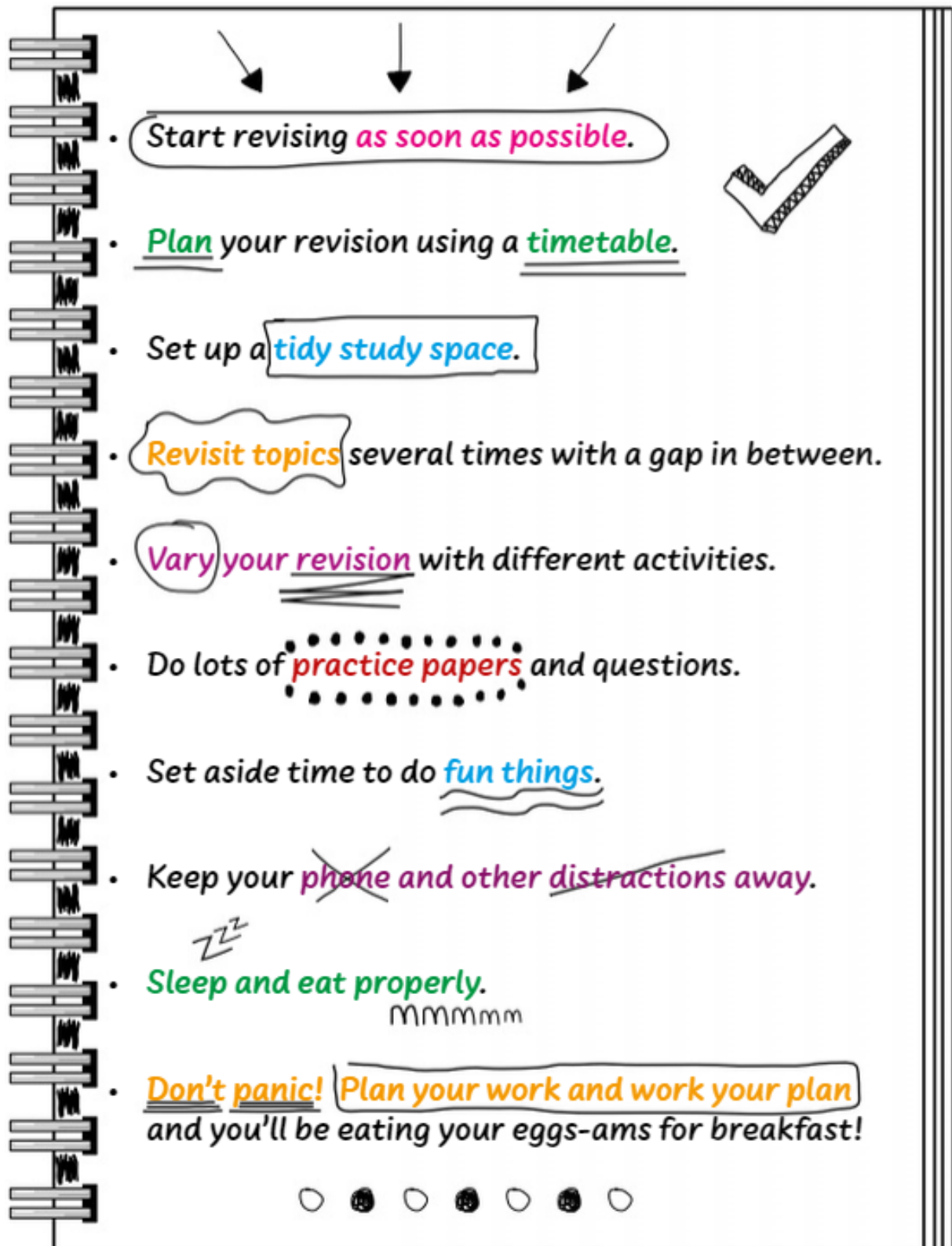


Thomas Adams
School

Revision

Hints and Tips

Top 10 Revision Tips



Start revising **as soon as possible**.

Plan your revision using a timetable.

Set up a **tidy study space**.

Revisit topics several times with a gap in between.

Vary your revision with different activities.

Do lots of **practice papers** and questions.

Set aside time to do fun things.

Keep your ~~phone~~ and other ~~distractions~~ away.

Sleep and eat properly.
zzz
mmmmm

Don't panic! **Plan your work and work your plan** and you'll be eating your eggs-ams for breakfast!

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Revision Timetable

Five steps to making your revision timetable

1. Make a list of all your exams

"First write down a list of all your subjects and write how many hours you would like to spend on them each week (e.g. you might decide you're better at one subject so you will only spend one hour a week on it and a subject you struggle with you might want to spend three hours on broken up in the week)."

2. Prioritise them – how much revision do you want to do for each one?

"You're going to need to plan more time on your core subjects and those you need for A-levels. I personally attended every revision session going so that I knew even if I didn't get to revise a subject one week I kept it ticking over."

3. Break each exam up into a series of topics to learn/practise

"Download your specific specification, print it out if you need to, and go through it, checking whether you have learnt everything in there. Tick all the stuff you have learnt and make sure you do learn the stuff you haven't."

4. Decide how much time you realistically want to devote to revision each week, making sure to leave enough time to take breaks from studying

"Realistically think of how many hours you can do – I do around six to eight hours everyday during the holidays and the weekend and three to four hours after school."

5. Allocate topics into each week (allocating more time to tough topics and leaving some spare time at the end for going through topics again)

"Fill in or cross out the times in the day when you definitely can't revise. Put in slots for dinner, sport, free time, relaxing time and sleep. Then see what time you are left with and slot in what work you would like to do on what day."

What can you use to make your revision timetable?

There are plenty of apps and websites out there that will build a revision timetable for you. Here are a few to get you started:

- [My Study Life](#): as well as organising your daily and weekly schedule, you can use this app to track homework and assignments.
- [School Planner](#): Android users can get this app to create timetables for lessons and exams. You can set it to send notifications as useful reminders.
- [Smart Girl](#): if you'd rather have a physical copy of your study planner, you can download and print all sorts of free planners here.

Some tips for making a great revision timetable

- Be realistic – there's no point setting a plan that you won't be able to stick to.
- Make it detailed – break your revision into chunks, specify times for studying and assign each time to a particular subject.
- Be prepared to change your study planner – life always throws up surprises, and some topics may take you longer than you planned for.
- Give yourself little rewards after a study session to stay motivated.
- Build in breaks – you don't want to get burned out.
- Look at your study plan as a set of guidelines rather than something that should be followed without thinking.
- Give yourself time before an exam to review all the content you need to learn.

Example Timetable

WEEKLY REVISION PLANNER

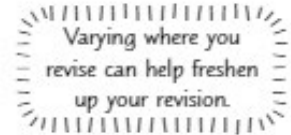
	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	TIME	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
8:30AM - 4PM	SCHOOL	SCHOOL	SCHOOL	SCHOOL	SCHOOL	9AM - 10AM	BREAKFAST/ SHOWER	BREAKFAST/ SHOWER
4PM - 5PM	HOMEWORK	TV/ GAMING/ SOCIAL MEDIA	HOMEWORK	TV/ GAMING/ SOCIAL MEDIA	HOMEWORK	10AM - 11AM	REVISION - ENGLISH	REVISION - SCIENCE
5PM - 6PM	DINNER	DINNER	DINNER	DINNER	DINNER	11AM - 1PM	SEEING FRIENDS/ LUNCH	SPORT/ LUNCH
6PM - 7PM	REVISION - GEOGRAPHY	HOMEWORK	REVISION - HISTORY	REVISION - FRENCH	REVISION - SCIENCE	1PM - 3PM	REVISION - MATHS	REVISION - FLASH CARDS
7PM - 8PM	REVISION - MATHS	REVISION - ENGLISH	FREE TIME	HOMEWORK	FREE TIME	3PM - 5PM	OUT WITH FAMILY	SPORT/ TV/ GAMING
8PM - 9PM	FREE TIME/ SHOWER	FREE TIME/ SHOWER	FREE TIME/ SHOWER	FREE TIME/ SHOWER	FREE TIME/ SHOWER	6PM - 8PM	DINNER/ FREE TIME	DINNER/ FREE TIME

Your Study Space

To make sure you are doing good quality revision, think carefully about the environment you are revising in

Different Places Work Best for Different People

There's no right place to revise. Based on how you **work best**, you'll find some places make you feel **more productive** than others:



Library

- ✓ Lots of **books** about subjects you're revising
- ✓ Access to the **internet** for research
- ✓ **Fewer distractions** than at home or with friends
- ✗ It may be **busy** and hard to get a desk
- ✗ It can involve time **spent travelling**

Bedroom At Home

- ✓ You can **set up** your **study space** as you want
- ✓ You can shut yourself away for **privacy**
- ✓ It's easy to get **healthy snacks** and **drinks**
- ✗ You may get **distracted** by your **family**
- ✗ **Television** and **games** are easy to access

Friend's House

- ✓ You can **discuss revision** problems with your friend
- ✓ You and your friend can **test** each other
- ✗ You and your friend could **distract** each other
- ✗ You may become **disheartened** or **stressed** if your friend seems to know more than you

A Tidy Study Space is Important

You'll find it **easier to revise** if your study space is **free of clutter**:



Three common revision techniques that are **LEAST** effective in helping you revise are:

- Highlighting texts
- Re-reading
- Summarising text



Whilst these methods may feel like you are revising, there are many better methods to help you revise.



Revision Techniques

Learn, Revise, Test Yourself

This process is super important. You can't revise what you don't understand or practice what you don't know, so don't skip out steps



LEARN

The learning process starts by making notes in class and doing homework, but sometimes you might have to do some **extra research** too.

Before you start **revising** a topic, you need to make sure that you **understand** it.

If there's anything you're not sure about, you could:

- look back over your **notes** carefully and read the **textbook** again.
- do some research, in the **library** or **online**.
- ask your **teacher**.

There's more about organising and adding to your notes on pages 18-19.



REVISE

When you're happy that you **understand a topic**, you can move on to **revise it**.

Revising is the process of **going back over** what you've learnt so that you're **ready** to **answer questions** on it in an exam.

There are many **different ways** to revise — here are just a few examples:

- **condensing your notes** (see p.20)
- **flow charts** (see p.22)
- **mind maps** (see p.21)
- **flash cards** (see p.23)

You can also try techniques to help you **remember** and **retrieve** more (see p.24-25).

Don't worry if you find something you don't understand — just go back and **learn it again**.

To make a topic stick, test yourself on it at increasing intervals after revising it, e.g. after half an hour, after two hours, after a day, etc.



TEST YOURSELF

Once you're happy that you **know a topic**, it's time to **test yourself**:

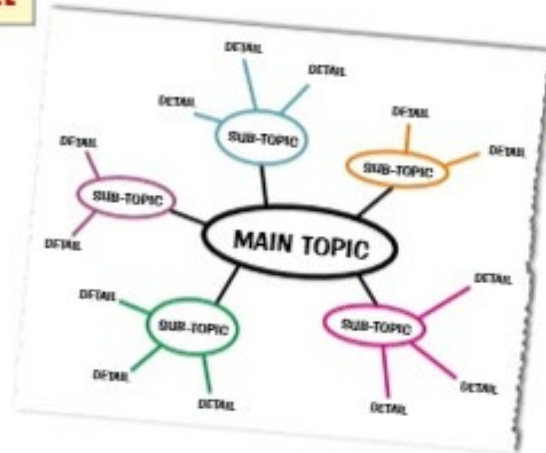
- You could start by doing some quick **fact recall questions**, and then go on to some **practice exam questions**.
- It's really important to do some **realistic exam practice** — some questions will ask you to **apply** what you've learnt in **different ways** so it's good to know you can do this.
- Look at the **Test Yourself** pages in this book (p.28-29) for other ideas.

If there's something you **can't remember**, go back to your **notes** and **revise it again**.

Mind Maps

A Mind Map is a Type of Diagram

- 1) Mind maps are a **visual** way to **organise information**.
- 2) **One mind map** usually represents **one topic**.
- 3) The **name** of the topic goes in the **middle**, with **sub-topics** and further **detail** added around it.
- 4) Details are **short** and **to the point**.
- 5) **Boxes** or **bubbles** around some of the information can help it **stand out**.
- 6) A good mind map uses **colour** and **images**.



Mind Maps Are Great For Revising Topics

- 1) Organising material **visually** can make it **easier to recall** in an exam.
- 2) **Colour** and **images** can help topics and information to stick in your memory.
- 3) Mind maps can help you to identify the **key ideas** of a topic and find **links** between them, which can help you see the topic in different ways.

You Can Use Them Throughout Your Revision

Mind maps are really useful for **subjects** where there are **lots of links** between ideas (e.g. **History** or **English**) but less useful for learning a list of formulae or a vocab list.

At the start

Use your notes and other resources to **draw a mind map** of a topic — it's a great way of **revising key information**.



During revision

You could **pin** your completed mind maps **up** in your revision space so that you **see them regularly**.



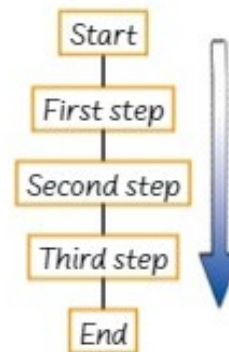
To test yourself

Draw a mind map of a topic from **memory**, then refer to the original and **fill in any gaps** in a **different colour** — this shows you what you **still need to revise**.

Flow Charts

Flow Charts Take Topics Step By Step

- 1) Flow charts are a type of **diagram** that show a **process** from **beginning to end**.
- 2) They **organise information clearly** — you can use **words** and **images** to show what happens when.
- 3) It's tempting to spend ages making your flow charts look perfect, but as long as they're **clear** and **easy to use**, they don't need to be fancy. Scan the QR code for an example of how to make one.



Start at the Start

- 1) It might sound obvious, but **order** is really important in **flow charts**.
- 2) Write the **first step** in the process at the **top** of the page and **work downwards**.
- 3) Flow charts highlight the **main steps** in a process, but if it helps, you can **add key points** about the different steps to **jog your memory** — keep them **short** and **concise** though.

They're Useful for Lots of Subjects

Flow charts show how different **stages or events** are **linked** together, so they're useful for subjects that include **sequences** or **processes**.

Have a go at **making one** yourself. If you need a bit of inspiration, here are a few **examples** of when you might use them:



Business Studies — to show the different stages within a **supply chain**.

History — a **timeline** of the events that led to the **Great Depression**.

Chemistry — to set out the steps of a **practical experiment**.

Geography — to present the different stages of **erosion**.

Biology — to show how food passes through the **digestive system**.



Don't stress about it — just go with the flow...

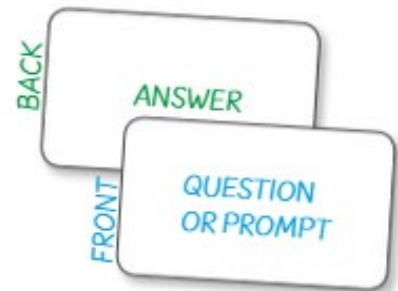
Flow charts are a great way to mix your revision up and keep it engaging. Using the same techniques all the time is snoring (snore + boring, come on... keep up) and it's much harder to make information stick in your mind.

Flash Cards

Flash Cards Are a Great Revision Tool

- 1) Flash cards are **small cards** with a **question or prompt** on **one side**, and the **answer or information** on the **other side**.
- 2) They're a great way to **test yourself** and **find gaps** in your knowledge.
- 3) Flash cards are useful for learning things like:
 - important **dates** in History
 - language **vocabulary**
 - **key words** and **definitions**
 - **formulae**
 - **labelled diagrams**

You can also put condensed topic information on flash cards for you to refer to.



Flash cards aren't so good for learning things like processes and more complex information that can't be easily split up — take a look at the rest of this chapter for ideas on how to revise these.

- 4) There are lots of flash cards available online, but it's a good idea to **make your own**. Working through your notes and picking out information is part of the **revision process**.

Another great way to use flash cards is by filling one side with **example questions** about a topic, and the other side with the **answers**. This can be useful **after you've revised** a topic and want to **test yourself** on it. (I hear **CGP** do a pretty awesome range of **revision question cards**...)

Use Them to Test Yourself

Have a go at these methods for using your flash cards **effectively**:



Say your answers out loud — this forces you to **answer** the questions **properly**.

Group your flash cards based on how well you know the content. Test yourself **more often** on the groups you **struggle with** than those you know better.



Make sure you **test yourself both ways** — e.g. you need to know vocab translations from English to French and French to English.

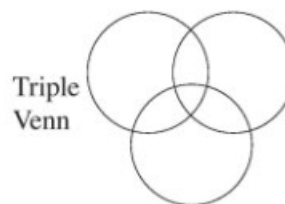
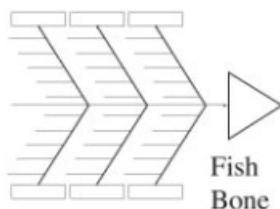
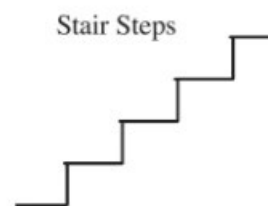
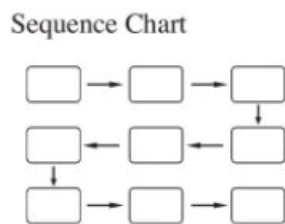
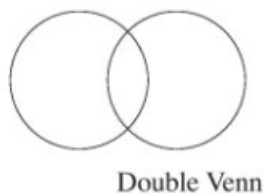
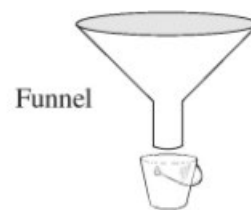
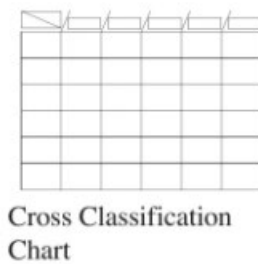
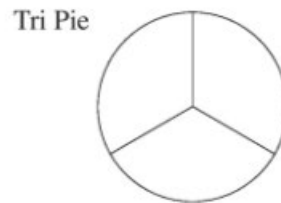
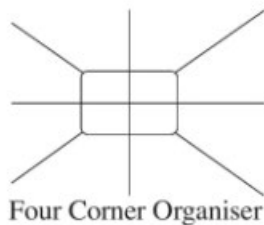
Ask someone else to test you — it removes the temptation to check the other side yourself before answering.

Flash cards — lighting the way to revision success...

Flash cards are useful because they're pocket-sized — imagine all the wonderful places you can take them to revise.

Graphic Organisers

Graphic organisers are a great way of 'transforming' your notes/information into visual revision topics. They can be used to create links, show a narrative, identify causes/consequences and importance of something.



A selection of free graphic organisers can be found online – just google it!

Exam Practice

Past papers are an ideal way to 'test yourself'.

- Use them at the beginning of your revision to check for areas of Strength and Weakness.
- Time yourself when completing them to make sure you don't run out of time in the exam.
- Practice exam techniques and look for ways to 'Maximise Marks'
- Use Mark Schemes so you understand what the exam board is looking for.

Subject Hints and Tips

PE BTEC Sport

Practice Q's with past papers. Ask your teacher for the answer sheet, mark it and re-do the questions you got wrong again. Make sure you revise the topics you lost marks on again first!

Child Development - Top Revision Tips

Hey! Here are some easy and effective ways to get ready for your Child Development exams:

Start with your checklist

- You've got a tick list at the front of your book – use it to track what you've revised and what still needs work.

Use your class notes

- Go through your books from the end of Year 10 and this year.
- Pick out key topics and create a **mind map** to help you see how everything links together.

Practice questions

- The more you practice, the better! Try answering past questions.
- Need more? Ask **Mrs Lloyd** – she has extra ones you can use.

Flashcards for keywords

- Make flashcards for all the important terms and definitions.
- Use them to test yourself or get someone else to quiz you.

R.E

Use the revision workbook (available from Miss Badger) to complete part a, b, c and d exam practice questions, especially for Paper 1

Create a list of key quotes for both paper 1 and paper 2 which you can use for different topics. This will also help you to fit your responses to your "C" part questions around quotes that you already know.

Compile a glossary of key words (a minimum of 10 words) for each of the units that we have studied so far

Maths

Use the feedback sheets from mock exams which highlight areas of weakness use Mathswatch to practice. Use revision checklists and complete past papers.

Maths genie is an excellent website for free revision resources, papers and paper walkthroughs: www.mathsgenie.co.uk

History

Using the revision guide and/or your class book, make notes on key people, dates and events. Write short questions on flashcards and the answer to it on the back. Produce a timeline with the key events on. Work through past exam papers which you have been given. This can be applied to all of the modules you have studied.

Recommended Revision Guide [My Revision Notes: WJEC Eduqas GCSE \(9-1\) History: Amazon.co.uk: Evans, R. Paul, Quinn, Rob: 9781510403826: Books](#)

Computer Science

Use revision guide and topic content revision mind maps folders. Make flashcards with keywords/definitions on the back. For programming questions (pseudocode and Python) make use of past paper Q's (search: AQA GCSE computer science past papers). Use the matching mark scheme to check your

answer, against the model answers. The 'Craig and Dave' YouTube channel has lots of videos explaining key concepts such as binary, hexadecimal, SQL, logic etc. Make sure to use videos tagged as AQA GCSE Computer Science.

ICT (Creative iMedia)

Use of the printed revision booklet given in class. Use past papers (search: OCR imedia past papers) to practice Q's. Use the mark scheme to check your answers. Create revision mind maps covering the key pre-production docs (moodboards, mind maps, visualisations, scripts and storyboards e.g. for a moodboard: what is its purpose, what are they used for, differences between physical and digital moodboards and what content do they typically include?) Create flashcards for keywords e.g. visualisation, moodboard, work plan, contingency, compressions etc. and their definitions.

Food Prep and Nutrition

Use your books from last year to create a revision mind map (key nutrients, where food comes from, sustainability, packaging, key food commodities), Plenty of practice questions (can collect more from Mrs Lloyd). Seneca online. Flash cards for keyword (temperatures/ age groups/ vitamins/ minerals etc).

Geography

Using your AQA GCSE Geography revision guide: Produce keyword lists with their meanings (all the bold and italic words). Make case study cards. Produce mind map summaries of topics. Make quiz cards with one word or question on the front and definition/answer on the back. Make sure you select the correct exam specification. AQA, when using the first two website listed below:

Seneca learning is a great tool with questions, videos and tutorials.

<https://senecalearning.com/en-GB/>

BBC bitesize is also very good with revise, watch and test sections.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/examspecs/zy3ptyc>

Time for Geography website has up to date short video clips along with knowledge boosters and is being added to all the time.

<https://timeforgeography.co.uk/>

Music

Use online software Focus on Sound and revise key language and genres of music, completing online quizzes. Also, revise from notes and online YouTube clips on the two set works, Bach's Badinerie and Africa by Toto.

Recommended Revision Guide [WJEC/Eduqas GCSE Music Revision Guide - Revised Edition : Richards, Jan: Amazon.co.uk: Books](#)

Graphic Communication

Ensure that your sketchbooks (or presentations) have all of the tasks completed that the annotation is clear and personal. Here are the links to the presentation for both Comps: 1 <https://tinyurl.com/se6mp8bz> and 2 <https://tinyurl.com/4w75dn5c>

Design and Technology

Search for the Eduqas D&T GCSE past papers. Use mark schemes to see model answers. Use the flashcards from CGP. Revise woods. (33% of your paper) Revise types, properties, processing, LCAs, joining methods, finishes etc. Know basic materials and common properties for Metals (ferrous, non-ferrous and alloys) polymers (thermoset and thermoplastics). Create a word wall or double-sided flash cards from the key terms on the back of each unit wrap. Both key words and definitions are important. BBC Bitesize is a great resource. Snappy key info, quick quizzes that self-mark Search for the Eduqas Design & Technology GCSE. Use Seneca, an online tool with presentations and lots of D&T Q's. The wood section and D&T in our World sections are particularly good.

Art

Ensure you have completed artist research and analysis using the prompt sheets provided. Include your own copies of their work. Write a paragraph about how each of your development ideas has been inspired by your artist research and photography. Send draft versions to your teacher for checking before you write up the final annotations on your coursework.

Textiles

Ensure you have completed your Artist reviews and all annotations with reflective, and reviewing methods use the annotations guide to help you. Remember to refer to how you have been inspired by your artists. Complete write ups on all pages in your book, including initial experiments.

Science

Our course is OCR Gateway and all students have a revision guide that has been written specifically for this course. 2 parts to revision: 1. Learning Key Facts 2. Applying those Facts to exam style questions. Learn key facts using revision guides and class notes to become familiar with the concepts/ideas in Biology, Chemistry and Physics. Memorise these key ideas using notes, flash cards, spider diagrams or other memory techniques. Search for links between ideas too. Exam questions form part of normal lessons in Y11 and we run optional afterschool exam question sessions near to the mocks and real exams.

Drama

For GCSE Drama, students can use the AQA website to find past papers, there are also some on their Teams page. The BBC Bitesize website has some really good videos and information pieces specific to the course and the various aspects of it.

[GCSE Drama - AQA - BBC Bitesize](#)

Students should revise 'Blood Brothers' and look over characters, themes, design and performance skills.

Theatre roles and responsibilities as well as stage types and positioning.

Live Theatre Analysis - use the notes they have already to go back over and look to link to specific questions. Performance and design skills again should be revised for this.

Those that have revision guides should be utilising them for exam tips and tricks - there are also some exam questions they can attempt from there.

English

On your Teams page you have a padlet that breaks down both GCSEs and the different papers, with lots of links to revision activities, documents and practice papers. Both Literature and Language are AQA. Use notes in books to revise key quotes and characters for literature. Look carefully at feedback from essays for how to improve on your language Q's. Extra revision can be found under Mr Bruff or Mr Salles on Youtube - they go through each question with examples. A really helpful tip is to READ a variety of texts, consistently.

French

Use your knowledge organisers to revise your topic specific vocabulary and try to come up with sentences that can show off your range of language.

Remember to use 3 tenses in your writing to demonstrate your range of grammar, the very best work will be able to use past, present and future tenses!

Seneca learning is a great tool with questions, videos and tutorials. <https://senecalearning.com/en-GB/>

BBC bitesize is also very good with revise, watch and test sections.

[GCSE French - Edexcel \(for exams from 2026\) - BBC Bitesize](#)

*Recommended Revision Guide - **Pearson Revise Edexcel GCSE French Revision Guide (for exams from 2026).***