

Dear Parents/Carers

Headteacher: Ms Kelda Stevenson NPQH

I hope this letter finds you well. As we navigate through the academic year, I would like to take a moment to discuss a crucial aspect of your child's learning process – revision. Understanding and actively engaging in revision is fundamental to achieving academic success, and I hope that you will find the information and examples in this letter helpful.

Revision is the process of reviewing and re-examining material that has been previously studied. It goes beyond the initial learning phase and plays a pivotal role in reinforcing and consolidating knowledge. Here are a few key reasons why revision is essential:

1. **Consolidation of Learning:** Revision helps students consolidate what they have learned. Going back to previously covered material reinforces concepts and ensures a deeper understanding. It strengthens the neural pathways associated with the learned information, making it easier for students to recall and apply that knowledge in the future.
2. **Long-Term Retention:** By revisiting topics over time, students are better equipped to retain information in their long-term memory. This is crucial for subjects that build upon foundational knowledge, as a strong understanding of earlier concepts is essential for grasping more advanced material.
3. **Identification of Weak Areas:** Regular revision allows students to identify areas where they may be struggling or have gaps in their understanding. Recognising these weak points early on enables targeted intervention and additional support, preventing the accumulation of misunderstandings.
4. **Preparing for Exams and Assessments:** Revision is a key component of exam preparation. It helps students review the material they have covered throughout the year, allowing them to enter exams and assessments with confidence and a solid grasp of the subject matter.
5. **Confidence Building:** The act of revising and recalling information boosts students' confidence. Feeling well-prepared and knowledgeable enhances their overall academic self-esteem, positively influencing their approach to learning.

As parents/carers, your support in encouraging and facilitating a regular revision routine at home can significantly contribute to your daughter's academic success. Here are some practical suggestions:

- Establish a designated study space at home.
- Encourage a consistent and manageable study schedule.
- Help your daughter create organised study materials.
- Discuss the importance of breaks during study sessions to maintain focus.

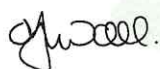
By emphasising the importance of revision and fostering a positive attitude towards it, we can work together to ensure that your daughter not only learns but retains and applies her knowledge effectively.

Attached with this letter are some examples of effective revision strategies. Obviously each student will need to find the approach that suits them, but a combination of techniques usually works for most students.

The main principle behind any effective revision is that it is active. Students should be testing themselves/answering questions and writing down what they can remember. They should not be passive i.e. copying information or just reading through their notes as this has been shown to be ineffective. In addition, the environment should be quiet with no distractions. Mobile phones should be away or on airplane mode.

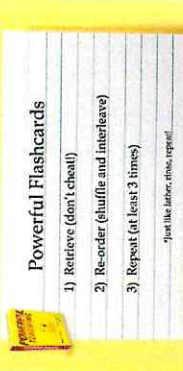
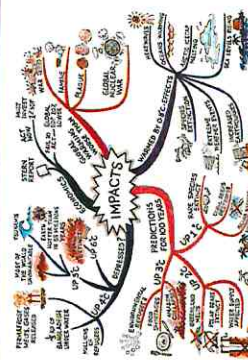
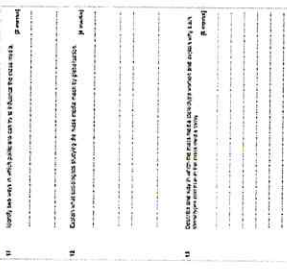
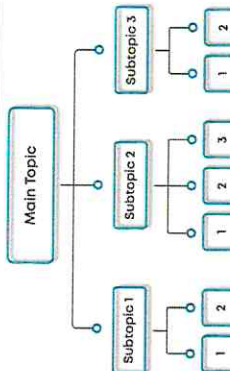

Thank you for your continued partnership in your daughter's education. If you have any questions or concerns regarding this matter, please feel free to contact me.

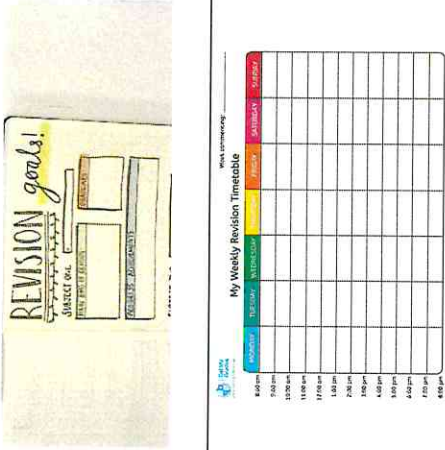

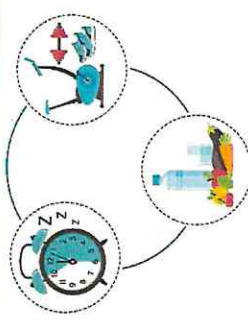
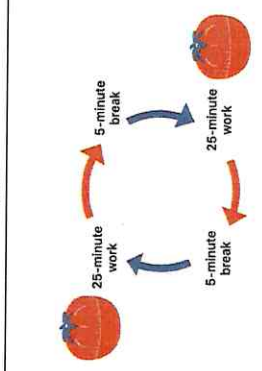
Kind Regards,



Miss Wall
Deputy Headteacher

Revision Strategies

Strategy	How/why it works	What does it look like?
<p>Flash Cards: Small cards with a question or key term on one side of the card with its corresponding answer on the other side. These are then used to test yourself, which encourages active recall.</p>	<p>Helps with repetition and active recall of information which can help lay down long term memory.</p>	
<p>Mind Mapping: Creating visual diagrams to organise and connect information. They are particularly useful for summarising key concepts and understanding relationships between different ideas. Information should not be copied, it should be done from memory.</p>	<p>Mind maps use both words and visuals, supporting the brain's dual coding system. This enhances memory recall by associating verbal and visual information with concepts. Starting with a blank sheet encourages active recall of information.</p>	
<p>Practice with Past Papers: Working through previous exam papers to simulate exam conditions and enhance skills.</p>	<p>Involves retrieval practice, reinforcing memory and reducing anxiety through familiarity with exam format. Mark schemes are helpful in this process too.</p>	
<p>Break Down Topics: Breaking larger topics into smaller, more manageable sections for focused study.</p>	<p>Facilitates chunking, making it easier for the brain to process and remember information in smaller bits. Repetition will get information into the long term memory.</p>	
<p>Use Technology Wisely: Incorporate recommended educational apps and online tools for interactive learning</p>	<p>Provides instant feedback, reinforcing learning. Also provides video explanations to clarify understanding.</p>	

<p>Set Goals and Prioritise: Setting achievable goals and prioritising tasks for effective time management.</p>	<p>Activates the brain's reward system, motivating students to achieve objectives. Prioritisation reduces overwhelm, improving concentration.</p>	
<p>Create a Revision Timetable: Structuring a timetable to allocate time for different subjects and topics.</p>	<p>Establishes a routine, helping the brain to adapt to consistent study patterns. Using the spacing effect for better long-term retention by spacing out learning. Ensures that all topics are covered.</p>	
<p>Utilise Visual Aids: Using charts, graphs and diagrams for better understanding. Encourage students to use images and text to represent information in their study notes or flash cards.</p>	<p>This will give them additional cues to help their long-term memory retrieve the content when they need it.</p>	
<p>Maintain a Healthy Lifestyle: Incorporating regular exercise, a balanced diet and sufficient sleep.</p>	<p>Exercise boosts blood flow to the brain, supporting cognitive function. Nutrition provides essential brain nutrients, while adequate sleep is crucial for memory consolidation and cognitive performance.</p>	
<p>Regular Breaks: Taking short breaks during study sessions to prevent burnout. 25 – 45 minutes followed by a 5 – 10 minute break</p>	<p>Prevents fatigue by allowing the brain to rest and recharge, improving sustained attention and overall performance.</p>	