

Supporting your child through exams

2018 - 19



Key Dates



Parent Consultation Evening: Thursday January 10th

(6 School Weeks + Half term until)

Year 11 Mocks: Monday March 4th - Friday March 15th

Examination Information Evening: Thursday March 7th

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We have 14 School Weeks and 3 Holiday Weeks until GCSE's commence



Award in Financial Education



In December students sat the first two Units of this qualification:-

- 70% of students passed both Units.
- 91% of students passed at least one Unit.

Resits are scheduled for February 11th & 12th.

Unit 3 of this qualification is scheduled for Friday May 10th.



Lunchtime & After School Sessions



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	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Lunch- time Sessions	• History	• Maths (5 a day)	• English EN1	Maths (5 a day)English (Week 2 EN2)	
Lunch – time Quiet Study Room	English 5	English 5		English 5	English 5
After School Sessions		 Additional Maths Maths (Set 2 & 3) Music History 	 Maths (Set 1 & 3) English French Combined Science (Book in advance) 	 Single Science (Boosters) PE German Design & Technology Maths (Set 3) 	

English & Maths will each offer 45 minute sessions on Wednesdays to enable students to attend both subjects.



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Time

Revision sessions at school

· Plus 2 hours at home a day

 Set them tasks (set times and check what they have done!)



Record Revision



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1. Content not quantity

2. Not doing the stuff they know!

3. Record what they have done

(don't keep doing the same subjects/topics)



Reward Scheme



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Take an Active Role

- Monitor their revision
- Set small rewards for time spent revising (make sure that the time matches the work completed)
- Take an active role in the revision:
 - 1. Question them from their revision cards
 - 2. Ask the questions from the section of the revision guide





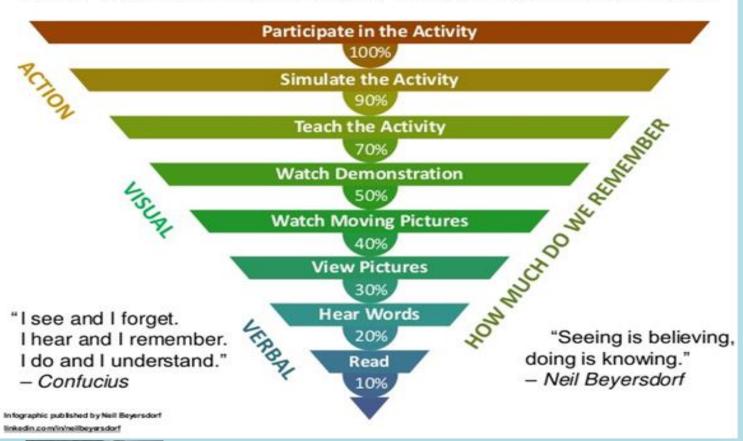




Pyramid of remembering



How We Learn and How Much We Remember





What revision is NOT....

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· Reading a book



- Checking phone every 5 minutes
- · Watching the tele at the same time
- Listening to music and picking tracks every
 5 minutes





- · ALL of them
- Not just the ones they are good at.



Sunday Planning!



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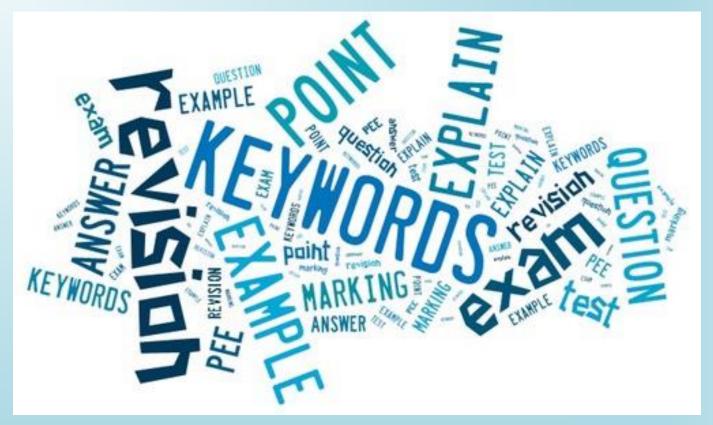
Revision Timetable

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Session 1	Subject:						
Start: Finish:	Topic:						
	Exam/Unit:						
Session 2	Subject:						
Start:	Topic:						
Finish:							
	Exam/Unit:						



Methods of Revision





1: Memory Recall Methods



Memory Recall Methods



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Revision Cards

Simplify one topic so that its key ideas fit on one postcard

Post it notes

Put key facts on post it notes. Post these in places you will see every day. Put particular post its in particular places, for example history facts in the kitchen.

Use different coloured post its for different subjects or topics



Memory Recall Methods



Mnemonics

Create sayings to remember phrases: Energy =
 Power x time becomes Enjoy playing Tennis

Record and listen

 Record yourself saying facts you have learnt that day. Play these back when trying to remember them

Lists in the house

Post lists of key words/facts around the house and get your family to quiz you

Memory Recall Methods



X-Factor

 Match a piece of information to be the lyrics of the most irritating song that you can. There are too many of these on YouTube

Learn your lines

 Write out everything you need to learn like lines for a play or speaking exam. Ask someone to listen to you try and remember everything on the piece of paper



Memory Recall Methods



Match-up cards

· Create pairs of cards that can be a game

5 things

 If there were five things you mustn't forget, what would they be? Count them off on your fingers

Look, cover, write, check

· Simple matching pairs of information



Methods of Revision

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2: Apps (GCSE POD)







- Easy to learn 3-5 minute short, sharp bursts of audio-visual learning
- Access to content from 21 subjects, all mapped to their exam board
- Available online or offline
- Ability to favourite any Pods on topics they find hard and revisit them
- Ability to complete tests and receive instant feedback on assignments
- Students accelerate their progress by receiving instant feedback on their knowledge gaps
- Pre-made exam playlists, helping to organise revision
- Takes the stress out of learning

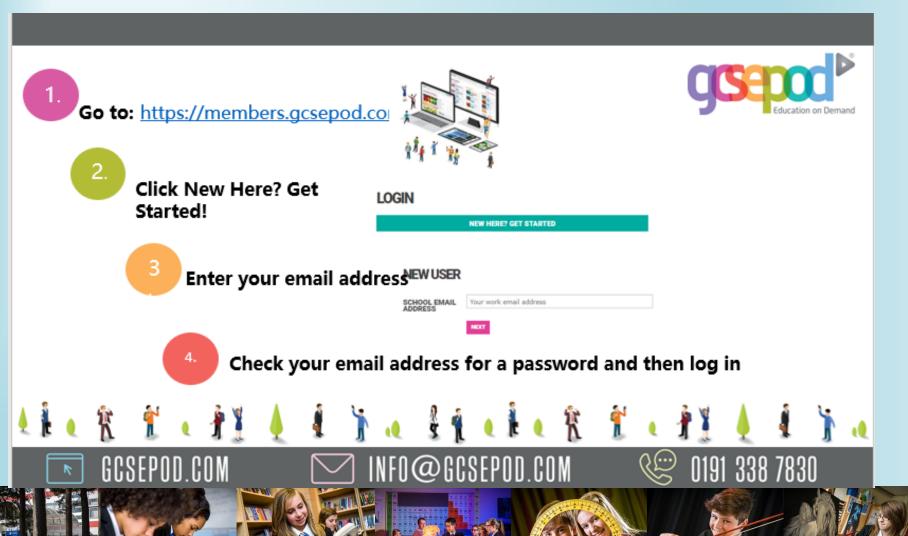
Student Benefits



How to access your GCSEPod Account!



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Subject Knowledge in 3-5 minute chunks



At the heart of GCSEPod is Pods (videos). Each one is a highly concentrated 3-5 minute burst of audio-visual learning.

- Written by expert subject teachers
- Quality assured
- Narrated by professional voice over artists
- Visuals produced by an award-winning design team
- Each Pod is mapped to GCSE and IGCSE exam boards
- Always keeping up to date with curriculum changes
- Keywords, dates, quotes and diagrams







Methods of Revision





3: Exam Techniques







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Understanding of the question





Identifying and understanding command words – what is it they're asking you to do.



Identifying and understanding the focus

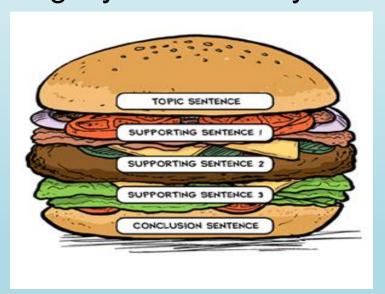
Following explicit instructions
Thinking it through before
starting writing...



Knowing your structures...



Depending on the question, all paragraphs should be written in a slightly different way...



- Create revision cards for each of the different types of questions/ command words and the paragraph structure they'd require
 - i.e. An effect of language/structure question in English Language requires TEE and COWPAT for French Writing...
 - Learn sentence starters so you know how you should always begin.
- The only way to get better at these is to practice writing them.



Time



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Time

Know how long you have for each question: roughly a minute a mark.

Complete questions – in the time you'd have in the exam – in the level of depth that would be required.

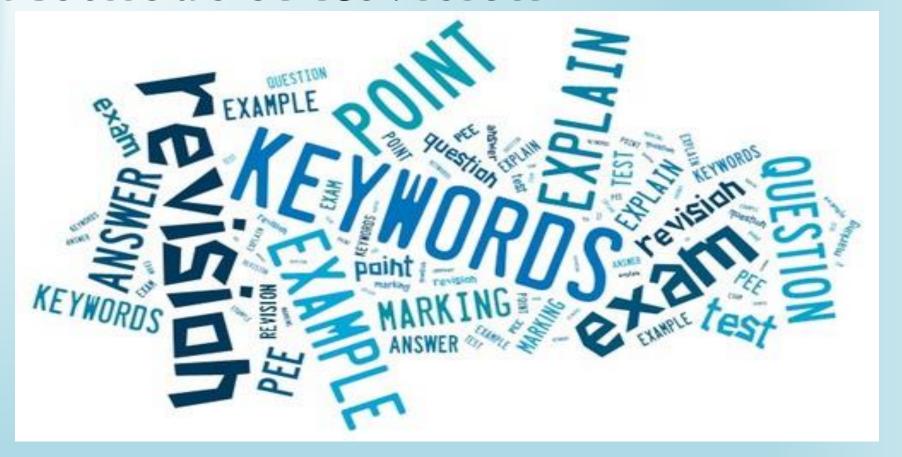
Online platforms such as Kaboodle (Geography) will give you timed questions in timed conditions.



Methods of Revision

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4: How to use revision guides





How to use Revision Guides

- Why use them?
- Revision guides contain all of the useful information that students need to remember for their exams. Revision guides won't help students apply this knowledge to exam questions (more on that later), but they will help students remember important information.





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How to use Revision Guides

What to do	What not to do
Set a 'target' of a certain number of pages, or a certain topic, to revise.	If you just pick up a revision guide and start to read, you'll know the first few pages but not the later (more difficult) ones.
Stop when you've checked you've made progress. Revision guides often contain questions about each topic – can you answer them? Pick the difficult topics!	Don't revise based on how long you've revised for. It's easy to waste time! It's not so easy to drift if you have a set target in mind before you have a break. Don't revise the content you already know! This is just a waste of time!
Tell someone what you've learned! Even better would be to show them! Write down the key points from each	Don't isolate yourself. Yes you need to be concentrating, but you need to show yourself and others you're improving – this is how to motivate yourself! Don't just sit and read.
topic. This could be writing out notes again, using flashcards, mindmaps etc.	The information is much less likely to 'stick' if you just passively read!





How to use Revision Guides

- Which Revision Guides?
- All departments can give students/parents the information about which revision guides are the best to use.



Remember.....



Revision isn't MAGIC





Revision isn't **PASSIVE**







Revision isn't impossible







Stop talking about it & start doing it

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Revision needs time Revision needs resilience Revision needs organising Revision works!



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