

Here is a reminder of some of the revision strategies discussed at the Y10 Study Support Evening.

1. Get organised

- Is your examination timetable on the wall? Put it somewhere you will see it.
- Find time away from distractions to revise (i.e. away from friends, television, mobile, computer).

2. Make a revision timetable

- Identify the free time you will have between now and the examinations.
- Divide the time appropriately between each subject or key area.
- Be realistic about how long you have – don't be too ambitious.
- Once you have a realistic plan, stick to it. Don't assume you will catch up later.
- Build in breaks – you learn better when you are fresh and focussed.

3. Know your preferred learning style(s)

- Some learners prefer a *visual* approach – reading explanations, looking at charts
- Visual learners tend to 'picture the answer' in their heads
- Visual learners might try making their own Powerpoint presentations or use a mini-whiteboard in their revision
- Some learners prefer an *auditory* approach – hearing explanations, recorded answers
- Auditory learners tend to 'hear the answer' in their heads
- Auditory learners might try using an mp3 recording device and listen to notes
- Some learners prefer a *kinaesthetic* approach – they prefer to be "hands-on".
- Kinaesthetic learners like to be as active as possible when learning
- Kinaesthetic learners might try working with a study partner and test each other.

4. Make your learning active.

- No matter which revision technique you use the one key idea is to *interact actively* with the material.
- Copying out notes, just for the sake of it, is not a recommended strategy.
- It is far better to put the notes into your own words, to summarise, or to turn them into a diagram.
- Through transforming the information you are more likely to understand and remember it.
- Some students make good use of cards with the question on one side and a bullet-point answer on the reverse.
- The Q&A technique could easily be transformed into a Powerpoint or even recorded as an audio file.
- Consider asking a family member to listen to your explanations of what you have learned. It is very hard to teach someone else convincingly unless you first understand the material thoroughly yourself.
- Ask your teacher for further advice on subject-specific strategies and also ask if past papers and/or past paper-standard questions are available. There is no substitute for practising the specific skills required in your examination.

Remember: If you have taken your work seriously and you have done your best, that is all anyone can ask of you and you may rightly be proud of your efforts, no matter which grade you achieve.