



Final Countdown

95 school days until first external exam!

Why practice exams?



- Last chance to experience full exam
- Be more prepared
- Less anxious about exams
- Work out revision style
- Evidence

Planning for exams



- Have breakfast
- Students need to check exam room and seat number for every exam
- Know candidate number
- Revise

What have students been told/given?



- Timetables
- White paper = practice exams
- Coloured paper = REAL/FINAL
- Get equipment including black pen – subject specific items
- Full uniform

Practicalities in the exam room



- No mobile phones, smart watches, mp3 player or headphones
- **MUST NOT BE IN POCKET**
- No communication of any kind

Missed exams



- Illness
- Additional/exceptional circumstances
- Exams officer – Theresa Prior
tprior@mcauley.org.uk first point of contact

Coursework



- Y11 – release criteria
- Various dates – final list hopefully by parents evening
- Not all subjects

What is happening in school to support your child's revision?

- Pupil revision carousel
 - Assertive mentoring
 - Targeted mentoring
- Revision classes after school
 - Revision days
 - Pre-exam warm ups
- Blank revision timetables provided
- Folder options to keep all materials together
- Workshops for: Positive Mindset, Stress management, Anxiety support, Coping strategies

Revision techniques



1. Quizzing - being able to explain a point or fact
2. Self-explanation - how a problem was solved
3. Writing summaries of texts
4. Highlighting/underlining
5. Keyword mnemonics - choosing a word to associate with information
6. Imagery - forming mental pictures while reading or listening
7. Re-reading
- 8. Practice testing - Self-testing to check knowledge - especially using flash cards**
- 9. Spaced learning - spreading out study over time**



HIGH IMPACT

Complete past papers numerous times, changing the order in which you answer the questions to retrieve material in a different order.

These are only effective to improve learning if you work to retrieve the information instead of flipping the card over right away.



Past papers

Flashcards

**RETRIEVAL
PRACTICE**

Quizzes

Brief quizzes about recent material can help to retrieve the information quickly and link to older material.

Concept maps

Topic deposit

Sketches

Organize your retrieved ideas from memory into a concept map. Take the main ideas and link them together with phrases that explain the relationship between the concepts.

Draw everything you know about a topic from memory.

Write the name of a topic at the top of a page and then retrieve everything you know about it from your mind and write it down as fast as you can.

How you and others in your household can make a difference:

- ✓ Reminding them to revise +1%
- ✓ Creating a suitable revision work space +1%
- ✓ Removal of distractions (mobile phone, iPad, Xbox etc.) +1%
- ✓ Buying subject specific revision guides +1%
- ✓ Encouraging them to read +1%
- ✓ School/parent contact +1%
- ✓ Helping them to create and maintain their revision timetable +1%
- ✓ Showing an interest +1%
- ✓ Being flexible +1%
- ✓ Explaining to other children in the house just how important revision is and to respect the process +1%
- ✓ Prioritise the use of the computer when your child intends to revise over others using the resource for videos or games +1%
- ✓ Encourage good sleep patterns, exercise and eating habits +1%

Good Attendance

(much more than a 1% gain!)

The biggest single factor in a child underachieving is poor attendance at school.