

Whalley Range High School

**KS3 Study Skills Booklet
2022**

KS3 Exam Preparation Checklist

(TICK WHEN COMPLETE)

	Yes	Nearly there!	Comments
Find out when each of your exams will take place. Record your exam dates in your planner and in your phone calendar.			
Know the content and structure of the exam paper.			
Separate your revision into folders for each subject. Organise all your worksheets and notes using subject dividers or something similar.			
List all the topics and sub-topics you will need to revise using your learning checklists.			
Create a revision timetable that suits you. Break it down into evening slots during the school term and day and evening slots during the weekends and holidays.			
Plan specific, clear and realistic revision objectives for EVERY session, e.g. Kahoot quiz on Spanish vocabulary linked to hobbies.			
Access additional revision books and subject workbooks.			
Have the right equipment and materials to revise effectively such as plain and lined paper, flashcards and coloured pens.			
Chat with other students about the revision strategies they have found most useful.			
Schedule regular study sessions to recap the week's lesson/revision content.			

How to Prepare for KS3 Assessments

Take a look on the school website to find 'how to' videos on some of the following strategies:

Self-assessment

Start your revision with a self-assessment of what you already confidently know, what you need to review and what you need to cover again. Use your learning checklist **RAG** column to help with this.

Checklist Year 9 Half Term 1 English The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night Time (Reading)

Topic	Revision guide/ workbook pages	Digital resources	PLC statements	RAG
Curious Incident				
Openings: Prediction and Inference Skills	CGP 87-95	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> BBC Bitesize - Critical reading Skills Spark Notes - Opening Spark Notes - Point of View 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I can explain how the first chapter is structured to interest us as readers. I can use inference skills to predict what the opening makes us predict about the rest of the novel and the narrative voice. 	
Characterisation: Christopher's emotions	CGP PP 87-95	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> BBC Bitesize - Characterisation and Narrative Voice Spark Notes - Christopher 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I can explain how language and imagery are used to present the power of Christopher's emotions. I can analyse how language choices create an intriguing character 	

LINKS

[Frog Learning Checklists](#)

How to use

Use the grid to review your RAG ratings from the end of each topic.

As you plan your revision prioritise the red content first, review the amber next and leave the green content until last. This will help you focus on the content you struggled with first.

Be Organised

Distributed revision and interleaving of topics (switching between topics) is proven to have high impact on memory.

Create yourself a revision plan, for all your subjects.

Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri
Geog	Textiles	English Lit	English Lan	Comp Sci
Maths	French	Bio	Chem	Phys

Then break down the subject into topics, try interleaving the topics so you switch between topics rather than blocking each topic and not coming back to it for some time.

LINKS

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

How to use

Break the papers into topic blocks. Rather than covering each topic once and moving onto the next try to interleave them like below.

Blocked

Coasts	Rivers	Ecosystems	Hazards
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Interleaved

1 Hour				1 Hour				1 Hour				1 Hour			
Co	Riv	Ecosyst	Hazar	Ecosyst	Hazar	Co	Riv	Riv	Ecosyst	Hazar	Co	Hazar	Co	Riv	Ecosyst

Chunked Revision

Try not to revise all topics in one go. Break topics up into chunks by using your Learning Checklists.

Try spending just 15 minutes at a time on each topic 'chunk', after which move onto a different topic 'chunk' for another 15 minutes. Repeat over a one-hour period.

You can test yourself later.

LINKS

[Video about chunking](#)

How to use

Prioritise the topics you feel least confident with. Revise these for 15-minute chunks (4 chunks = 1 hour).

Create a quiz using your revision notes. Complete the quiz several days later. Dependent on how well you do, either add the topic to your next revision session or store your notes for future revision.

Flashcards

Probably the simplest of methods to help you to recall knowledge.

Create cards with questions on one side and answers on the other. You may choose to colour code your cards based on topic or content.

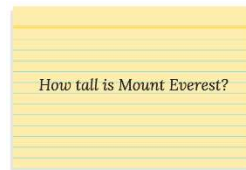
For example, you may want to make all of the cards associated with physical processes blue, case study content yellow and key terms green and so on. You may want to try using the Leitner Method, which involves spaced repetition. You can find more information on the method in the video.

LINKS

[Leitner Method Video](#)

[How to use Flashcards](#)

Example:



FRONT



BACK

How to use

- Key Terms – test your knowledge of definitions and examples
- Case Studies – revise the facts, stats and specifics
- Processes – draw a diagram and write a description
- Command terms – command term and description

Revision Clock

This method involves you breaking your topic down over a 1-hour period.

You'll need an A3 sheet and a clock image in the centre.

Split the sheet into 5 or 10-minute chunks. Give each section a focus from the topic.

Spend no longer than the time designated to each section on that part of the topic.

LINKS

[Revision Clocks](#)

How to use

1 hour – split the topic up into chunks. Give each section of your sheet a title or question. If you have a learning checklist, you can use it to create titles.

Visual Revision

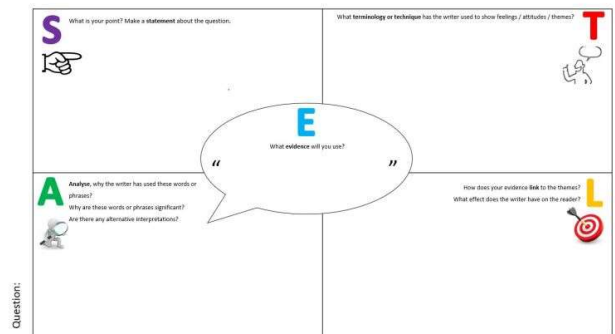
This method involves you transforming your notes into a visual format. Whether this be putting the subject content into a graphic organiser such as a Venn diagram or a mind map, the key idea is to make it visual to allow you to draw links between stages, content and images.

When you have the same information in words and visuals it gives you two ways of remembering the information later on.

LINKS

<https://www.eduplace.com/graphicorganizer/>

How to use



Retrieval Practice

This method involves testing what you know. The effort to remember something, helps to strengthen your memory.

Create quizzes to test yourself and your friends. Types of quizzes may include multiple choice, true or false or odd one out.

Try writing down all that you remember on a topic before reviewing your notes.

LINKS

<https://kahoot.com/>

How to use

- Spaced - Test on old and new subject content
- Must know – Create some 'must know' quizzes
- Examples - 'Give two examples of...'

Review. Practice. Check.

This method requires you to make use of exam style questions, whether they be past paper questions, sample paper questions or exam style questions created by your teacher.

Start by reviewing subject content. Choose what to revise based upon your self-assessment at the end of each topic.

Apply what you reviewed to suitable exam questions.

LINKS



How to use

Try some exam questions and then check your answer/s, use the mark scheme to self-assess. Then if it's not perfect redraft; this can be done immediately or at a later date.

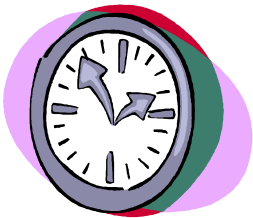
You may choose to complete each stage within a one-hour session.

Let's Get Started

Make yourself a **revision timetable**. There are some blank templates for you to use further on in this booklet. Here's an example for *one* weekend:

Date/Day	Morning	Afternoon	Evening
Saturday	Maths - Algebra Geography – Global Tourism	Science – Past Paper RE – Word List	Netflix film
Sunday	Football	French – Oral Answers History – You Tube Clip	English – Past Paper Music – World Music

- ★ Fill in leisure, relaxation and family commitments
- ★ Share out the available revision sessions between your subjects
- ★ Allow extra sessions if you know some subjects will take longer than others
- ★ Make sure you have a specific task or topic to revise for each session
- ★ Vary the subjects – don't do all your Maths revision on day one!



The ideal length to revise one topic is **25 to 45 minutes**.

There are three easy steps to doing revision well:

- ★ **Change**
- ★ **Challenge**
- ★ **Treats**

The first step is to try **change**. By changing what is in our exercise books or textbooks into a different format, we kick-start our brains into action – we start thinking about new ways of presenting and digesting the information and start learning.

Ways to **change** things:

- ★ Make diagrams
- ★ Labelled drawings
- ★ Time-lines (work particularly well for History)
- ★ Mind maps
- ★ Charts and flowcharts (for processes)
- ★ Record your voice or create sound clips
- ★ Flash cards
- ★ Use online activities and games such as Kahoot!



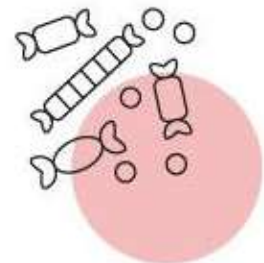
Ways to **challenge** yourself:

- ★ Challenge yourself to figure out a topic that you have found difficult
- ★ Turn your notes into a diagram or mind map from memory
- ★ Teach someone the topic (a family member, a friend or even a teacher)
- ★ Get someone to ask you questions – test each other!
- ★ Begin each revision session with a recap of what you covered last time
- ★ Listen to an online podcast based on your topic
- ★ Make notes from your own voice recording.



Ways to **treat** yourself (though I'm sure you don't need any ideas here):

- ★ Watch a film or series
- ★ Relax and listen to your favourite music
- ★ Meet up with a friend and have a picnic
- ★ Go for a bike ride
- ★ Play a sport in the park, such as basketball or frisbee
- ★ Enjoy some chocolate



HOT TIP: Vary your revision. You can learn by writing, doing, watching, listening etc.



Revision Timetable Template

Time	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
8:00							
9:00							
10:00							
11:00							
12:00							
13:00							
14:00							
15:00							
16:00							
17:00							
18:00							
19:00							
20:00							
21:00							
22:00							

Revision Timetable Template

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14:00							
15:00							
16:00							
17:00							
18:00							
19:00							
20:00							
21:00							
22:00							

Revision top tips from students

- <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/articles/zw8qpbk>

Podcasts

- <https://www.mentalhealth.org.uk/podcasts-and-videos/howovercome-fear-and-anxiety>
- <https://www.mentalhealth.org.uk/podcasts-and-videos/stress-andmind-quick-fix-relaxation-exercise>



**KEEP
CALM
AND
GOOD LUCK
IN YOUR EXAMS**