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PARENT/ CARER GUIDE

Preparing your young person for exams

LEVEL 3

INTRODUCTION

WHAT IS HUISH 30?

Huish 30 is the term used to describe a student's study programme to ensure their future success. The majority of students have 15 hours in lessons, 3 hours in tutorial/EnRICH and 12 hours allocated to independent study.

Studying post-GCSE requires a greater emphasis on independent learning, which helps build self-regulating habits for the future. Since the beginning of their programme, your young person has been set a variety of tasks across their subjects to ensure they are adequately prepared for their final assessments.



HOW TO USE THIS GUIDE

Due to the variety of courses on offer at Richard Huish College, we are unable provide 'one-size fits all' advice to preparing for the exam season. For this reason, each subject team has produced a specialised guide to help you and your young person navigate the upcoming exam series. Use the contents page to find your young person's relevant subjects. In each section you will find details on the exam board, exam dates, the teacher's guidance on effective approaches to revision in the subject, information on resources supplied, recommended additional resources and ideas on how to support your young person.

GENERAL ADVICE

Tests and exams can be a challenging part of college life for young people and their parents or carers. Below are some general recommendations to approaching the exam series:

- Work with your young person to find what revision style/techniques work for them.
- Encourage your young person to form a system for revision and encourage them to distribute this over time (e.g. with a calendar/plan).
- Establish a balance between revision breaks and finding a balance between studying and doing things they find enjoyable.
- Reassure them that effort is more important than achievement.
- Promote a positive mental attitude towards exams this is an opportunity to show off what they know.

Additional information available from:

- Parent's Guide to Exams | The Children's Society (childrenssociety.org.uk)
- Exam Time & Exam Stress | Parents Guide To Support | Young Minds
- Help your child beat exam stress NHS (www.nhs.uk)

EXAM DATES

Exam dates are accessible for students on their Huish Hub (<u>Huish Hub</u>). Students will find their exam dates under 'Exam Entries'.

EFFECTIVE STUDY TECHNIQUES

Many of the subject guides recommend a quality over quantity approach to revision. Some students find that whilst revising for their exams, they are not entirely confident in their revision technique. Tutor2U have reviewed the latest research on student organisation and learning to produce a practical, free, online step-by-step guide to making revision for exams more effective. The course is self-paced and covers a variety of topics including: An effective revision environment, the revision mindset, revision myths, planning revision and what 'good' revision looks like. This course has been designed to apply to all students revising for assessments and exams. For more information or to enrol, visit: Effective Revision | Skills Booster | tutor2u

ADDITIONAL SUPPORT: ACADEMIC

All students are encouraged to develop independent study skills whilst at Huish. However, sometimes, students need some additional support to help them achieve their goals. If your young person is struggling across their subjects, our learning support team can arrange group or 1:1 study support outside of lesson. Your young person can discuss a referral for learning support with their progress tutor or email learningsupport@richuish.ac.uk.

In addition to this, all subject teams run academic tutorial sessions on a weekly basis. These sessions are designed to provide students with subject specialist support. The 30-minute sessions are used differently depending on the department's students' needs and priorities. As an example, they may consist of exam question reviews, extension work, catching up on Huish 30 work and 1 to 1 progress discussions.

ADDITIONAL SUPPORT: WELLBEING

If your young person requires additional wellbeing support to help them prepare for exams, they can self-refer by emailing: wellbeing@richuish.ac.uk or having a chat with a trusted member of staff. Please visit our parent/carer health and wellbeing Padlet page for more information: Parent/Carer Padlet

COMMUNICATION

This guide has been designed to supplement the existing support that is on offer to your young person. If you have any queries or require additional guidance, please do not hesitate to contact your young person's teacher or progress tutor.

The next page of this booklet contains the contact information for each progress tutor.

WHO TO CONTACT: PROGRESS TUTOR TEAM

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TUTORIAL

During tutorial, your young person will have already received advice, guidance and support on Huish 30 across their programme. Their dedicated Progress Tutor supports them with both academic pursuits and general wellbeing and help to guide them through their time at Huish. Your young person has had weekly group tutorials which have covered topics related to progression, health and wellbeing, study skills and reflection.

Students have access to the materials used in each session listed below on their Tutorial Microsoft Teams site.

Huish 30 - What have we covered?

Getting organised and managing time:

- Study and revision planners
- Where to study
- Using folders
- Using Office 365

Studying:

- What works?
- Understanding their own study habits strengths and areas for improvement
- Procrastination and Prioritisation
- Study skills and revision methods
 - Plan learning and revision into chunks
 - Spaced practice / distributed practice
 - Pomodoro Technique (timed e.g., 25 minutes study, 5-minute break)
 - Interleaving / varied practice
 - Testing
 - Testing yourself / getting others to test you
 - Teaching someone else
 - Cornell notes
 - Leitner Method / Flashcards
 - Blurting
 - Mind maps / Flow diagrams
 - Folding Frenzy (using dual coding to revise a topic)
 - Power Hour (focused on exam questions and checking answers)
 - Study Apps

Materials provided:

- Study / revision planner
- Prioritisation worksheet

Additional resources/websites

Use of the Wellbeing Padlet available via the quick links on the Huish Hub

How parent/carer can help

- Check in with your young person about their study and revision plans and when exams and/or assignment deadlines are
- Remind and reassure that nerves and anxiety around deadlines and exams are normal
- Encourage and support good routines related to sleep, eating, exercise and check they have helpful coping strategies to manage their stress container.

APPLIED SCIENCE

Qualification/Subject: Applied Science Extended Certificate

Exam Board: Pearson

Effective approaches to revision:

Revision for exams in applied science vary slightly depending on the examined units.

Unit I is a unit which is mostly driven by application of science knowledge and has a large specification of scientific ideas broken down into biology, chemistry and physics which is best revised for in a similar way to GCSE sciences. Students should start by ensuring they have notes on each area of the specification for each of the 3 sciences, this should come from a mixture of lesson PowerPoints, the textbooks, and the revision guide. From there they should spend time creating revision resources per topic that convert the knowledge from their notes into a useable, easy to remember and testable format. This will usually mean creating resources such as flash cards, mind maps and summary sheets. As students start to feel their recall and understanding of the topics has improved, they should introduce past paper questions to test their knowledge. This will then transition into whole past papers as students close in on the exam dates to prepare them with the correct technique for exams under timed conditions.

Unit 3 is based on practical knowledge and techniques. It has a small specification in terms of the knowledge required and have quite predictable and formulaic approaches to questions. As such the best method of revision for these is to complete past papers and to self-mark using the mark schemes. This teaches students the appropriate way to answers the styles of questions that frequently come up and provide better idea of how to apply the limited content to the questions. It is still important for students to revise the topic content that the exams base the questions on however this won't take long as it is only a small amount. The content should be approached in the same way as the unit 1.

Materials provided:

- Digital applied science student textbook 1 & 2 available on teams Covers units 1,2 & 3
- Digital applied science revision guide Available on teams covers units 1 & 3
- Past papers for units 1 & 3 Available on teams
- Assignment briefs and checklists for coursework units

Additional resources/websites:

Pearson website - <u>BTEC Nationals | Applied Science (2016) | Pearson qualifications</u> — This can be used to freely access all past papers that are over 2 years old.

How parent/carer can help:

Coursework – The most important way parents and carers can help students is to remind them of their deadlines set and to proofread students work to check for grammar and spelling errors and help improve the readability of the work produced. Emails are sent home to parents and carers when coursework is set and includes the topic of the coursework as well as the date the work is due. Another email is sent when there are 5 days left until the course work is due. These are useful reminders that you can use to help ensure students are up to date.

Homework and exam revision: Parents and carers can again help by checking that students are keeping up with deadlines set for homework and routinely checking in with them ahead of exams to ensure they're staying on track with their revision. We would also encourage where possible parents and carers to engage with students on their revision by helping by questioning them using flash cards or allowing students to teach them topics.

APPLIED SCIENCE

Qualification/Subject: Applied Science Extended Diploma

Exam Board: Pearson

Effective approaches to revision:

Revision for exams in applied science vary slightly depending on the examined units.

Unit I and unit 5, which are mostly driven by application of science knowledge and have large specifications of scientific ideas are best revised for in a similar way to GCSE. Students should start by ensuring they have notes on each area of the specification for each of the 3 sciences, this should come from a mixture of lesson PowerPoints, the textbooks, and the revision guide. From there they should spend time creating revision resources per topic that convert the knowledge from their notes into a useable, easy to remember and testable format. This will usually mean creating resources such as flash cards, mind maps and summary sheets. As students start to feel their recall and understanding of the topics has improved, they should introduce past paper questions to test their knowledge. This will then transition into whole past papers as students close in on the exam dates to prepare them with the correct technique for exams under timed conditions.

Unit 3 and 7 are based on practical knowledge and techniques and issues In contemporary science ideas respectively. They have small specifications in terms of the knowledge required and have quite predictable and formulaic approaches to questions. As such the best method of revision for these is to complete past papers and to self-mark using the mark schemes. This teaches students the appropriate way to answers the styles of questions that frequently come up and provide better idea of how to apply the limited content to the questions. It is still important for students to revise the topic content that the exams base the questions on however this won't take long as it is only a small amount. The content should be approached in the same way as the unit 1 and unit 5 exams above.

Materials provided:

Digital applied science student textbook 1 & 2: available on teams – covers units 1,2,3,4,5,6,7,10,11 Digital applied science revision guide: available on teams – covers units 1,3,5 and 7 Past papers for units 1,3,5 & 7: available on teams

Assignment briefs and checklists for coursework units

Additional resources/websites:

Pearson website - <u>BTEC Nationals | Applied Science (2016) | Pearson qualifications</u> — This can be used to freely access all past papers that are over 2 years old.

How parent/carer can help:

Coursework – The most important way parents and carers can help out students is to remind them of their deadlines set and to proofread students work to check for grammar and spelling errors and help improve the readability of the work produced. Emails are sent home to parents and carers when coursework is set and includes the topic of the coursework as well as the date the work is due. Another email is sent when there are 5 days left until the course work is due. These are useful reminders that you can use to help ensure students are up to date.

Homework and exam revision: Parents and carers can again help out by checking that students are keeping up with deadlines set for homework and routinely checking in with them ahead of exams to ensure they're staying on track with their revision. We would also encourage where possible parents and carers to engage with students on their revision by helping by questioning them using flash cards or allowing students to teach them topics.

BIOLOGY

Qualification/Subject: A Level Biology

Exam Board: OCR A

Effective approaches to revision:

- Retrieval practice Students should be engaging in regular knowledge testing to ensure they
- Can recall key biological concepts, terminology and all the practical investigations.
- Knowledge needs to be detailed and cover all learning objectives.
- Keep it active and varied Students should ensure the time spent revising is productive by
- Completing activities with the material rather than just reading through information.
- Work on exam technique Students will be expected to apply their knowledge to unfamiliar contexts; therefore they need to practice answering questions, reviewing mark schemes and
- Examiner reports.

Materials provided:

- Students have a copy of the CGP textbook, their completed course module booklets, past paper question packs and all previous topic tests. They also have access to lesson resources and revision materials on their class Teams site.
- Students will be provided with a weekly revision schedule beginning in January which contains a
- Topic for revision from both Year 2 and Year I and past exam questions to complete.

Additional resources/websites:

- CGP have additional resources which are highly recommended by previous students and staff, such as the Exam Practise workbook, Revision question cards and Maths for Biology support book. A-Level Biology | CGP Books These can be bought from the IT helpdesk at college.
- -There are also lots of past papers and revision resources at OCR A-level Biology (A) Revision Physics & Maths Tutor (physicsandmathstutor.com)
- -Some students find Seneca useful <u>Free Homework & Revision for A Level, GCSE, KS3 & KS2</u> (<u>senecalearning.com</u>)

How parent/carer can help

- Help them develop a routine/system of where and when to revise check in with them, are they on track with the revision schedule?
- Knowledge testing at home to help your young person with retrieval practice. Encourage them to teach you explaining knowledge to someone else is the most effective way to learn.
- Support good daily routines, e.g. sleep, eating, breaks from revision etc.

BUSINESS - A LEVEL

Qualification/Subject: Business A Level

Exam Board: AQA

Effective approaches to revision

- Regular review of course notes / Leitner method / revision cards
- Guided revision sheets / mind maps
- Seneca / Quizlet
- Online content e.g., tutor2U, takingthebiz, twoteachers
- Planning and writing past questions.
- Quizzes and multiple choice
- Short answer questions (Interleaving questions)
- Self-testing / peer testing

Materials provided

- PowerPoints and resources on teams
- Blue numeracy booklet
- Note packs / course notes
- Student workbook
- AQA Textbook
- Model revision cards
- Glossary
- Formula sheet

Additional resources/websites

- www.tutor2U.net
- www.takingthebiz.com
- <u>www.twoteacherws.co.uk</u>
- CGP AQA Revision guide
- Model revision cards
- Essential Maths Skills for AS/A Level Business

How parent/carer can help

Support your young person as you feel appropriate and according to their needs.

This could involve motivation, showing an interest, testing, supporting health and well-being, daily routines.

BUSINESS – VOCATIONAL

Qualification/Subject: Year I Extended Diploma in Business

Exam Board: Pearson

Effective approaches to revision:

- For Unit 3, all assessment criteria are featured in the exam in some way. It is highly recommended for students to use their checklists to ensure they are confident with all material on the specification.
- Distributed practice Spreading out topics over a long period of time.
- Focus on quality over quantity Ensuring the time spent revising is productive and students are completing activities with the material rather than just reading through information.
- Retrieval practice Students should be engaging in regular knowledge testing to ensure they can recall key concepts & evidence.
- Applying to exam Practice planning and answering questions, reviewing mark schemes and examiner reports.

Materials provided:

- Learners will be provided with a revision schedule based on class needs.
- Students are directed to relevant revision videos from Tutor2U as part of regular Huish 30.
- Students have access to Kahoot quizzes (Tutor2U) as part of regular Huish 30.
- Students have access to online textbooks, lesson resources and revision materials.

Additional resources/websites:

- Tutor2U sell knowledge/study books for unit 3: <u>BTEC National Business Unit 3 Resources | Shop | Business | tutor2u</u>
- Two Teachers sell resource packs for unit 3: <u>Unit 3: Personal and Business Finance Premium</u>
 Resource Packs BTEC Business | Two Teachers
- TES sell resource packs for unit 3: <u>BTEC Level 3 Business Unit 3: Personal and Business Finance</u> Full Unit | Teaching Resources (tes.com)
- BeeBusinessBee provide free videos: <u>BTEC Business (Level 3 Nationals) Unit 3 Personal and Business Finance YouTube</u>
- Pearsons website has past paper questions, mark schemes and examiners comments, including some marked examples: BTEC Nationals | Business (2016) | Pearson qualifications

How parent/carer can help:

- Check in with your young person by asking about their revision plan develop a routine/system of accountability & praise
- Ensure any resources accessed online are UK based.
- Knowledge testing at home to help your young person with retrieval practice
- Support good daily routines, e.g. sleep, eating etc.

BUSINESS – VOCATIONAL

Qualification/Subject: Year 2 Extended Diploma in Business

Exam Board: BTEC Pearson

Effective approaches to revision:

- All classes use Microsoft Teams to share and organise work including Huish 30 and revision tasks.
 Students should use teams to stay up to date and organised with tasks. Unit 6 has a high volume of content, if students miss lessons e.g. due to illness, it is their responsibility to catch up with missed work on Teams.
- The Unit 6 exam is a controlled assessment with a focus on application of knowledge. Students will need to be fluent in management and leadership strategies and terminology and be confident in applying this to a business case study.
- Retrieval practice Students should be engaging in regular knowledge testing to ensure they can recall key concepts & evidence.
- Applying to exam Unit 6 requires a focussed approach to time management. Students should practice planning how to write a report and presentation. Use of past papers, mark schemes and examiner reports will support this. All of these will be shared on teams.

Materials provided:

- Students will be provided with regular Huish 30 tasks which will focus on recall of knowledge and application to case studies and exam style questions.
- Students have access to lesson resources and revision materials on the Teams page.
- Students have access to textbooks (book 2 chapter 6) with paperback copies in College as well as the online textbook link on teams.

Additional resources/websites:

- Tutor2U have free exam videos for unit 6: How to Structure the Report and Presentation | BTEC National Business Unit 6 (youtube.com) they also run live webinar sessions in the lead up to the exam. Students should follow the Tutor2U You Tube channel, links will also be posted on the teams page.
- The Chartered Institute of Personnel and Development have a range of videos, podcasts and quick to read factsheets that relate to unit 6 and can help students apply knowledge to real life businesses CIPD | The Professional Body for HR & People Development

How parent/carer can help:

- Check in with your young person by asking about their revision plan develop a routine/system of accountability & praise
- Encourage knowledge testing at home to help your young person with retrieval practice particularly management terminology.
- Support good daily routines, e.g. sleep, nutrition, hydration.

CHEMISTRY

Qualification/Subject: Chemistry

Exam Board: OCR A

Effective approaches to revision:

Revision should involve multiple strategies:

- Flashcards
- Mindmaps
- Summarising from notes/textbook
- Short questions/quizzes
- Completion of past paper questions.

Materials provided:

- Students can buy a textbook from Huish Shop.
- We also sell workbooks of questions and bundles of past paper questions.
- Students also have revision resources available on Moodle and Teams.

Additional resources/websites:

- AS and A Level Chemistry A H032, H432 OCR specification and past paper materials
- MaChemGuy YouTube specification linked videos and past paper walk-throughs
- OCR A-Level Chemistry Past Papers Study Mind topic linked past papers
- <u>Chemistry Revision PMT (physicsandmathstutor.com)</u> topic linked revision resources

How parent/carer can help

- Help students avoid distraction phone/gaming limits
- Motivation Rewards for completing tasks star chart!
- Encouragement and nurturing praise for cracking on with revision and the odd hot chocolate delivered to the desk!
- Let Chemistry teacher know if you are concerned we can help too.

CLASSICAL CIVILISATION

Qualification/Subject: Classical Civilisation A Level

Exam Board: OCR

Effective approaches to revision:

- Essay practice (timed/non-timed)
- Re-reading the texts
- Visual identification (Quizlets & flashcards)
- AOI quizzes

Materials provided

- Huish 30 booklet which contains revision guidance and all the past papers for all 3 units
- Moodle
- Teams

Additional resources/websites:

- · OCR textbooks available from the library and to buy
- YouTube videos

How parent/carer can help:

- Being quizmasters for quizzes and flashcards
- Encouraging re-reading and essay practice
- · Providing a quiet relaxed space to work in

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COMPUTER SCIENCE

Qualification/Subject: A Level Computer Science

Exam Board: AQA

Effective approaches to revision:

- Make useable notes then use them.
- Don't copy directly, rewrite notes and make sure you process and understand them.
- Complete past papers in exam conditions, then spend time marking them accurately, adding answers to flashcards and/or notes.
- Revise during the exam period and between exams.
- There is no 'too late' time to start revising.
- Use a mixture of resources such as textbook, revision workbooks, videos, your own notes, etc.
- Find a 'study buddy' that you can revise with.
- Make sure that you have studied the skeleton program; 20% of your final grade will be based on questions about the skeleton program and changes that you need to make to the program.
- How Do I Revise Computer Science? youtu.be/ky0Rc2V1rR8

Materials provided:

- Weekly revision materials are available in Moodle.
- SmartRevise has weekly revision tasks.
- Go back through previous topics in Moodle (redo quizzes to help identify gaps).
- Exam papers will be issued after Feb half term.

Additional resources/websites:

- AQA AS/A-level Computer Science Workbooks I & 2 available on Amazon, or via the college online shop for better than half price (limited number): store.huish.ac.uk/products/for-students/computer-science
- Memrise for terminology: app.memrise.com/community/course/1243673/aqa-a-level-computer-science-theory/
- SmartRevise: <u>smartrevise.online/</u>
- Physics and Maths Tutor: www.physicsandmathstutor.com/computer-science-revision/a-level-aqa/
- Isaac Computer Science: <u>isaaccomputerscience.org/login</u>
- JustALevel: www.youtube.com/@justalevel5639
- Specification: www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/computer-science-and-it/as-and-a-level/computer-science-7516-7517/subject-content-a-level

How parent/carer can help:

- Develop a rewards system e.g. I hour revision = 30 mins gaming
- Encourage students to follow a revision plan/timetable.
- Regular revision covering topic revision and past papers is the most effective.
- Student should be reminded to check that they understand all the points from the specification, use this as a 'checklist'.
- Closer to the exam, past paper practice is essential.

CRIMINOLOGY

Qualification/Subject: Applied Diploma in Criminology

Exam Board: WJEC

Effective approaches to revision:

- In Criminology, all assessment criteria are featured in the exam in some way. It is highly recommended for students to use their checklists to ensure they are confident with all material on the specification.
- Distributed practice Spreading out topics over a long period of time.
- Focus on quality over quantity Ensuring the time spent revising is productive and students are completing activities with the material rather than just reading through information.
- Retrieval practice Students should be engaging in regular knowledge testing to ensure they can recall key concepts & evidence.
- Applying to exam Practice planning and answering questions, reviewing mark schemes and examiner reports.

Materials provided:

- Learners will be provided with a weekly revision schedule which contains a topic for revision, revision tasks and at least one exam question to complete which will be due during their academic tutorial session for Criminology.
- Students have access to lesson resources and revision materials on the Criminology Teams site.
- Students have course booklets covering all assessed topics which contain exam questions for every assessment criteria.

Additional resources/websites:

- Tutor2U sell knowledge/study books for unit 2: <u>Student Workbooks and Revision Guides</u> | Criminology | tutor2u
- Tutor2U have free topic videos for unit 2: Topic Videos | Criminology | tutor2u
- Unit 4 activities: Unit 4 criminology revision Teaching resources (wordwall.net)
- WJEC Online Exam Review website has past paper questions, mark schemes and marked student exam answers: Home Page WJEC OER Website
- I Think Therefore I Teach YouTube channel contains videos of every assessment criteria on the Criminology specification: I Think Therefore I Teach YouTube

How parent/carer can help:

- Check in with your young person by asking about their revision plan develop a routine/system of accountability & praise
- Knowledge testing at home to help your young person with retrieval practice
- Support good daily routines, e.g. sleep, eating etc.

ECONOMICS

Qualification/Subject: A level Economics

Exam Board: AQA

Effective approaches to revision

- Learn definitions and diagrams (use Quizlet or flashcards)
- Learn theory in workbook (use Quizlet/ flashcards / Seneca / mindmaps)
- Watch videos and use blurting (Econplus Dal / Jacob Clifford)
- Practise essay planning (use Exam packs) back ward plan using exemplars
- Timed essays (both contexts and essays)

Materials provided:

- Workbooks for micro and macro economics
- Exam packs for each topic
- Context packs for micro and macro economics
- Exemplar essays on TEAMS
- AQA revision checklist on TEAMS for micro and macro economics

Additional resources/websites:

- Websites: tutor2u.net, Economicshelp.org
- Videos: Econplusdal.com, Youtube.co.uk for Jacob Clifford and Econplus Dal
- Revision guides: CGP Economics, texts in the Learning Centre e.g. C to A* Economics

How parent/carer can help:

Provide support as required for your young person e.g. discussion of the UK economy (interest rates, exchanges rates, unemployment, inflation) and the impact on households and firms, encouragement, timing of timed essays, cups of tea!!

EDUCATION & EARLY YEARS

Qualification/Subject: Education and Early Years

Exam Board: NCFE

Effective approaches to revision:

- Practice papers
- Organisation of notes
- Summarise content into suitable revision tool e.g. index cards, mind maps, songs, mnemonics

Materials provided:

- Textbooks
- Revision guide
- Revision workbook
- Instagram page
- Handouts
- Lessons on Teams

How parent/carer can help:

- Motivation
- Prompting
- Testing
- Communication with college if concerned
- Support good daily routines e.g. sleeping, eating, drinking water, taking regular breaks.

ENGLISH GCSE

Qualification/Subject: GCSE English Language

Exam Board: AQA

Effective approaches to revision:

- Reading as much material as possible: newspapers, magazines, essays, long form non-fiction, short stories, novels.
- Writing as much as possible: journalling, creative writing, opinion pieces.
- Practicing exam style questions, building up to completing tasks in the suggested exam timings.

Materials provided:

- Past papers are available on Teams.
- Students will be enrolled on Seneca Learning where they can complete online exercises to prepare for the exam.
- A wide range of further revision material is available on the course's Teams page.

Additional resources/websites:

- CGP sell a range of revision books to help students prepare for their exam GCSE English Language | CGP Books
- The BBC have a range of revision resources GCSE English Language AQA BBC Bitesize
- AQA have produced these videos to help students <u>Spotlight on GCSE English Language</u> (youtube.com)

How parent/carer can help:

- Check in with your young person ask them about their reading and writing practice.
- Check their Seneca page and help them to identify their strengths and weaknesses.
- Support a healthy diet and sleep routine.

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ENGLISH LANGUAGE

Qualification/Subject: A-Level English Language

Exam Board: OCR

Effective approaches to revision:

- Annotation of unseen data (lots of unseen data on Moodle & students can also train themselves
 to be 'paper makers' and find real world data to annotate (also lots of handouts in folders to
 work on)
- Timed written analysis (and a small amount of timed written journalistic writing)
- Self-marking using the supplied Assessment Objective mark schemes (in all unit booklets and available from staff)
- Peer review of all the above, working with mentor/ee and using material completed and selfmarked for Huish 30 in review with staff in Academic Tutoring

Materials provided:

- Huish produced booklet for EACH section of both exams
- OCR textbook (available from LC)
- Lots of unseen data on Moodle, our VLE

How parent/carer can help:

- Watch / discuss student doing annotation of unseen data under timed conditions
- Ask about the 'Language Levels' which are used in annotation
- Discuss timed writing with student and especially listen to them talk through and apply the mark schemes – they should be practiced self-markers by Easter
- Ask / discuss theories and concepts from the course students are told they only really know an
 idea if they can explain it to someone outside the course.

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ENGLISH LITERATURE

Qualification/Subject: A Level English Literature

Exam Board: EDUQAS (WJEC)

Effective approaches to revision:

- From the start of year two, term two students are encouraged to start their own revision of year one topics each week building up detailed spider-grams/charts of important quotations to learn but *focused* on addressing a theme/motif in the texts.
- Revision activities and practice essays / plans / questions are best completed when targeted on key areas, scenes, text details and poems and remain 'bite size' using focused tasks each week.
- Course handouts and booklets contain extra questions / ideas and themes to revise
- Students can test their knowledge and understanding by *thematic* planning of questions / completion of revision charts (focused on the appropriate skills of detailed literary analysis and comparison / contrast of texts)
- Students should revise important contexts and critical views, learning those with which they can best support their arguments.
- Use regular individual as well as class practice at answering exam essay questions, reviewing mark schemes and discussing / using examiner reports.

Materials provided:

- Students will be encouraged to revise year one material alongside year two material in their final two terms and given extra teacher support where necessary.
- All students will complete in-class revision beginning after the syllabus content is completed at Easter. All components will be revised, with timed and out-of-class practice exam questions to complete.
- Students have access to bespoke lesson and revision materials on Teams
- All component-focused course booklets offer extension / revision exercises and essay questions to practise.

Additional resources/websites:

- Exam board has many interactive and student-focused resources and 'knowledge organisers' -<u>Eduqas Digital Educational Resources</u>
- For interactive support on <u>The Tempest</u> from the RSC: <u>https://www.rsc.org.uk/shakespeare-learning-zone/the-tempest</u> and <u>https://www.rsc.org.uk/the-tempest</u>
- The Guardian has good quality and well-regarded play reviews of Betrayal (for example Betrayal (for example Betrayal review: Pinter's love triangle offers fresh pleasures and shorter pauses | Theatre | The Guardian Betrayal review Hiddleston is superb in haunting drama of deception | Theatre | The Guardian A week in radio: Harold Pinter's Betrayal | Harold Pinter | The Guardian) and Lady Windermere's Fan review Saunders simmers at Wilde's West End party | Theatre | The Guardian | Lady Windermere's Fan | Theatre | The Guardian) to develop critical and contextual details.
- Poetry extras: Blake https://bq.blakearchive.org/48.2.toc
- Hughes and Plath BBC documentary <u>Ted Hughes: Stronger Than Death (youtube.com)</u>
- [A very wide-ranging literary features glossary: https://yale.learningu.org/download/f10e0a0e-1866-4958-9058-11e84f35ad24/H2976 APEngLangGlossary.pdf 1
- The British Library Discovering Literature section on its website is when available a superb extra resource

How parent/carer can help:

- Help your young person by showing interest in their revision and offer help with self-testing / discussing texts / reading practice essays.
- Support good daily routines, e.g. sleep, eating, regular breaks and avoidance of 'cramming' sessions.

ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE

Qualification/Subject: A Level Environmental Science

Exam Board: AQA

Effective approaches to revision:

- This is an applied science so in order to understand how to apply lesson theory past paper question practice is vital;
- The course content is very large so creating interactive flashcards with questions on one side and answers on the back is a great way of learning key terms, definitions and concepts;
- Spider diagrams are a great way to summarise and revise key areas of content;
- Creating essay plans for past paper titles is a very useful technique use your textbook and lesson notes to help with this.

Materials provided:

- All students have their own copy of the AQA endorsed textbook written by the ex-chief examiner this is an excellent starting point for revision
- Year 2 students are given a weekly revision schedule in early December which takes them through the whole of the year 1 course content
- Lesson PowerPoints and past papers can be found on the Moodle site
- Year 2 students receive a maths skills revision booklet at the beginning of Year 2
- Year 2 students receive a final revision pack in March. This contains various activities, past papers questions and revision advice

Additional resources/websites:

• The AQA subject website contains the most recent past papers, a subject glossary and examiner reports.

How parent/carer can help:

- Test your son/daughter on subject content use the exam textbook or their flash cards
- Check and ensure they are up to date and following the year I content revision schedule
- Ensure they are not doing more than 8 hours paid work per week.

FRENCH

Qualification/Subject: A Level French

Exam Board: AQA

Effective approaches to revision:

- Revision of content from Kerboodle online textbook
- Past papers AQA website and Teams
- Using Memrise/Quizlet for key topic vocabulary
- Submitting practice essays/essay plans

Materials provided:

- Kerboodle online textbook
- Topic booklets
- Grammar book
- Practice exam questions

Additional resources/websites:

- Home Page | | Conjuguemos
- Seneca learning: Seneca | A Level French Online Learning (senecalearning.com)
- languages online

How parent/carer can help:

- Support good daily routines, e.g. sleep, eating etc.
- Test your young person using the revision materials they have produced.
- Encourage your young person to practise speaking French with a fellow student.

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GEOGRAPHY

Qualification/Subject: A level Geography

Exam Board: EDUQAS

Effective approaches to revision:

- I-hour blocks with 10-minute breaks work well but also mix up strategies / techniques to keep it interesting.
- In geography there are 4 main activities: learning key terms and definitions of them; learning key information about case studies; learning the key concepts and ideas for each module and practising planning and answering exam questions.
- There are 3 styles of question part a questions which you can't revise for, you can only
 practise them. Part b's are very focused on small topics and so revision is key here. Essays come
 in a range of lengths from 15 45 marks and this is where case studies and overall knowledge
 will be crucial.

Materials provided:

- Induction booklet and 7 module booklets, one per topic
- Past exam papers (on teams)
- NikkiGeog you tube channel (452) Nikki Geog YouTube
- Academic tutoring used each week for revision
- Revision sessions on Tuesday evenings (online) and Thursday lunchtimes (B21) from January onwards.
- Suggested revision activities, quizzes, and a revision plan if you don't make you own, all on teams.

Additional resources/websites:

- My Revision Notes: WJEC AS/A-level Geography 978-1510447684
- Any of these <u>WJEC/Eduqas AS/A-level Geography Student Guides [Hodder]</u> (redkiteresources.co.uk)
- Snap revise you tube channel <u>SnapRevise: The Ultimate A-level Geography Resource</u> (youtube.com)

How parent/carer can help:

- Enforce the message that some revision is better than none
- Encourage them to ask for help and not to struggle in silence
- Testing them on case studies and key terms if you are willing and able

GEOLOGY

Qualification/Subject: A level Geology

Exam Board: EDUQAS

Effective approaches to revision:

- I-hour blocks with 10-minute breaks
- Do not just copy learners must convert the information e.g. from text to academic doodles or diagrams and vice versa - mix up strategies / techniques
- In geology there are 4 main activities: learning key terms and definitions of them; learning key concepts; being able to interpret resources such as diagrams, graphs, charts, images, rocks and minerals and practising and answering exam questions.

Materials provided:

- Class booklets and worksheets class notes
- Past exam papers provided weekly from Feb half term
- Retrieval in class used each week for revision
- There are practical sessions being run on Tue or Thurs (repeated session) throughout the spring and summer term details of these are on the students Team page.

Additional resources/websites:

- Geopix guides On Teams
- Revision cards On Teams
- Textbook all students have I
- geology@ Cowbridge YouTube site is brilliant Geologyat Cowbridge YouTube
- Quizlet excellent for testing knowledge

How parent/carer can help:

- Enforce the message that some revision is better than none!
- Encourage them to ask for help and not to struggle in silence
- Testing them on content and key terms if you are willing and able. Use the revision cards to do this.
- Ensure revision is focused ask your child to leave their phone in another room
- Encourage learners to treat college time as a job rather than late night working

GERMAN

Qualification/Subject: A Level German

Exam Board: AQA

Effective approaches to revision:

- Revision of content from Kerboodle online text book
- Past papers AQA website and Teams
- Using Memrise/Quizlet for key topic vocabulary
- Submitting practice essays/essay plans

Materials provided:

- Kerboodle online text book
- Oral booklet
- Topic booklets
- Grammar book
- Practice exam questions

Additional resources/websites:

- Home Page || Conjuguemos
- News and current affairs from Germany and around the world DW
- languages online

How parent/carer can help:

- Support good daily routines, e.g. sleep, eating etc.
- Test your young person using the revision materials they have produced.
- Encourage your young person to practise speaking German with a fellow student.

HEALTH & SOCIAL CARE

Qualification/Subject: Health and Social Care

Year 1: Unit 2 Working in Health and Social Care (90mins)

Year 2: Unit 4 Enquiries into Current Research in Health and Social Care (3hrs)

Exam Board: Pearson

Effective approaches to revision:

Year I:

- Practice papers
- Organisation of notes
- Create revision tools by summarising notes e.g. mind maps, flash cards
- Use lessons on Teams and complete all activities and Huish30 work as set by teaching staff

Year 2:

- Learn and revise content for Activities I and 4
- Create revision tools for Activities I and 4 by summarising note e.g. mind maps, flash cards
- Once pre-release material has been received, practice structuring Activity I and allow 40mins to write essay as a mock
- Use lessons on Teams and complete all activities and Huish30 work as set by teaching staff

Materials provided:

- Student textbook Available from the Learning Centre
- Lessons on Teams
- Past papers on Teams

Additional resources/websites:

Revision guides and workbooks available from Amazon

Pearson REVISE BTEC National Health and Social Care Revision Guide inc online edition - for 2025 exams: Baker, Brenda, O'Leary, James, Whitehouse, Marie, Shaw, Georgina: Amazon.co.uk: Books

BTEC National Health and Social Care Revision Workbook: Second edition (REVISE BTEC Nationals in Health and Social Care) (Pearson Revise): Shaw, Georgina: Amazon.co.uk: Books

Flash Cards available for Unit 2 from Tutor2U

Unit 2 Revision Question Cards for BTEC National Health & Social Care | Shop | tutor2u

Knowledge book available for Unit 2 from Tutor2U

Unit 2 Knowledge Book for BTEC National in Health & Social Care | Shop | tutor2u

How parent/carer can help:

- Motivating and prompting study time for revision
- Monitoring attendance at college
- Encouraging good sleeping habits, healthy eating, drinking water etc
- Ensuring regular breaks from studying
- Testing
- Communicating with college if concerned

HISTORY

Qualification/Subject: A Level History

Exam Board: AQA

Effective approaches to revision

Content Revision Techniques:

- Utilise Cornell notes for structured notetaking.
- Employ flashcards to memorize key facts and dates.
- Create mind maps to connect historical events and concepts.
- Use timelines for visual representation of chronological events.

Self-Testing:

- Conduct self-testing individually or with assistance from friends or family.
- Self-testing reinforces learning and identifies areas needing more focus.

Application Through Practice:

- Practice with past paper questions to familiarise with exam format and style.
- Applying knowledge in past paper questions enhances understanding and effective use.

Overall Strategy:

• Thorough preparation for A-level History exams through a mix of revision techniques and practical application.

Materials provided:

Classroom Handouts:

- Summarise essential points of each topic.
- Contain critical dates, important figures, significant events, and key concepts.
- Regular review is crucial for understanding and retention.

Lesson PowerPoints:

- Provide a comprehensive overview of historical events and themes.
- Include detailed explanations and visual aids like maps, timelines, and images.
- Aids are useful for visualising and understanding different historical periods.

Engagement with Materials:

- Actively take detailed notes and highlight important information.
- Create additional revision aids, such as summaries or flashcards.

Additional resources/websites:

Oxford AQA textbooks & My Revision notes books, both available on Amazon.

How parent/carer can help

Support Good Daily Routines:

- Ensure the student maintains a regular sleep schedule for memory retention and cognitive function.
- Encourage a balanced diet to keep the brain and body energized and focused.
- Promote healthy eating habits for improved concentration and well-being during study periods.

Test Using Revision Materials:

- Engage in the revision process by testing the student with their own revision materials.
- Use flashcards, mind maps, timelines, and Cornell notes for testing.
- Helps in reinforcing learning and identifying areas needing more attention.

Qualification/Subject: BTEC IT Certificate

Exam Board: Pearson

Effective approaches to revision:

The best way for this assessment is to use past papers and examiner reports. For Unit 2 students should practice the work on Teams for each database activity.

Materials provided:

Existing past papers. Examiner reports. Notes/Research – all on Teams.

Additional resources/websites

For Unit 2 Tutorials are available online for MS Access. Various.

How parent/carer can help

For Unit 2 you could check that the student has been completing the exercises on Teams.

Qualification/Subject: BTEC IT Extended Diploma

Exam Board: Pearson

Effective approaches to revision:

The best way for this assessment is to use past papers and examiner reports. On top of this students should have already researched a wide variety of software, hardware, codes of practice and legal issues surrounding the given scenario.

Materials provided:

All on Teams:

- Pre-release.
- Existing past papers.
- Examiner reports.
- Notes/Research

Additional resources/websites:

Many online – job/career websites; companies selling particular hardware/software. Government website covering legal IT issues.

How parent/carer can help:

You could check that the lists of software, hardware, codes of practice and legal issues surrounding the given scenario have been completed.

Qualification/Subject: BTEC IT Extended Certificate

Exam Board: Pearson

Effective approaches to revision:

For Unit 1 students should complete all past papers and have this marked by the teacher, themselves or a peer (or all 3).

Materials provided:

Existing past papers. Examiner reports. Notes/Research – all on Teams.

Additional resources/websites:

All resources listed on Teams.

How parent/carer can help:

For Unit I you could act as a marker – the mark schemes are available, and students are instructed 'if it is not on the mark scheme, no mark!'. So you could check their work – words different, no mark.

For Unit I you could also check their understanding of any flash cards/mind maps that they have made – you could ask them a key term and see if they can remember <u>exactly</u> what they have written.

Qualification/Subject: BTEC IT Foundation Diploma

Exam Board: Pearson

Effective approaches to revision:

The best way for this assessment is to use past papers and examiner reports. For Unit 2 students should practice the work on Teams for each database activity.

For Unit 1 students should complete all past papers and have this marked by the teacher, themselves or a peer (or all 3).

Materials provided:

All on Teams: Existing past papers. Examiner reports. Notes/Research.

Additional resources/websites:

For Unit 2 Tutorials are available online for MS Access. Various.

How parent/carer can help:

For Unit 2 you could check that the student has been completing the exercises on Teams.

For Unit I you could act as a marker – the mark schemes are available, and students are instructed 'if it is not on the mark scheme, no mark!'. So, you could check their work – words different, no mark.

For Unit I you could also check their understanding of any flash cards/mind maps that they have made - you could ask them a key term and see if they can remember exactly what they have written.

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LAW

Qualification/Subject: A Level Law

Exam Board: AQA

Effective approaches to revision

- Created meaningful notes, in a clear & concise format, for each topic.
- Students should ensure they have a 'template' problem question structure for each topic. They should assess knowledge by writing these from memory repetition is key to aid memory recall! Structure booklets should have been annotated with exam tips as we delivered the materials.
- Access past papers, examiner's reports, mark schemes and sample answers on Teams. There are past
 papers on the AQA website, back of every topic booklet, & on Flipped Law
- Other revision materials include mind maps, flashcards, flowcharts, revision blasts, peer revision.
- Use STATE, EXPLAIN and APPLY! Be accurate, clear and be concise in your answers.

Materials provided

- Topic booklets with legal content & note packs for each topic a summary of the topic.
- Content PPTs for each topic which contain exam tips and hints
- Structure packages for each paper and Q9 model answer booklet
- Practise papers and questions with mark schemes and with sample 'A grade' answers
- Revision clinics for each paper & 'Final hints and tips' guidance before each paper
- Revision booklets for law 1,2,3 (issued at end of content)
- Tutoring programme offer to all U6 in academic year 2023/24 and ongoing academic tutoring
- Free access to the online AQA approved year I & 2 textbook and revision guide

Additional resources/websites:

- Students have unlimited access to Flipped Law with content videos for each topic, worksheet and scenarios answers can be requested from teacher https://www.flippedlaw.com
- Revision help and guidance from tutor2u https://www.tutor2u.net/law this also contains a grade booster programme which students can purchase
- The Law Teacher you tube tutorials on content and application. https://youtube.com/@thelawteacher5724?si=Fensh6tTP3G2p4y8
- AQA past papers https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/law/a-level/law-7162
- Podcasts Law in Action https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b006tgy1/episodes/downloads and University of https://www.law.ac.uk/resources/podcasts/
- University of Law (UOL) & Flipped law exam revision sessions 2023/24 (book via UOL)

How parent/carer can help:

- Case test with your child. Students should have flashcards or a case sheet test them on the case names and the legal principles.
- Ask your child to explain the law to you on a given topic
- Test your child on the structures for each topic and help your child learn the Q9 model answers
- Time your child when doing timed questions (I mark per minute for QI-9 then 40 mins for QI0/II
- Purchase a cheap whiteboard to allow you child to quickly recall the law
- Help your child stick to a revision timetable including ensure you child is free from distractions
- With your child ask them to highlight the key messages from the examiner in exam reports then get them to explain this to you in one sentence
- Make a note of the exam dates and time! You can check these under exam entries on the hub. Ask
 your child to show you this! Ensure your child is equipment ready for the law exams! Black pens,
 highlighters and water are essential on the day!
- Most importantly! Reassure your child! If they have done the Huish 30, practised and learnt the law
 they will be fine in the exam! Your reassurance of this is vital!

MATHEMATICS AND FURTHER MATHS

Qualification/Subject: A Level Mathematics

Exam Board: AQA

Effective approaches to revision:

- Topic revision which includes writing condensed notes, watching online tutorials and completing textbook exercises and topic revision packs.
- Completing past papers, marking it, and reviewing topics or questions that were a challenge.

Materials provided:

- A revision timetable, topic revision packs with tutorial links.
- Past papers and mark schemes.

Additional resources/websites:

- For online tutorials: www.examsolutions.net & www.tlmaths.com
- For past papers and exam questions with model answers: <u>www.physicsandmathstutor.com</u>
- Students have a log in for: www.mymaths.co.uk
- Textbooks: <u>www.kerboodle.com</u> & <u>Cambridge GO</u>

How parent/carer can help:

Encourage students to follow a revision plan/timetable. Regular revision covering topic revision and past papers is the most effective. Closer to the exam, past paper practice is essential. If students are spending too long on a question or topic, encourage them to ask their teacher for help.

Qualification/Subject: A Level Further Mathematics

Exam Board: AQA

Effective approaches to revision:

- Topic revision which includes writing condensed notes, watching online tutorials and completing textbook exercises and topic revision packs.
- Completing past papers, marking it, and reviewing topics or questions that were a challenge.

Materials provided:

- A revision timetable, topic revision packs with tutorial links.
- Past papers and mark schemes.

Additional resources/websites:

- For online tutorials: www.examsolutions.net, www.tlmaths.com & Revisely | Al-Powered Learning Resources
- For past papers and exam questions with model answers: www.physicsandmathstutor.com
- Textbooks: www.kerboodle.com & Cambridge GO

How parent/carer can help:

Encourage students to follow a revision plan/timetable. Regular revision covering topic revision and past papers is the most effective. Closer to the exam, past paper practice is essential. If students are spending too long on a question or topic, encourage them to ask their teacher for help.

MATHS (Core)

Qualification/Subject: Core Maths

Exam Board: OCR

Effective approaches to revision:

- Use the front cover of each pack as a revision guide, add own notes and examples.
- Complete all Section Tests on https://integralmaths.org/
- Try Past Papers, check solutions, make corrections. Try revision quizzes available on Teams.

Materials provided:

- Handout for each topic (15 packs)
- Revise Core Maths Teams site.
- Past Papers, quizzes, mark schemes, video solutions, etc available on Teams.
 Prior learning, GCSE content required, available on Teams.
 Integralmaths.org has learning activities, quizzes and Section Tests.

Additional resources/websites:

OCR Textbook for Core Maths available to borrow from the Huish LC. We are studying Core Maths A (only the first two of the three parts in this textbook).

How parent/carer can help:

- Monitor completion of assignments on Teams.
- Direct learner towards available resources.
- Help learner to schedule time in their week to work on Core Maths revision/assignments.
- Encourage learner to communicate with teacher via Teams chat/email when needed.

MATHS GCSE

Qualification/Subject: GCSE Mathematics

Exam Board: Pearson Edexcel

Effective approaches to revision:

- Work on identified weaknesses rather than strengths.
- If you sat the November re-sit paper, use your top 10 weaknesses list.
- Revise for 20-minute blocks.
- Test yourself on exam style questions.
- DO NOT just read notes, watch videos on topics or read exam solutions.

Materials provided:

- From February, students will have exam question booklets to complete each week.
- All booklets and solutions are available on Teams.
- All topics covered in class have "I can" assessment sheets available on Teams.
- All class questions and notes are available on OneNote, via Teams

Additional resources/websites:

- Exam style questions listed by grade: www.mathsgenie.co.uk/gcse.html
- Exam papers with video solutions: www.mathsgenie.co.uk/papers.html
- Practise paper covering every topic once: <u>A Bit of Everything Edexcel Foundation</u> (corbettmaths.com)

How parent/carer can help:

- Check in with your young person by asking about their revision plan develop a routine/system of accountability & praise.
- Knowledge testing at home to help your young person with retrieval practice.
- Support good daily routines, e.g. sleep, eating, etc.

MUSIC

Qualification/Subject: Music AS/A level (Year I)

Exam Board: Eduqas

Effective approaches to revision:

- Instrument practice
 - Composition exercises
- Essay writing
- Listening to Areas of Study/ wider repertoire whilst learning facts about each set work/style
- · Auralia theory and listening exercises
- Mindmaps timelines

Materials provided:

Textbook, practice essays and listening tests, Auralia access

Additional resources/websites:

Teams folders on all parts of the course, YouTube playlists, Listening links document

How parent/carer can help:

Encourage musicians to work on all areas, not just their strengths! 'Keep all the plates spinning' for performance, composition and appraising /listening exam.

Qualification/Subject: Music A level (Year 2)

Exam Board: Edexcel

Effective approaches to revision:

- Instrument practice Composition exercises
- Essay writing
- Listening to set works/ wider repertoire whilst learning facts about each set work
- Mindmaps podcasts timelines

Materials provided:

Textbook, practice essay questions and composing exercises, listening tests

Additional resources/websites :

Teams, Moodle, YouTube playlists

How parent/carer can help

Encourage musicians to work on all areas, not just their strengths! 'Keep all the plates spinning' for performance, composition and appraising /listening exam.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Qualification/Subject: A Level PE

Exam Board: OCR

Effective approaches to revision:

- Traffic light/RAG rate notes To prioritise those areas most in need of attention (Green = quick scan over; Amber = more time required, perhaps use of Ever Learner/Textbook/Student Lunchtime Support Sessions; Red = I NEED HELP! Come and speak with a member of staff)
- Create a plan using the dates of the exams prioritise C1 first (but keep C2 and C3 ticking over), then once that first exam is over, prioritise C2 (keep C3 ticking over) and then finally focus all on C3 after C2 exam
- Create flash cards/posters/Quizlets for quick recall of information
- Involve parents, e.g. Q&A; teach parents topics, dinner table spot tests, etc.
- Everything must then be tested 'Do you know what you think you know?' à the only way this can be done is through PPQ RAM work (Past Paper Questions Read, Answer, Mark)

Materials provided:

- Ever Learner online learning platform
- E-textbook (in Teams)/hard copies in LC
- Hard copies of all past papers (in classrooms)
- Electronic copies of all past papers and mark schemes (Teams/OCR website)
- 3x Theory Specifications with RAG rating lists included (given at start of year and in H204)
- Topic on a Page Posters (in Teams)
- OCR PowerPoints (Teams)
- All lesson PPTs (Teams

Additional resources/websites:

- Ever Learner
- YouTube lames Morris
- OCR Website specifications, glossary of terms, past papers, etc.
- Access to lunchtime mentor support sessions
- Access to Year I lessons to revise Year I topics

How parent/carer can help:

Ask to see evidence of what revision is taking place/what the plan is – all students are different so there is no 'one size fits all' but the crucial thing is to test themselves using the available past papers and mark schemes – for example, the best way to pass the driving test is for students to practice driving the actual test route, not just sitting down reading notes about it, or watching a video, or discussing it – although these things are useful the most useful thing is practicing the actual test!

Be part of the revision, if this helps — lots of PE students like more active methods, and teaching somebody else about a topic is a great way to do this, especially if they also give you some notes or key words to look out for/teach it to you so you understand!

PHYSICS

Qualification/Subject: A Level Physics

Exam Board: AQA

Effective approaches to revision:

- Using the revision guide provided covering topics over an 18-week schedule leading up to the exams.
- Focus on quality over quantity Ensuring the time spent revising is productive and students are completing activities with the material rather than just reading through information.
- Retrieval practice Students should be engaging in regular knowledge testing by doing past paper questions.
- Applying to exam Practice planning and answering questions, reviewing mark schemes and examiner reports.

Materials provided:

- Learners have been provided with a weekly revision schedule beginning in January which contains a topic for revision, revision tasks and at exam questions to complete.
- Students have unit booklets covering all assessed topics and a course textbook.
- Practice questions will be done during their academic tutorial session for Physics.
- Students have a login to Alevelphysicsonline.com that has revision clips for each topic.

Additional resources/websites:

- Key websites for questions and resources: Kerboodle, Isaac Physics and Moodle
- https://www.alevelphysicsonline.com/ (Online videos, email: physics@richuish.ac.uk password: einstein)
- https://www.physicsandmathstutor.com/physics-revision/a-level-aqa/ (source of past paper questions by topic with mark schemes and model answers)
- http://ebookcentral.proquest.com/lib/richuish-ebooks/detail.action?docID=4827640 (link to Practical Physics ecopy version by Hodder)
- http://www.cyberphysics.co.uk/key_stage/KS5.htm (source of past paper questions by topic with mark schemes and model answers)

How parent/carer can help:

- Encourage your young person to upload revision work to One Note as they follow the revision plan develop a routine/system of accountability & praise
- Encourage them to prepare effectively for mock papers (as listed in the revision schedule).
- Knowledge testing at home to help your young person with retrieval practice.
- Support good daily routines, e.g. sleep, eating etc.

POLITICS

Qualification/Subject: A Level Politics

Exam Board: AQA

Effective approaches to revision:

- Topic Maps/ Flash cards/ Essay planning using past questions are all useful methods.
- Making detailed plans of possible 9-mark questions for as much of the specification as possible has been found to have been very effective in the past. These will all follow the same format: Explain and Analyse 3...
- Students need to select main points, find examples to support and consider points of analysis inn detail. This is active revision, and it also helps to apply and streamline the volume of specific supporting detail needed for this subject.

Materials provided:

- Revision Booklet with specification breakdown and past questions. (Papers 1 and 2)
- Course booklets for each topic
- Electronic Textbooks (Hodder and My Revision Notes) accessed via the class TEAMS site.

Additional resources/websites:

- Websites: https://www.prechewedpolitics.co.uk/ (topic videos/ subscription learning platform)
- <u>Politics | Politics | tutor2u</u> (good for topic summaries/ do not use for exam technique as affiliated to different exam board)
- A Level Politics: Unlock your A* potential Study Politics (individual subscription required)

How parent/carer can help:

Please encourage your young person to keep up to date with the news and make a note of any relevant stories.

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PHILOSOPHY, RELIGION & ETHICS

Qualification/Subject: A Level Religious Studies

Exam Board: OCR

Effective approaches to revision:

- Flashcards, mind maps, Cornell notes these will help consolidate key knowledge (Assessment Objective I)
- Exam question practice this will help with practicing evaluation (Assessment Objective 2). Pick an exam question (all on Teams), then set a timer for 40 mins (50 with extra time) and try the question. Use the mark scheme (also all on Teams) to check answers against suggestions from the exam board.
- I recommend the pomodoro method of 25mins revision, then a 5-minute break repeated a few times. This stops the revision becoming overwhelming and breaks it into manageable chunks of time. There are apps that will help with this (e.g. ones that 'grow a tree' if you don't touch your phone) or just set a phone timer then don't touch it!
- Don't forget the basics sleep, healthy food, exercise. Self-care is important in revision time!

Materials provided:

- Exam questions, mark schemes, examiners reports and sample answers in the class materials section on Teams
- Students have been given booklets containing extensive information on all topics (like textbooks). These are also on Teams.
- All lessons are on Teams in folders to help with missed lessons and consolidation activities
- Students have been given a personal learning checklist covering the whole course. This will help with organisation and revision planning.
- There is a folder in class materials on Teams with revision materials. This has a lot of different approaches to revision

Additional resources/websites:

- 'I think therefore I teach' on YouTube this is a teacher of OCR Philosophy and Ethics. She explains each of the topics really clearly and has uploaded revision videos
- The Panpsycast podcast is excellent and covers all the elements of the specification often with specific reference to OCR. It is on all podcast platforms, or on their own website.
- There are many online sites with revision materials and videos. Make they are OCR A level rather than one of the other exam boards

How parent/carer can help:

- Reminding students to check Teams for revision ideas and Huish 30 tasks
- If they are not sure where to start with their revision tasks, suggest they use their personal learning checklists that summarise the whole course and give places to tick when they have notes, when they have made revision resources, and when they have completed an exam question.
- Encourage students to use pomodoro techniques. Even one cycle of 25 minutes and a 5-minute break is better than nothing. They may then be motivated to do more.
- Ask them questions about the content of their revision. Students having to teach someone will help them understand the concepts more themselves.

PSYCHOLOGY

Qualification/Subject: A Level Psychology

Exam Board: AQA

Effective approaches to revision:

Routine: Revision needs to be regular and in manageable chunks. A routine will also ensure that the topics have been spaced ensuring that the specification has been covered as well as opportunities for spaced retrieval and opportunities to revisit content that requires further attention.

Retrieval: There are many effective ways to revise but it is important that the methods used balance content and skills and involve active engagement with the material rather than just passively reading, highlighting etc. The Psychology 'Power Hour' combines a range of techniques including blurting, recall and testing. There are some useful resources available for this including Anki Flashcards, Seneca, Psychboost which use active recall testing and spaced repetition. Research Methods should always be revised and practiced, it is worth a third of the marks in A Level Psychology.

Recall: Practice questions are integral to revision, this allows students to revise content as well as practice exam technique. A range of questions under timed conditions is recommended. Students should ensure they are practicing longer extended essay questions too as these are worth 16 marks.

Review: Students should access mark schemes and examiners reports to make corrections and amend answers, research shows that this is an effective part of the learning process as correcting mistakes requires deeper processing of the material.

Rate: It is important for students to reflect on how confident they are with the material following revision, some areas require further attention and therefore should be revisited at regular intervals, others require less focus. Rating topics allows students to identify what material is already in the long-term memory and will ensure more time can be focused on areas which require further rehearsal.

Materials provided: Revision schedule, unit booklets, support booklets, A3 summary sheets & a range of resources on Teams

Additional resources/websites

- Past Paper Questions: <u>AQA A-level Psychology Revision PMT (physicsandmathstutor.com)</u> &
- AQA | AS and A-level | Psychology | Assessment resources
- Revision Videos: Psych Boost YouTube & ThePsychWizard YouTube
- Study Notes: <u>AQA A-level Psychology Revision PMT (physicsandmathstutor.com)</u> & <u>Psychology | tutor2u</u>
- Online Courses: AQA A-Level Psychology Research Methods Catch Up | tutor2u

How parent/carer can help:

Encourage regular study habits: Help establish a consistent study routine and remind students that they have a revision schedule they can follow.

Discuss psychological concepts: An effective way to learn is to teach someone else! Help with testing or have conversations about topics from the syllabus.

Connect with teachers: Contact your young person's psychology teacher if you would like any specific information or feedback on how to support your young person.

Support with resources: Encourage your young person to engage with the resources they have available to them on Teams and their booklets. There is no requirement to purchase a revision guide but if you would like to provide further resources get in touch with your young person's teacher who can recommend resources specific to the individual needs of the student.

Support with a study environment: Help your young person to study in a productive environment free from distractions, there are some good apps for procrastination, we like Flora Green Focus if their phone is a source of distraction!

SOCIOLOGY

Qualification/Subject: A Level Sociology

Exam Board: AQA

Effective approaches to revision:

- Distributed practice Spreading out topics over a long period of time.
- Focus on quality over quantity Ensuring the time spent revising is productive and students are completing activities with the material rather than just reading through information.
- Retrieval practice Students should be engaging in regular knowledge testing to ensure they can recall key sociological concepts, evidence & theories.
- Applying to exam Practice planning and answering questions, reviewing mark schemes and examiner reports.

Materials provided:

- Learners will be provided with a weekly revision schedule beginning in March which contains a
 topic for revision, revision tasks and at least one exam question to complete which will be due
 during their academic tutorial session for Sociology. During this session, your young person will
 receive feedback and review model answers to guide their own technique.
- Students have access to topic companions, lesson resources and revision materials on the Year
 2 Sociology Teams site.
- Students have course booklets covering all assessed topics.

Additional resources/websites:

- Past paper questions: <u>AQA | AS and A-level | Sociology | Assessment resources</u>
- Tutor2U sell revision cards & exam skills workbooks which are highly recommended by previous students and staff: Shop | Sociology | tutor2u
- Tutor2U also offer a grade booster course which is self-directed: <u>AQA A-Level Sociology</u>
 <u>Grade Booster | tutor2u</u>
- Tutor2U also offer free revision videos: <u>Topic Videos | Sociology | tutor2u</u>

How parent/carer can help:

- Check in with your young person by asking about their revision schedule. We have developed the schedule for them. The students need to develop a routine/system that allows them to stick to the plan develop a system of accountability & praise.
- Knowledge testing at home to help your young person with retrieval practice.
- Support good daily routines, e.g. sleep, eating etc.
- Contact your young person's Sociology teacher if you would like any specific information or feedback on how to support your young person.

SPANISH

Qualification/Subject: A Level Spanish

Exam Board: AQA

Effective approaches to revision:

- Revision of content from Kerboodle interactive activities
- Past papers AQA website and Teams
- Using Memrise/Quizlet for key topic vocabulary
- Submitting practice essays/essay plans

Materials provided:

- Students have access to topic companions, lesson resources and revision materials on the Year
 2 Spanish Teams site.
- Kerboodle, eBook access for the film Laberinto del Fauno and the book La casa de Bernarda Alba.
- One to one weekly speaking sessions with a Foreign Language Assistant.
- Students have course booklets covering all assessed topics and grammar.
- Learners will be provided with booklets of Year I topics with revision tasks, exam questions and translations.

Additional resources/websites:

- SpanishDict.com
- Conjuguemos.com
- Seneca learning
- Languagesonline.com
- Listen to Spanish songs on Spotify, watching Spanish TV series and films on Netflix, Amazon Prime.

How parent/carer can help:

- Check in with your young person by asking about their revision plan develop a routine/system
 of accountability & praise
- Encourage your young person to practise speaking Spanish with a fellow student.
- Knowledge testing of the topics at home to help your young person with retrieval practice, it can be in English.
- Asking questions in English about their Individual Research Project.
- Support good daily routines, e.g. sleep, eating etc.

SPORT

Qualification/Subject: Extended Diploma in Sport Year I

Exam Board: Pearson

Effective approaches to revision:

- Start early! Spread out topics over time and revisit them.
- Create mind maps, revision cards and post its and test your knowledge.
- Avoid just re-reading notes and instead practice planning and answering questions, reviewing mark schemes and examiner reports.

Materials provided:

- Past papers, mark schemes, examiner reports and other resources are available on Teams
- The electronic textbook: ProQuest Ebook Central Reader

Additional resources/websites:

There is a revision guide that covers both exams available on amazon Pearson REVISE BTEC National Sport Units 1 & 2 Revision Guide inc online edition - 2023 and 2024 exams and assessments: for home learning, 2022 and ... and exams (REVISE BTEC Nationals in Sport): Hartigan, Sue, Sharp, Kelly: Amazon.co.uk: Books

There are also revision workbooks available Revise BTEC National Sport Units 1 and 2: Revision Workbook: for home learning, 2022 and 2023 assessments and exams (REVISE BTEC Nationals in Sport): Sharp, Kelly: Amazon.co.uk: Books

How parent/carer can help

- Check in with your young person by asking about their revision plan develop a routine/system
 of accountability & praise
- Knowledge testing at home to help your young person with retrieval practice
- Support good daily routines, e.g. sleep, eating etc.

UNIFORMED PROTECTIVE SERVICES

Qualification/Subject: Extended Diploma in Uniformed Protective Services

Exam Board: Pearson

Effective approaches to revision:

- Start early! Spread out topics over time and revisit them.
- Be creative, use different methods to help retain information.
- Create mind maps, flip cards (with exam style questions) and test your knowledge.
- Avoid just re-reading notes and instead practice planning and answering questions, reviewing mark schemes and examiner reports.

Materials provided:

• Past papers, mark schemes, examiner reports and other resources are available on Teams.

Additional resources/websites:

- Currently there are no Pearson endorsed textbooks for the current specification. Information will be given to all learners when these become available.
- Combined Cadet Force (Darlington) has produced an interactive presentation with a useful selfassessment: <u>CCF Darlington - Unit 2: Behaviour and discipline in the uniformed protective</u> <u>services (google.com)</u>

How parent/carer can help:

- Check in with your young person by asking about their revision plan develop a routine/system of accountability & praise.
- Knowledge testing at home to help your young person with retrieval practice.
- Support good daily routines, e.g. sleep, eating etc.

VISUAL ARTS (ART, PHOTOGRAPHY & GRAPHIC DESIGN)

Qualification/Subject: A Level Fine Art, Graphic Communication & Photography

Exam Board: OCR

Effective approaches to revision:

Revision is not required for visual arts exams. Students undertake a preparation period where all lessons and Huish 30 time is dedicated to researching, planning and practise for an outcome artwork in the exam. Students should expect to spend the normal Huish 30 time on preparation for exams.

Materials provided:

Most materials are provided by the department. Specialist materials can be acquired or prepared if the students give their teacher or a technician the appropriate notice.

Additional resources/websites:

The department and LC have an extensive collection of reference sources and publications. We recommend these as a resource over websites. The collection of books and publications are all of an appropriate academic standard.

How parent/carer can help:

- Ask students regularly if they have completed Huish 30 for visual arts subjects.
- Ask students if they are confident in their plans for coursework or exam outcomes.
- Encourage students to be proactive around accessing support at an early stage, if a project or task is proving especially challenging.