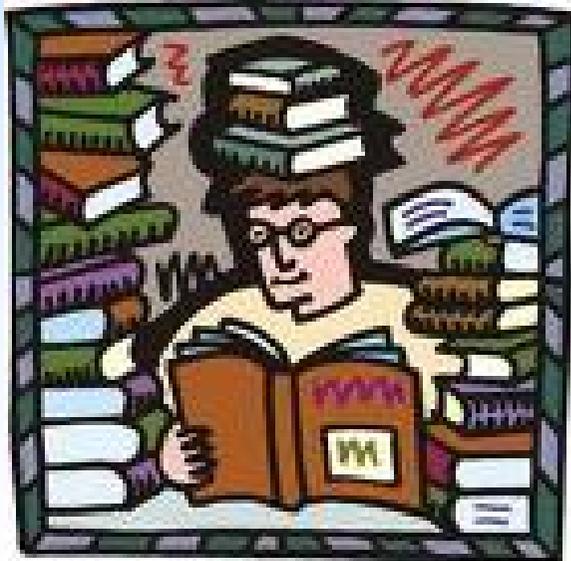
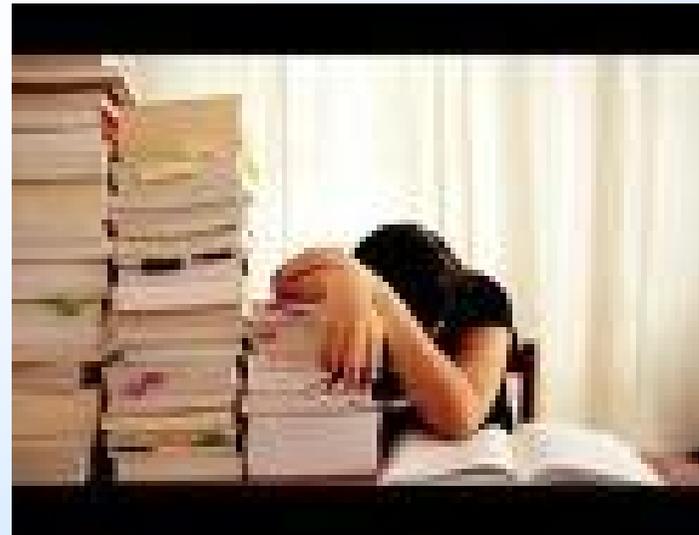


Effective Revision for Year 11's

Some tips for how parents can encourage more of this...



And less of this...



Step 1: Get them to complete a strengths and weaknesses audit

- Before students can plan effective revision, they need to know what they've got to cover, what their strengths and weaknesses are and what resources they need to help them revise.
- To do this well they've got to be systematic and go through each subject in turn, working out what they need to cover, their present level of understanding and what they are going to need to revise that area
- Once they have all that information listed they can start to plan their revision timetable.
- Here is an example of a strengths and weaknesses audit:

Step 1: The Audit

Subject	Area	Topic	Resources	Priority
Maths	Numbers	Equations	Revision book Class notes Past papers	Low
	Graphs	Pie Charts	Class Notes (some missing) Past papers	High
	Space and Shape	Area	My Maths SAM Learning Revision CD	Medium

Step 2: The Planning

- Now it's time to actually plan the revision timetable. The aim is to prioritise the difficult topics first, get them sorted and move on the easier areas in good time for each of their exams.
- That means they need to know when their exams are, and how much time they have left for each of the subjects.
- Then, based on the audit they need to start to plan their revision time.
- Remember that 30 minute sessions are best, then have a short break.
- It's better to do 2 hours a night over a long period of time than cram it all in at the last minute
- They should aim for 3-4 hours on a non-school day (over Easter for example)
- That's not as easy as it sounds because to do it really well they need to plan in good detail.
- Here is an example of a revision timetable...

Step 2: The Planning

Details	Session 1 (30min)	Session 2 (30min)	Session 3 (30min)	Session 4 (30min)
09/04/2011	Maths	Science	English	French
Area	Numbers	Human Body	Anthology	Oral
Method	Mind Mapping	Cards	Notes	Cards
Aim	To understand...	To list the...	To look for...	To prepare...
10/04/2011	History	RS	Maths	English
Area	Public Health	Budhism	Graphs	Persuasive writing
Method	Mnemonics	Past paper	SAM Learning	Mind Mapping
Aim	To remember...	To practice...	To practice in timed conditions...	To identify...

Step 3: Creating an effective revision space

A clean, well equipped study environment helps revision. It removes distractions and promotes an organised approach to study...things you can include:

- Creating a tidy undisturbed place to work
- Having a comfortable chair
- Using a table which gives enough room for books, etc
- A bright lamp
- Pens, pencils, other equipment including scrap paper



This doesn't need to be a separate room/study, and it doesn't have to be a large space. It just needs to be a quiet, tidy corner tucked away from major distractions like the TV/Computers etc

Step 4: Active Revision Techniques

Simply reading through work is a VERY POOR way of remembering it. Students can spend hours thinking that they're revising by doing this - but actually, very little information stays in their head! Active revision methods are much better. Ten active revision methods are:

1. Summarise main points onto revision cards.
2. Use mnemonics
3. Make mind maps/spider diagrams; stick them on the wall
4. Repeat lists or processes aloud over and over again.
5. Record notes on MP3 and play them back.
6. Set yourself questions from your notes - go over wrong answers.
7. Explain work to a friend/parent.
8. Get someone to test you.
9. Sam Learning
10. Practice through Past Papers (available from subject teachers)

Year 11 Revision Wiki

College website

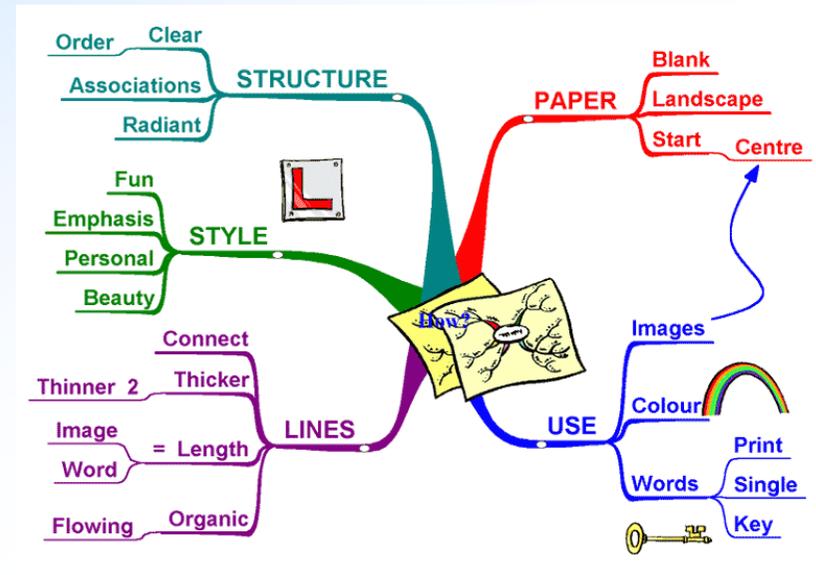
- Current Students
- Departments
- Click on "Year 11 Support" on right hand side of page

Or...

<http://revisiontaviccollege.wikispaces.com/>

[RevisionTaviCollege - home](http://revisiontaviccollege.wikispaces.com/)

Mind Mapping



- Useful if they are a visual learner
- Good for organising their ideas
- Can cover a whole topic on one page
- Forces them to make sense of information
- A good way to start getting to grips with a topic or area

Revision Cards

Why use them?

- Useful way of breaking down information into manageable sections
- Allows you to organise your notes into a logical and ordered way
- Forces you to transfer information and make sense of it
- They are portable
- Write a question on the back to turn them into an active revision technique
- More flexible than a notebook or folder

Mnemonics

Mnemonics are really simple but very useful for revision. Students can use them to remember a sequence of events, a list of facts or parts of a process. To create a Mnemonic all they have to do is write down a list of facts or information. Here's an example designed to help remember the order of the planets that circle our sun.

The first thing to do is write them down in order:

Mercury Venus Earth Mars Jupiter Saturn Uranus Neptune Pluto

Then take the first letter from each of the planet names:

M V E M J S U N P

Then, create a memorable sentence or phrase that uses each of the letters above in turn as the first letter of each word in my new sentence:

"My Very Early Morning Jam Sandwich Usually Nauseates People"

Doing this helps students to create something memorable that they can decode when they need to.

Step 5: Successful Revision - Key Points!

- Find a good environment in which to revise (comfortable, no distractions).
- Complete a strengths and weaknesses audit to really pin point key areas to revise
- Get them to create a realistic revision timetable; sessions should be no more than 40 minutes (unless completing a past paper)
- Use other active revision techniques for extra success
- Encourage them to tick off topics when they've revised them; feel good about it!
- Have a short relaxation/exercise break between revision sessions to unwind. Keep the brain working with plenty of water
- As a parent, try to build in rewards to encourage motivation. Revision can be gruelling, tiring, and frustrating - so anything you can do to reward them will really help

