



## Good exam results are made in the Easter holidays

With over two weeks off school now is the time to really start increasing the amount of revision you are doing in order to ensure that you are learning all that content you have covered in the past two or more years.....

Our top tips are:

### 1) Ensure you have all the correct materials.

First you need to ensure that the materials you are going to revise from are complete. There is no point pushing yourself to revise well if the materials you are revising from are inadequate. You need to know which exam board and which syllabus within that board you are studying in each subject. You need a copy of the syllabus (which is on the exam board website), an understanding of the structure of each exam paper and example questions.

Now is the time to address any gaps in your notes. Speak to your teachers, make additional notes from textbooks, speak to your friends on the same course to compare your resources.

Make sure your materials are organised. Use your Revision Organizer to help separate notes into topics. You need to make your notes as easy to remember as possible- find a method that works for you .... Underline headings in colour, summarise key points on revision posters, produce flash cards.

### 2) Revisit Materials

You need to revise **all** your work at least three times before the exam –in the Easter break, once in the summer term, once a day or so before the exam. It is the coming back to the notes three or more times that commits the information into your long-term memory; revising just once is no good.

### 3) 20 minutes bursts, 10 times a day

Plan to work in short bursts of around 20 minutes and by now you should be looking at around 10 sessions a day. In total this will be just over 3 hours a day and is more than achievable in small blocks. This may seem a lot, but the students who organize their time well, soon see how productive they can be will feel far better about their examinations as they are well prepared.

Make sure before you start your 20 minute session you have a clear idea of what you are going to do and have all the resources ready for that session. DO NOT waste time finding resources get organised!

### 4) Make revision active

Revision has to be an active process and just reading through notes will not be useful. You need some way of testing what you actually know about a subject. Revision cards with questions, online testing websites, past papers, thought dumps! They will all show you how much you know about a subject and where your knowledge gaps are.

Note down any concerns and ask your teachers for help after Easter

### 5) Start early.... Get a good night's sleep

Start your revision early in the day – 9am. Do short bursts and build in regular breaks. Arrange some nice social activities with friends and family.... Earn these rewards and you will enjoy them so much more! There is a real temptation to stay up late over the holidays and try to ‘burn the candle at both ends’. Remember your body needs rest, you need a good night’s sleep. A good sleep will help your brain retain information in the long-term memory.