

THE ROAD TO SUCCESS 2025





Year 11 Results 2023

| | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 |
|------------------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| 5 A-C % | 79.7 | 75.9 | 76.3 | 87.9 | 82.1 | 80.2 |
| 5 A-C (inc Eng/Maths) % | 70.3 | 69.5 | 64.2 | 78.9 | 74.9 | 72.7 |
| 5 A-A* % | 24.8 | 23.9 | 22.4 | 39.5 | 35 | 29.6 |

Results v Predictions

| Grade | Points |
|-------|--------|
| A* | 58 |
| A | 52 |
| B | 46 |
| C | 40 |
| D | 34 |
| E | 28 |
| F | 22 |
| G | 16 |

| Capped Measure | 2019 Results | 2023 Prediction | 2023 Results |
|------------------------------|--------------|-----------------|--------------|
| Literacy | 41.2 | 44.1 | 44.1 |
| Numeracy | 40.7 | 42.8 | 42.8 |
| Science | 40.7 | 42.1 | 42.1 |
| WBQ | 42.8 | 41.4 | 43.8 |
| Capped Nine | 370 | 382 | 382 |
| Best 4 th Subject | 46.9 | 48.1 | 48.5 |

August 2023 Results - All students averaged a C grade for all 9 subjects

August 2025 Target – 400pts – Closer to an average of a B across 9 subjects



60

300

This is how we want you to feel on 27th June 2025



This is how we want you to feel on 22nd August 2025



A very special bank account



- ▶ What would you do if £86,400 was placed into your bank account every day?
- ▶ BUT, the account is emptied at the end of every day.
- ▶ Whatever is not used is lost.
- ▶ What would you do?





Do you use your time wisely?

- ▶ There are 86,400 seconds in every day. How do you use all of yours?
- ▶ Just like the 'Special Bank Account' if you don't use it, every night it is lost.
- ▶ How you decide to spend your time over the next 300 days is up to you. Spend it wisely.
- ▶ What you need to focus on in order to maximise your potential?



Time spent wisely now will positively impact your future

20 000 Days

The Rest of Your Life

The next 300 days

2000 Days

School

This is your school career so far

Advice for Students



Get organised

Focused work

Mix subjects

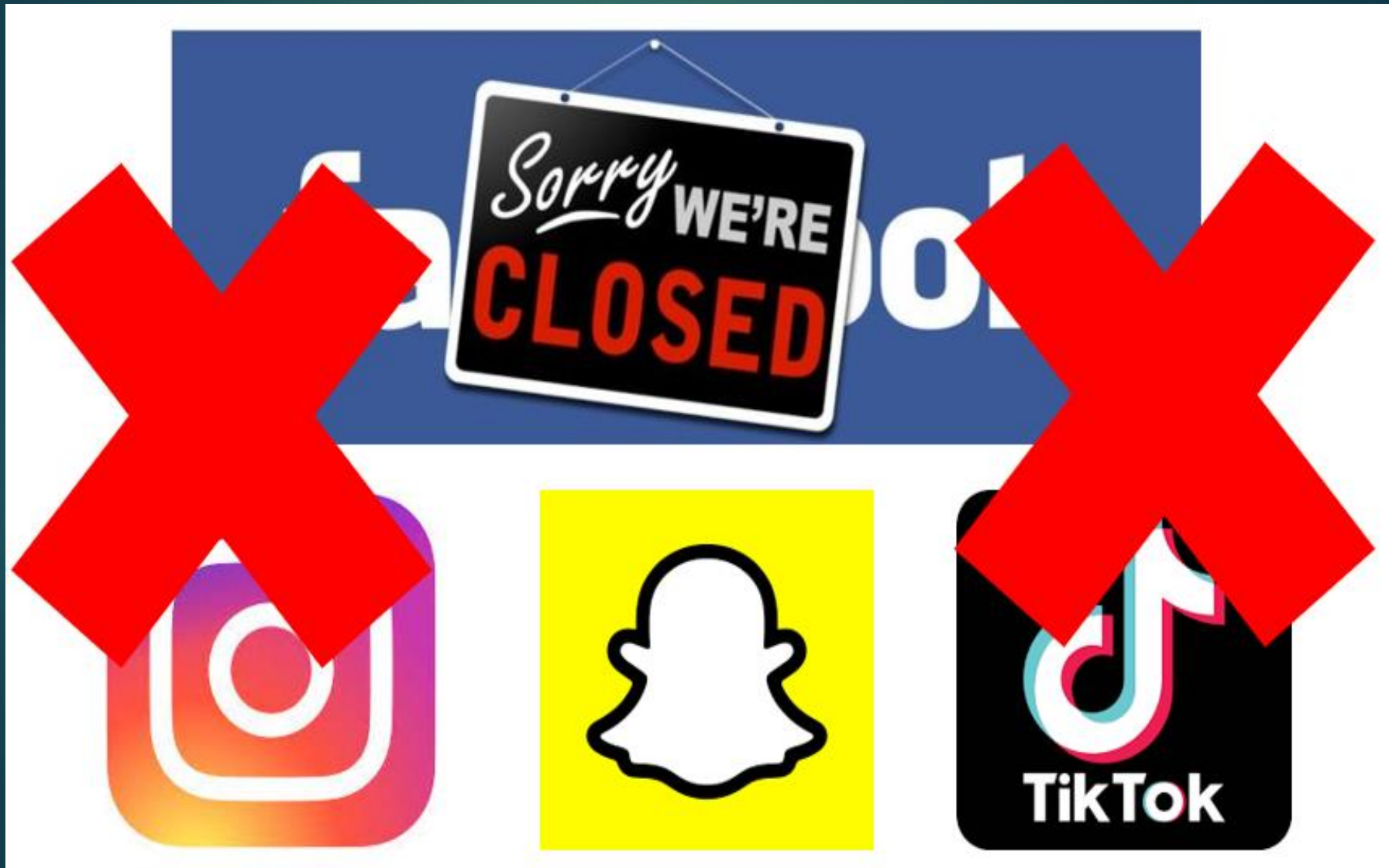
Set
targets/rewards

Use support

Create a space for
study

Exam dates

Exam papers





GCSE English Literature

Unit 1: Prose (different cultures) and poetry (contemporary)

January and June

EXTERNAL ASSESSMENT: 2 HRS

35% of qualification

50 marks; 70 UMS

Section A 21% (INDIVIDUAL TEXTS IN CONTEXT)

Different Cultures Prose: *Of Mice and Men* (Steinbeck); OR *Anita and Me* (Syal); OR *To Kill a Mockingbird* (Lee); OR *I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings* (Angelou); OR *Chanda's Secrets* (Stratton)

Section B 14% (COMPARATIVE STUDY)

Contemporary: Unseen poetry comparison, the preparation for which will include the study of contemporary poems.

OR Unit 2b: Contemporary drama and literary heritage prose

June

EXTERNAL ASSESSMENT: 2 HRS

40% of qualification

60 marks; 80 UMS

Contemporary Drama: *The History Boys* (Bennett); OR *Blood Brothers* (Russell);¹ OR *A View from the Bridge* (Miller); OR *Be My Baby* (Whittington); OR *My Mother Said I Never Should* (Keatley) (20%)

English/Welsh/Irish Literary Heritage Prose: *Silas Marner* (Eliot); OR *Pride and Prejudice* (Austen); OR *A Christmas Carol* (Dickens); OR *Lord of the Flies* (Golding); OR *Ash on a Young Man's Sleeve* (Abse) (20%)

Unit 3: Shakespeare and Welsh Writing in English

June

NON-EXAMINATION ASSESSMENT

25% of qualification

48 marks; 50 UMS

Section A: Shakespeare (12.5%)

A play by Shakespeare chosen by the centre (but not, for 2020 and 2021 only, *Othello* or *Much Ado About Nothing*).

WJEC will set a generic task on a specific theme which centres may use or modify.

Section B: Welsh writing in English (12.5%)

Stipulated poetry from the Library of Wales anthology *Poetry 1900-2000: One Hundred Poets from Wales*. Candidates study fifteen specified poems listed for the chosen theme. WJEC will set generic tasks on the theme. Centres may use or modify one task. Centres must ensure that the task requires comparison of at least two poems.



English Literature This Year (2023-24)

- ▶ English literature NEA (unit 3) already begun:
 - ▶ - *Macbeth* NEA is now complete (12.5%)
 - Welsh writing in English poetry comparison by Christmas (12.5%)
- ▶ Over the last few weeks, students have been introduced to unseen poetry (unit 1 exam) which will lead to their poetry NEA
- ▶ Your child will soon know whether their *Macbeth* NEA is in line with their target and must plan to resit in their own time
- ▶ After Christmas, students will study *Of Mice and Men*
- ▶ Unit 3 NEA marks to WJEC by March
- ▶ Y10 will sit their unit 1 examination on 13th May, 2024



English

Next Year (2024-25)

- ▶ Opportunity to resit the unit 1 (Of Mice and Men) examination in January of 2025
- ▶ Complete unit 2b: *A Christmas Carol* and *Blood Brothers*
- ▶ Record two GCSE English Language NEA (oracy): Responding & Interacting and Individual Researched Presentation
- ▶ All NEA to the WJEC for GCSE English Language and GCSE English Literature by March
- ▶ Explicit coverage and revision for GCSE English Language



What can be done at home?

- ▶ Make sure the set texts have been read at least once. The examinations are closed book, meaning the texts need to be known well.
- ▶ Additional past papers can be downloaded from the WJEC website and can be returned to the class teacher.
- ▶ Booklets and packets that accompany set texts should be taken home for revision.
- ▶ Encourage attendance of every lesson, and the answering of every question.



GCSE Mathematics and GCSE Numeracy

Maths Qualifications



Students have the opportunity to achieve 2 separate Maths GCSE's:

- ▶ GCSE Mathematics – Numeracy: has a focus on the mathematics needed for everyday life.
- ▶ GCSE Mathematics: has a focus on mathematical skills needed for further mathematical, scientific or technical study.

Maths

Qualifications

Year 10 students are currently working on the **GCSE Numeracy** syllabus and will sit this qualification at the end of Year 10.

There are two examinations (each with an equal weighting of 50%):

Paper 1 (Non Calculator) - Thursday 9th May

Paper 2 (Calculator) – Monday 3rd June

Students will then study and be entered for GCSE Mathematics in Year 11.

Maths

Qualifications

Both GCSE's are graded and certificated from A* - G.

There are 3 tiers

- ▶ Foundation (D – G)
- ▶ Intermediate (B – E)
- ▶ Higher (A* - C)

Students have had discussions with their teachers and have decided on the **GCSE Numeracy target grades** for this year.

They will be monitored throughout the year to ensure they are making sufficient progress and to ensure we enter them for the correct tier of entry.

Tiers of entry can change for Mathematics in Year 11, depending on the outcomes from GCSE Numeracy in Year 10.

Being Prepared



Being equipped for every lesson –

- pen, pencil, ruler, compass, protractor and scientific calculator.

Revision Resources

- ▶ Revision Guides – can be useful if students are going to use them
- ▶ Mymaths - www.mymaths.co.uk login: Monmouth password: learning
- ▶ <https://corbettmaths.com/> Video examples of all topics, worksheets and answers
- ▶ <https://www.revisegcsemaths.co.uk/past-papers> Access to all papers/answers

Homework – Exam questions/papers – handed in punctually

Google classroom

has revision lists, links to video resources, past papers and lesson powerpoints completed in class.

The screenshot shows the Google Classroom interface with the 'Classwork' tab selected. The 'Classwork' section contains three items: 'Algebra topics 1' (Posted 11:00 AM), 'Number Topics' (Posted Sep 16), and 'Higher Tier Workbooklet' (Posted Sep 14). Below this is the 'Past Papers' section with two items: 'November 2019 P1 + P2' (Posted Sep 15) and 'June 2017 P1+P2' (Posted Sep 15).

| Section | Item Name | Posted |
|-------------|-------------------------|-----------------|
| Classwork | Algebra topics 1 | Posted 11:00 AM |
| | Number Topics | Posted Sep 16 |
| | Higher Tier Workbooklet | Posted Sep 14 |
| Past Papers | November 2019 P1 + P2 | Posted Sep 15 |
| | June 2017 P1+P2 | Posted Sep 15 |

The screenshot shows the 'Extra revision resources' section with five items: 'Preparation Pack 5' (Posted Sep 14), 'Preparation Pack 4' (Posted Sep 14), 'Preparation pack 3' (Posted Sep 14), 'Preparation 2' (Posted Sep 14), and 'Preparation pack 1' (Posted Sep 14). Below this is the 'Revision Resources' section with six items: 'Revision Poster with websites and tips' (Posted Sep 14), 'Higher Tier Notes and Examples booklet' (Posted Sep 14), 'Revision Resources Higher Tier' (Posted Sep 14), 'Additional Revision Resources Higher Tier' (Posted Sep 14), and 'Revision List and Video Links' (Posted Sep 14).

| Section | Item Name | Posted |
|--------------------------|---|---------------|
| Extra revision resources | Preparation Pack 5 | Posted Sep 14 |
| | Preparation Pack 4 | Posted Sep 14 |
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| | Revision Resources Higher Tier | Posted Sep 14 |
| | Additional Revision Resources Higher Tier | Posted Sep 14 |
| | Revision List and Video Links | Posted Sep 14 |

Numeracy Revision Techniques

- ▶ Use homework as a prompt for Numeracy revision
- ▶ Read the question carefully, underline/highlight key words, numbers and information.
- ▶ Plan when you are going to revise and be strict with yourself
- ▶ Give yourself treats and things to look forward to.
- ▶ Practise, practise, practise
- ▶ Don't just practise the topics you are good at – Use your revision list to practise all topics
- ▶ Use your equipment and scientific calculator (when needed)
- ▶ Don't panic – read through the questions carefully and think about what you can work out to get some method marks.



GCSE Science



1. Our students are studying Double or Triple Science.
2. All will have have completed 45% of their course in Year 10.
3. For most students, their Year 10 grade is the grade they will end up with at the end of Year 11.



What external assessments will take place in Year 10?

- ▶ Exams in Biology, Chemistry and Physics for ALL students
- ▶ Unit 1 Biology, Unit 2 Chemistry and Unit 3 Physics – **DOUBLE SCIENCE STUDENTS**
- ▶ Unit 1 Biology, Unit 1 Chemistry and Unit 1 Physics – **TRIPLE SCIENCE STUDENTS**



What assessments are still to come in Year 11?

- ▶ Exams in Biology, Chemistry and Physics for ALL students
 - ▶ Unit 4 Biology, Unit 5 Chemistry and Unit 6 Physics – **DOUBLE SCIENCE STUDENTS**
 - ▶ Unit 2 Biology, Unit 2 Chemistry and Unit 2 Physics – **TRIPLE SCIENCE STUDENTS**
 - ▶ **Practical exams** worth a total of 10% of the final GCSE grade – to be completed by the end of January in Year 11
 - ▶ Triple Science students will complete a practical exam for Biology, Chemistry, Physics
 - ▶ Double Science students will complete two practical exams only

Triple or Double Science?

- ▶ We currently have two Triple science classes 10T1 and 10T2.
- ▶ There is also a Top Double Class.
- ▶ These classes were determined at the end of Year 9.
- ▶ All in Year 10 will complete a mock exam on Monday 11th December.
- ▶ We will use the data from this exam to determine exam entries in January:
 - ▶ Double or Triple Science
 - ▶ Higher or Foundation



How can I help my child in Science?

- ▶ To be successful in Science students need knowledge... consistent revision is key!
- ▶ Check Google Classroom for details of Educake or Google Quizzes.
 - ▶ All students have an Educake login – this is a superb resource with hundreds of questions and answers across all three sciences.
 - ▶ Students are encouraged to use Educake frequently to develop their ability to recall knowledge.
 - ▶ Recall questions for each unit are also posted on Google Classroom.
- ▶ Ensure that your child meets all deadlines and attends all lessons. Attendance and punctuality are vital.



GCSE Cymraeg/ Welsh

Cymraeg/ Welsh in Year 10



- ▶ There are 4 exams to complete over the 2 year course
- ▶ Oral examination in the Spring term of Year 10
- ▶ Watch a video and respond orally to it in a pair or group of 3
- ▶ Students are currently completing a large number of examples of this task in lessons
- ▶ There will be several mocks before the exam
- ▶ After school revision sessions will start after Christmas

Welsh Revision Techniques

- ▶ Practise speaking as much as possible – in class, in revision sessions or use technology to practise with friends at home.
- ▶ Listen to Welsh on TV or Welsh music.
- ▶ Use quizzes on sites such as: 'Quizlet' or 'Memrise' to help revise key vocabulary.
- ▶ Revise the key tenses: Present, past and conditional tense well (1st and 3rd person).
- ▶ Make cue cards to help you learn key phrases and vocabulary off by heart.
- ▶ Use past exam questions and videos to keep practising the listening skill.

How can I support my child in Welsh?

- ▶ It does not matter how much Welsh you have yourselves. Students have everything they need from us, but your encouragement and positive attitude will be very much appreciated.
- ▶ Encourage students to use and practise Welsh as much as they can.

Monmouth Comprehensive School



KS4 Course Information & Revision Guide



Monmouth Comprehensive School Tredegar

CALENDAR TERM DATES NEWSLETTER

HOME OUR SCHOOL NEWS & EVENTS PARENTS CURRICULUM & LEARNING SIXTH FORM CONTACT US

CURRICULUM & LEARNING > EXAM INFORMATION

Exam Information

Students sit a range of GCSE, A Level, BTEC and other vocational qualifications during Key Stage-Four and Five at Monmouth Comprehensive School. All students also complete the National and Advanced Skills Challenge Certificate as part of the Welsh Baccalaureate in Years 11 and 13.

Our examinations policy and guidance documents for examinations and controlled assessments, including Access Arrangements, can be found below. Timetables for exam sessions and results day will also be published here once they have been confirmed.

KS4 REVISION GUIDE - SEPTEMBER 2023

In this section.

- THE CURRICULUM AT MCS +
- YEAR 6 TRANSITION TO MCS +
- WELLBEING CURRICULUM +
- EXTRA-CURRICULAR +
- GCSE PATHWAYS +
- EXAM INFORMATION +
- SCHOOL COUNCILS +

anxious

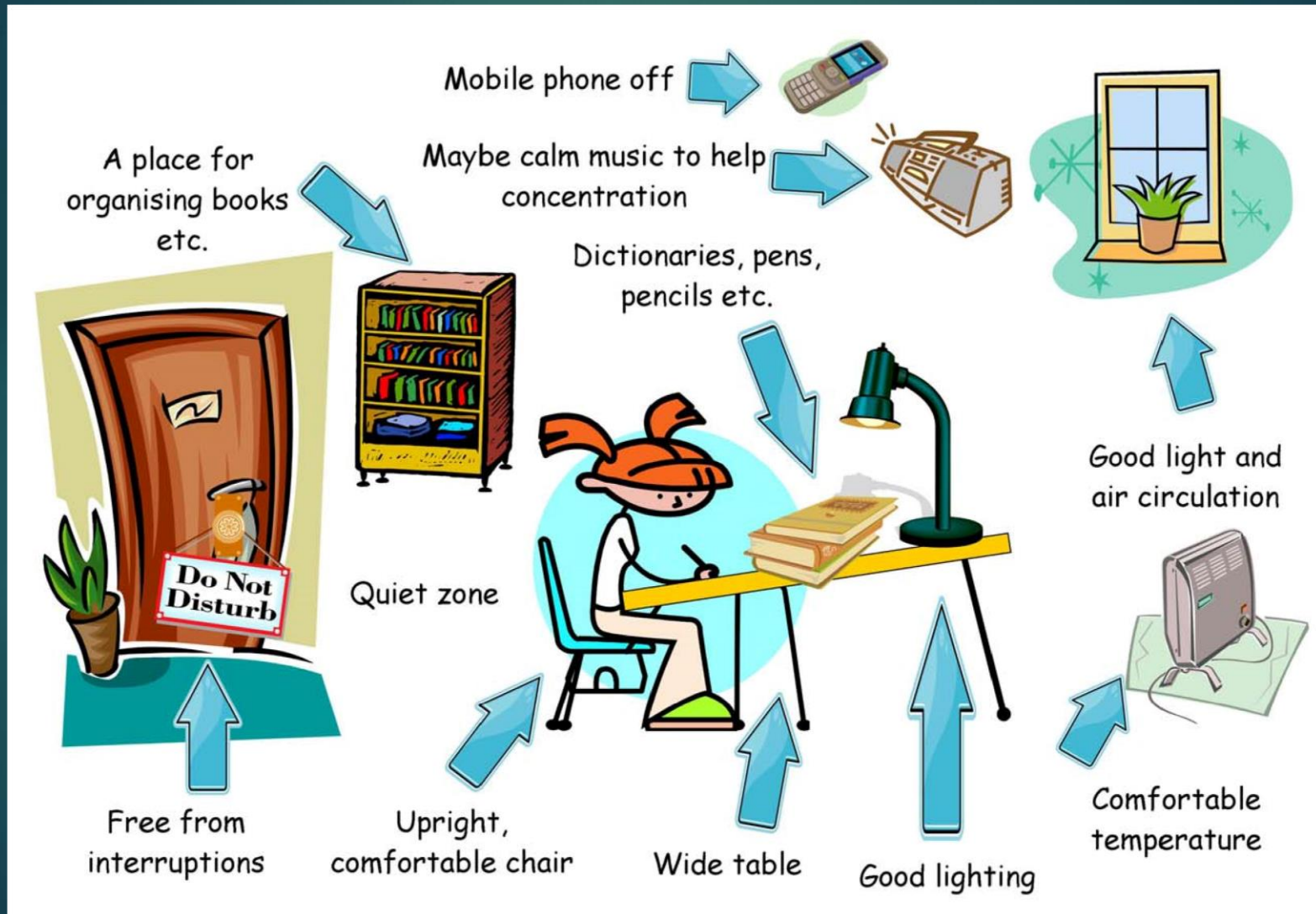
overwhelmed

How your child
might be feeling

organised

excited

Create a purposeful atmosphere





Brain dump

Choose a topic and write down as much as you can remember, without referring to your notes. Check your notes and see what you missed then try to fill the gaps without the notes. Check your notes a third time and add the missing information.



Flash cards

Write flashcards for each topic, in a subjects, then mix them up for the most effective revision. Check out the Leitner System for effective spacing and interleaving. Keep your flashcards simple – one question, one answer per card.



Map it out

Take an essay question or writing question and map out your answer, without writing a full response. Look at the mark scheme and decide if your plan meets the criteria. Do this for a number of questions, then choose one and write the full response.



Past papers

Ask your teacher for practice questions or exam papers. Complete them without notes in exam conditions, then check your answers and identify the gaps in your knowledge, so you can target your revision.



Quizzes

Write a set of questions and answers and ask someone else to test you. It's important to either write or say your answers aloud. Reading through quizzes in your head can give you a false sense of security.



Practise introductions

For essay subjects, take a past exam question and practise writing effective introductions and conclusions. Look back at your notes and remind yourself of the important things to remember. Practise for different topics, texts and papers.



Thinking hard: reduce

Read a section of your notes then put them aside and reduce what you read to 3 bullet points, each one no more than 10 words. Look back at the notes and decide if you missed anything important. Hide the notes and write a fourth bullet point.



Thinking hard: transform

Read a paragraph from your notes or a text book and transform it into a diagram, chart or sketch – no words allowed. Look at a diagram in Science, for example, and transform it into a paragraph of explanation.



Thinking hard: connect

For each subject, consider the exam papers and group together questions that require the same technique to answer. Write down the requirements of each type. Find a previous example you've completed and identify where you've met the criteria.



Key vocabulary

For a particular topic, make a list of key vocabulary, then do the following: define each word; use each term in a sentence; create a question where the key word is the answer; identify other words which connect to each of the words in your list.

Retrieval Strategies

Mind mapping



Cue Cards



Volume (%)

| | |
|-------|-------------|
| Air | Expired Air |
| 16.4 | 4.00 |
| 79.60 | |

of diffusion
 surface area is hence the many million alveoli in lungs

THE MECHANISM OF VENTILATION $V \uparrow \downarrow P$

- Gases flow from areas of high pressure to low pressure
- During inhalation, the diaphragm is lowered and ribs move upwards and outwards. This reduces pressure in the thoracic cavity, drawing air in.
- During exhalation, the diaphragm relaxes and moves upwards and outwards, the ribs lower and move down. This increases pressure and forces air out.

Inhalation $AIR\ IN$

- External intercostal muscles move ribs upwards and outwards.
- Sternum moves upwards & forward

Exhalation $AIR\ OUT$

- Internal intercostal muscles move ribs downwards and inwards.
- Sternum moves downwards & backwards

ASTHMA

NO ASTHMA MILD ASTHMA ATTACK BAD ASTHMA ATTACK

← Branchiole

- tightening of muscle wall
- inflammation & narrowing of walls
- mucus from mast cells

Factors affecting TEMPERATURE

rate at which reaction due to temp

Flash Cards



English

Use flash cards to remember quotes/motifs related to key themes.

For example, Romeo and Juliet.

On one side write the theme

'Fate'

and on the other side the quote

"From forth the fatal loins of these two foes, a pair of star-crossed lovers, take their life."





Bitesize

Change language -

[Home](#) | [Learn & revise](#) | [Support](#) | [Careers](#)

[My Bitesize](#) | [All Bitesize](#)

GCSE WJEC

Biology (Single Science)

Part of [Biology \(Single Science\)](#)

Topics

Cells, organ systems and ecosystems >

[Cells and movement across membranes – WJEC](#)

[The respiratory system in humans – WJEC](#)

[The digestive system in humans – WJEC](#)

[The circulatory system in humans – WJEC](#)

[Structure of plants – WJEC](#)

[Photosynthesis – WJEC](#)

[Ecosystems – transferring energy – WJEC](#)

[Ecosystems – pollution and nutrient cycles – WJEC](#)





Past Paper Questions

- ▶ Download exam paper and mark scheme.
- ▶ Look at the first question.
- ▶ Revise that topic area (mind maps, revision cards, flow charts etc.).
- ▶ Answer the question – time yourself.
- ▶ Mark with the mark scheme (5 minutes).
- ▶ Identify the areas of the mark scheme that you got wrong or missed out in a different colour (5 minutes).
- ▶ Have a break and try the next question.



Look after your wellbeing

FEED MY BRAIN

EATING YOUR WAY TO EXAM SUCCESS

What you eat and drink at exam time can make a big difference to your energy, how well you learn, how you handle stress and how you perform on the day. So here are a few ideas to help you out.



Protein is your best friend. It helps your brain cells communicate better, which helps learning. Eat chicken, fish, nuts and eggs.



Get your sugar fix from fruit. It will give you a brain boost before an exam and vitamins to keep you alert.



Carbohydrates will give you energy and stamina. Stick with BROWN bread, pasta and rice, they will keep you going all day.



Blueberries are full of antioxidants that keep us healthy and they can improve concentration and memory.



Our brains are thirsty machines, keep drinking plenty of water. It will keep you alert and stop headaches.



Avoid energy drinks. It's a false boost. You will end up crashing quickly and feeling more anxious.



BREAKFAST

Blueberry, banana, oats and almond milk smoothie.
Scrambled egg and brown toast.
Porridge and banana.

LUNCH

Tuna pasta bake and salad.
Jacket potato, cheese and beans.
Omelette with salad.
Chicken fajita with avocado.



SNACKS



Nuts and dried fruit.
Flapjack.
Berries or banana.
Carrot sticks with hummus.
Oat cakes and cheese.
Bagel with peanut butter.
Dark chocolate (80% cocoa)

BRAIN BOOTCAMP

GET A FULL WORKOUT FOR EXAM SUCCESS

Sitting and studying for hours without moving your body won't get you better grades. To get your brain fit for exams your body needs to be in shape too.



Exercise releases natural chemicals in the brain that are used in medications to treat anxiety and depression.



When we exercise we release dopamine which enhances motivation, focus and attention.



Balancing exercise with study means you get a better nights sleep, which makes information stick for longer.



Moving around outside really gets our brain cells talking, which improves our memory.



Mixing aerobic and strength exercise stretches the brain allowing more capacity for knowledge.



Spending time in nature reduces stress, improves creativity and helps us problem solve.





GIVE YOUR BRAIN A HUG

DOWNTIME AT EXAM TIME

When it comes to revision, sometimes less is more. More hours with your head in the books without regular breaks for rest and relaxation will lead to a stressy, messy end. Make time for relaxation daily to be on form.



The teenage brain is going through a big makeover and the the fear centre is on alert which means you feel a bit more stressed.



Making time every day to relax, you can actually train your brain to be happier and less stressed.



Sleep prepares the brain to learn new information and improves memory, so the information sticks for longer.



A stressed, tired brain cannot learn, so staying up all night revising won't improve your grades.



The best time to practice any relaxation technique is when you're already relaxed!



Taking some slow deep breaths actually changes your brain chemistry and allows you to think more clearly.



PLAYTIME AT EXAM TIME

MAKING TIME FOR FUN AND HOBBIES

All work and no play makes.....us stupid! It may be tempting to drop our hobbies when we are studying, but this can cause more stress and make us less effective. It's really important to make time for the fun stuff too.



Those who have a hobby or interest are able to think more creatively and are better at problem solving



Creativity and playing has a positive effect on our mental wellbeing



Listening to music releases dopamine which is a feel-good chemical for our brain



If you have a pet - stroke it. It lowers our heart rate and boosts our mood, so we are happier and less stressed



Spending time on a hobby uses a different part of our brain from when we are studying and so stretches it's capacity to learn.



When we do something we love, we are totally in the moment and forget our worries. This is healthy for our mind, body and soul



5 Step Study Plan



Make a list

What do you need to know? Break it down into topics and units. When you can retrieve it without effort, cross it off the list. It might help with motivation and organisation to have a 'to do' and 'have done' list.



Timetable a spaced schedule

Look back at the notes about spacing and interleaving. Study each topic little and often and mix up subjects and topics so you are revising a mixture each day. Be sure to leave yourself enough time to cover everything.



Use effective study strategies

That's what this booklet is all about. Keep re-reading and highlighting to a minimum. Highlight what you need to learn – but that won't make you learn it. Test yourself, using retrieval strategies. Think twice before loading up your favourite playlist!



Identify the gaps in your knowledge

Having used the retrieval strategies, where are the gaps? What are you confident with? What do you need to go back to? What do you need to study more? Be honest with yourself – don't just focus on what you *do* know.



Close the gaps

Repeat the third and fourth steps of the plan until you are confident with everything. Some parts will be difficult, but don't give up. The harder you have to think, the more likely you are to remember in the end. 'Memory is the residue of thought.' (*Dan Willingham*)

Punctuality & Attendance



- ▶ Current Year 10 attendance sits at 89%
- ▶ On average every student has 1/2 day off per week
- ▶ Direct link between poor attendance and students not achieving their potential
- ▶ Attendance target is 96%



Punctuality & Attendance



- ▶ Being on time to lessons is very important as it allows students to make the most of the time available to them within a lesson.
- ▶ If for example a student was 5 minutes late for every lesson in a school day...
 - Over the course of the week they would lose up to half a day of learning.
 - If we look over the course of the academic year they would lose up to 1 month of lessons.
- It builds up quickly!
- It is particularly important for Year 10 due to the first 5 minutes of every lessons is 'Retrieval Practice' from the previous lesson.





If you have questions, staff will be available after this presentation for you to speak to.

Thank you for your ongoing support.

Good luck!