



# St Thomas More Catholic School

# How do we revise?

## The basics



Limit all distractions



Find a quiet and tidy space to revise



Put in the maximum effort



Create and use a plan



Set an alarm to start early



Revise, repeat, remember

### Flashcards

Simply create with questions on one side and answers on the other side. These are great for knowledge questions that have clear answers.

You can colour code for specific topics and quiz yourself or others.

#### Recommended uses:

- **Key Terms** - create for key words and definitions
- **Spaced repetition** - test yourself regularly, and re-test yourself on the key words and knowledge that you get wrong

### How to structure your time

Focus your revision on the parts of the courses that you do not know, instead of things that you are confident about.

Try and keep to these ideas:

- Have a clear revision timetable (there is one on the school website) and stick to it.
- Check that your knowledge is accurate first by using flashcards and retrieval practice.
- Then look at the big picture through mind maps and dual coding.
- Make sure that you attempt exam questions regularly.

### Practice exam questions

Set aside to practice improving your knowledge or skills. Choose what you need to do, it must be tough enough to challenge you, and practice, practice, practice !

#### Recommended uses:

- **Use a model answer from the teacher, analyse it, then answer a similar question using a similar approach**
- **Study material, complete practice questions in timed conditions, then use your notes to make improvements. Repeat a similar question a week later.**

### The Big Picture

The best way to aid your understanding of a subject is to make sure you are confident with the big 'overview' of the subject.

#### Recommended uses:

- **Mapping out what you remember about a topic before you start revising individual topics.**
- **Create a mind map showing the connections in the between the topics you have studied.**

### Retrieval Practice

Testing what you know is a powerful tool in revision, the effort to remember something really strengthens your memory. You can create quizzes using the following types of questions.

- **Multiple choice questions**
- **True or False statements**
- **Short explanation questions**
- **Odd one out**
- **If this is the answer then what is the question?**

### Dual Coding Theory by Allan Pairio

This is the method of combining visual diagrams with written words to increase your chance of remembering it.

#### Recommended uses:

1. **Use simple drawings with matching simple descriptions**
2. **The drawings should represent your understanding of the topic and make links between the images**

This theory  states that when we learn  new information we can code that information either as an image  or as a word **APPLE**. Both, or either of these codes can be used to retrieve or remember  the information. Presenting new information as both image  and word **APPLE** improves the chance of accurately remembering the new learning.