



HALL MEAD
SCHOOL



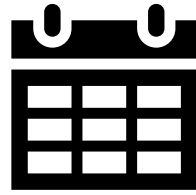
Curriculum Support Evening

Year 11 Revision Strategies

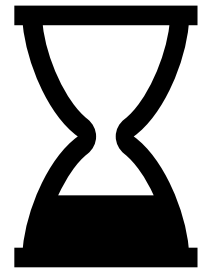
*'Learning is the long-term retention of knowledge
and the ability to transfer it to new contexts.'*

David Didau

Key dates



- Pre PPE 3 Intervention Timetable (New timetable starts next week)
- Year 11 PTC – 18th January – chance to check in with each subject re: NEA / Coursework deadlines
- PPE 3- 5th-16th February
- Easter Masterclasses – Start from 1st April
- GCSE exam season- Week commencing Monday 15th May
- 10 weeks to go, 2 of which are the Easter holidays.



The Power of Revision

- We only have a certain amount of attention to give...
- We can only absorb a limited amount of information at a given time otherwise it gets crowded and 'lost'.
- Information is processed into our long-term memory through 'learning'



It's natural to forget...

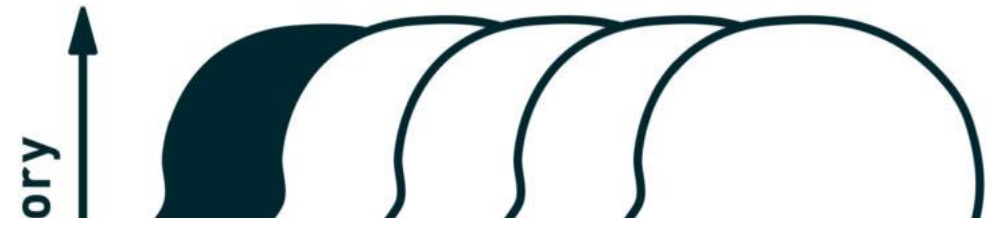


Forgetting is a very natural thing; you can't stop forgetting even if you try, but you can slow down forgetting...

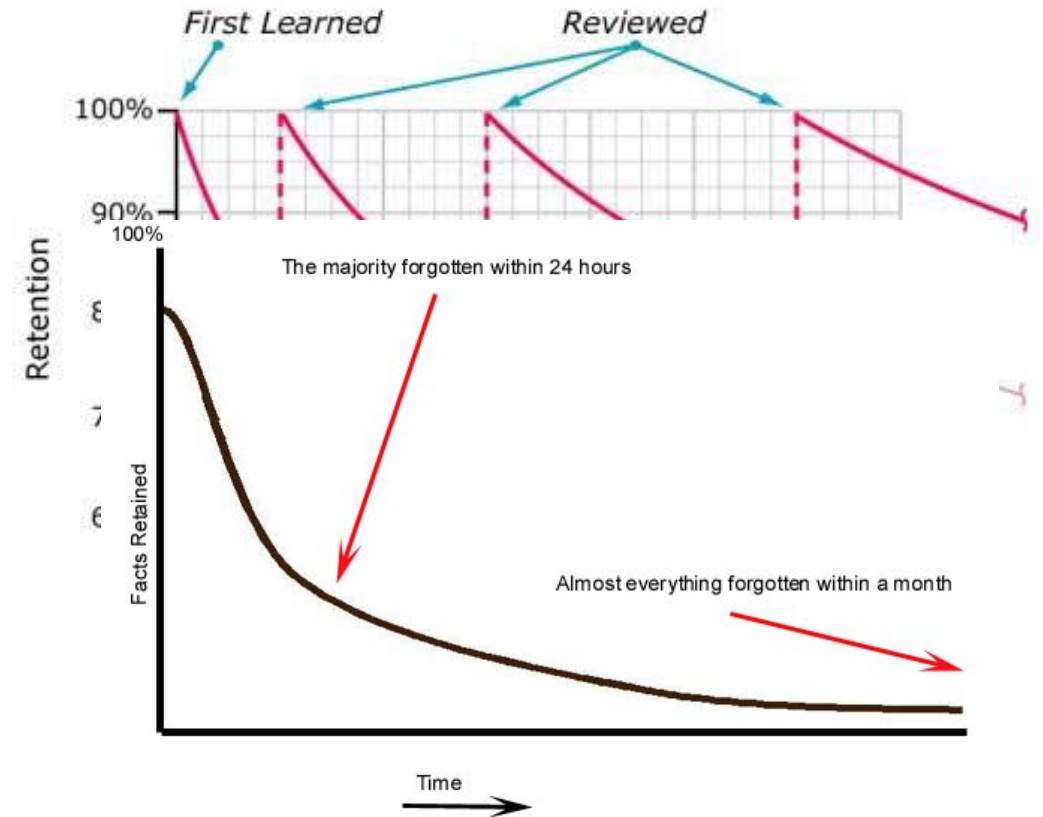
In class we want students to view our lessons as part of a sequence over-time and not one-off events

This could apply this to your revision...

Study -> test -> test -> test



Typical Forgetting Curve for Newly Learned Information

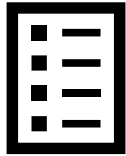


The Curve of Forgetting

Creating a revision timetable - Why use one?



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Makes sure you revise all the content in the time you have.

It makes you use your time efficiently and revise for long enough.

You can have guilt free breaks.



Makes you dedicate more time to the topics you need to improve on.

It can motivate you and is satisfying when you successfully complete each day.

You don't waste time thinking about what to revise



EMPOWER
LEARNING ACADEMY TRUST

Deciding what to revise



- Identify which subject and topic you most need to improve on.
- Set targets on how to improve these.
- Fill in one week at a time so you can continually review and prioritise.
- Spend some time every Sunday planning for the next week.



Subject	Topics
English	Macbeth- Characters and quotations Macbeth- Act 3 (The murder of Banquo) Inspector calls- Act 1 (The Birlings) Inspector calls- Capitalism vs Socialism
Maths	Quadratic Equations Probability Trigonometry
Science	Biology- Cells and Control Physics- Radioactivity Chemistry- Atomic Structure and Periodic Table
Geography	Ecosystems- Nutrient and Water Cycle. Ecosystems- Renewable and Non-Renewable energy Rural to urban- Brownfield and Greenfield sites
GCSE PE	Skeletal System Movement analysis- Levers, planes and axis Impact of a sedentary lifestyle

Day/Week	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Week 1	English- Macbeth- Characters and quotes GCSE PE- Skeletal System	Maths- Quadratic Equations Business- Marketing- The 3 P's.	Science- Biology- Cells and Control Spanish- Vocab for listening	English- Inspector Calls- Act 1 (The Birlings) Geography- Ecosystems, water cycle	Maths- Probability Geography- Ecosystems- Renewable and non-renewable energy	Science- Physics- Radioactivity English- Macbeth- Act 3 (The murder of Banquo)	Maths- Trigonometry Review- What went well? What needs more time?
Week 2	English- Inspector Calls- Capitalism vs Socialism GCSE PE- Movement analysis- Levers	Maths- Circle theorems Business- Sources of finances	Science- Chemistry- Atomic structures Spanish- Identity and Culture (family)	English- Inspector Calls- Key characters and quotes Geography- Rural and urban links- Brownfield	Maths- Ratio GCSE PE- Planes and Axis	Science- Physics- Waves English- Macbeth- Act 3 (The murder of Banquo)	Maths- Probability Review- What went well? What needs more time?
Week 3	English- Inspector Calls- Act 3 The inspectors speech GCSE PE- Sedentary lifestyles	Maths- Vectors Business- Finance formulas	Science- Chemistry- Purifying substances Spanish- Employment	English- Inspector Calls- Theme of Power Geography- Rural and urban links- Migration	Maths- Quadratic equations Business- Business locations	Science- Biology of a plant English- Macbeth- Act 4 Prophecies of witchcraft	Geography- Biodiversity Review- What went well? What needs more time?

Ineffective Revision Strategies

Students often feel as they have been 'busy' doing these, thinking that they are revising hard. However, they have little impact.



Re-Reading

This gives a false sense that you 'know it'. However, your brain isn't doing any hard work or learning.



Highlighting

It wastes time and leaves you focusing on a narrow area, often missing the big picture.



Cramming

This essentially overloads your working memory, you can't learn it all. It causes stress/anxiety before exams.



Re-Writing

Writing out your notes again isn't making your brain do any hard work, it simply wastes time.



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What does work?

Creating Positive Revision Routines

Before we look at effective ways to revise, it's important that a positive space for revision is created, with established routines that are flexible enough to support your child.



Timing Revision

Revision is most effective when it is **repeated and spaced** – leaving revision to the last minute denies students this opportunity



Planning for Rest

We are less effective when we are tired and fed up – **revision is a marathon not a sprint** – plan plenty of breaks and reward time.

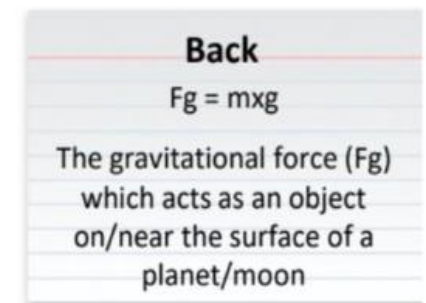
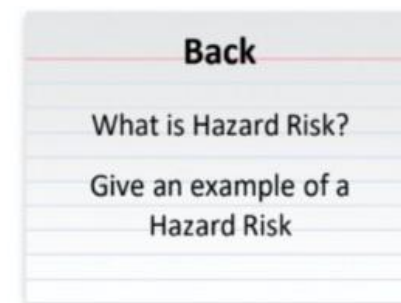
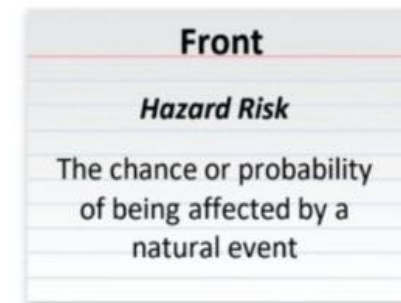
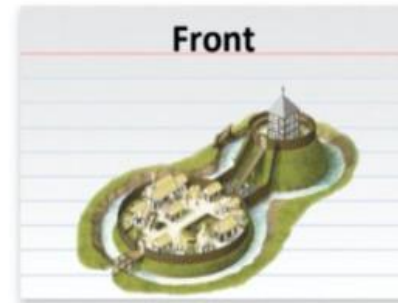


Study Environments

Creating the perfect study space is really important – noise level, light level, comfortable clothes and having equipment to hand help to **create the right working environment.**

Retrieval Practice

- Retrieval practice is a learning strategy which makes you think hard and brings information to mind.
- It is the action of actively retrieving knowledge that boosts learning and strengthens memory.
- Knowledge quizzing, low stakes quizzes, multiple-choice tests.
- Completing past exam papers*.
- Summarising, using flash cards so you can test your knowledge.



How to use flash cards effectively

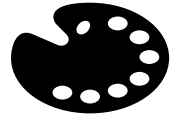


Identify knowledge

What are you creating a flash card on?

Do you have your GCSE specification?

Use your book to look at previous misconceptions from feedback.



Colour coding

Use different coloured flash cards for different topics. This helps with organization NOT recall.



Designing

1 Question per card
Making them concise and clear.

Use a one word prompt, so that you can recall as much as you can.

No extended answer questions.



Using

Write your answers down, or say your answers out loud. This shows gaps in your knowledge.

Do not copy and re-read.

Shuffle the cards each time you use them.



Feedback

How have you performed when you look back at your answers?

Is there any topics you need to revise in more detail?

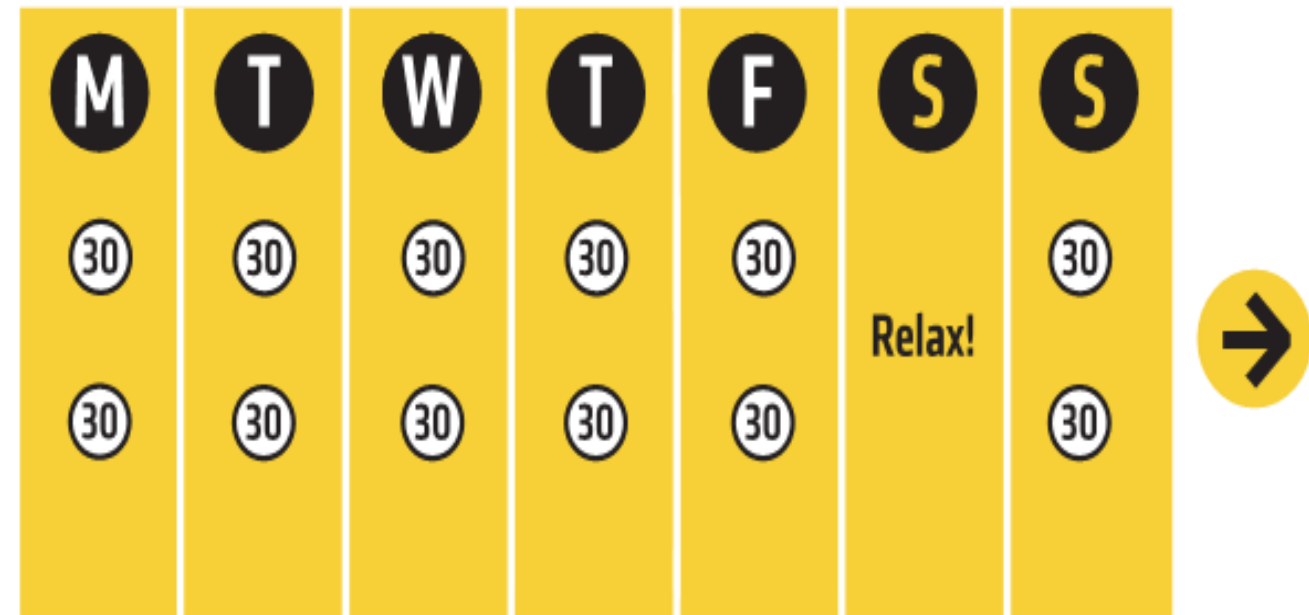
Is your knowledge secure? If so, move on.

Avoid answering the questions in your head: research shows that when you read a question and answer it in your head, you aren't testing your knowledge effectively.

Spaced Retrieval Practice

- Spacing out your revision into smaller chunks over a period of time helps you remember the material better.
- This ensures that you are not cramming as it will overload your memory and make you overconfident.
- By leaving time between revising and testing, the harder your brain works, the more chance of remembering.
- It also ensures that you are less stressed!

Instead of mass practice, a much more effective way of revising is to space out your revision like this:



By breaking up your revision into 30 minute chunks and spacing out the time between revision, you will consolidate what you have learned and retain the material much more effectively.

Interleaving

A much more effective way of organising your revision would be like this:

M	T	W	T	F
MACBETH	UNSEEN POETRY	AN INSPECTOR CALLS	JEKYLL AND HYDE	CREATIVE WRITING
AN INSPECTOR CALLS	JEKYLL AND HYDE	CREATIVE WRITING	MACBETH	UNSEEN POETRY
CREATIVE WRITING	MACBETH	UNSEEN POETRY	AN INSPECTOR CALLS	JEKYLL AND HYDE

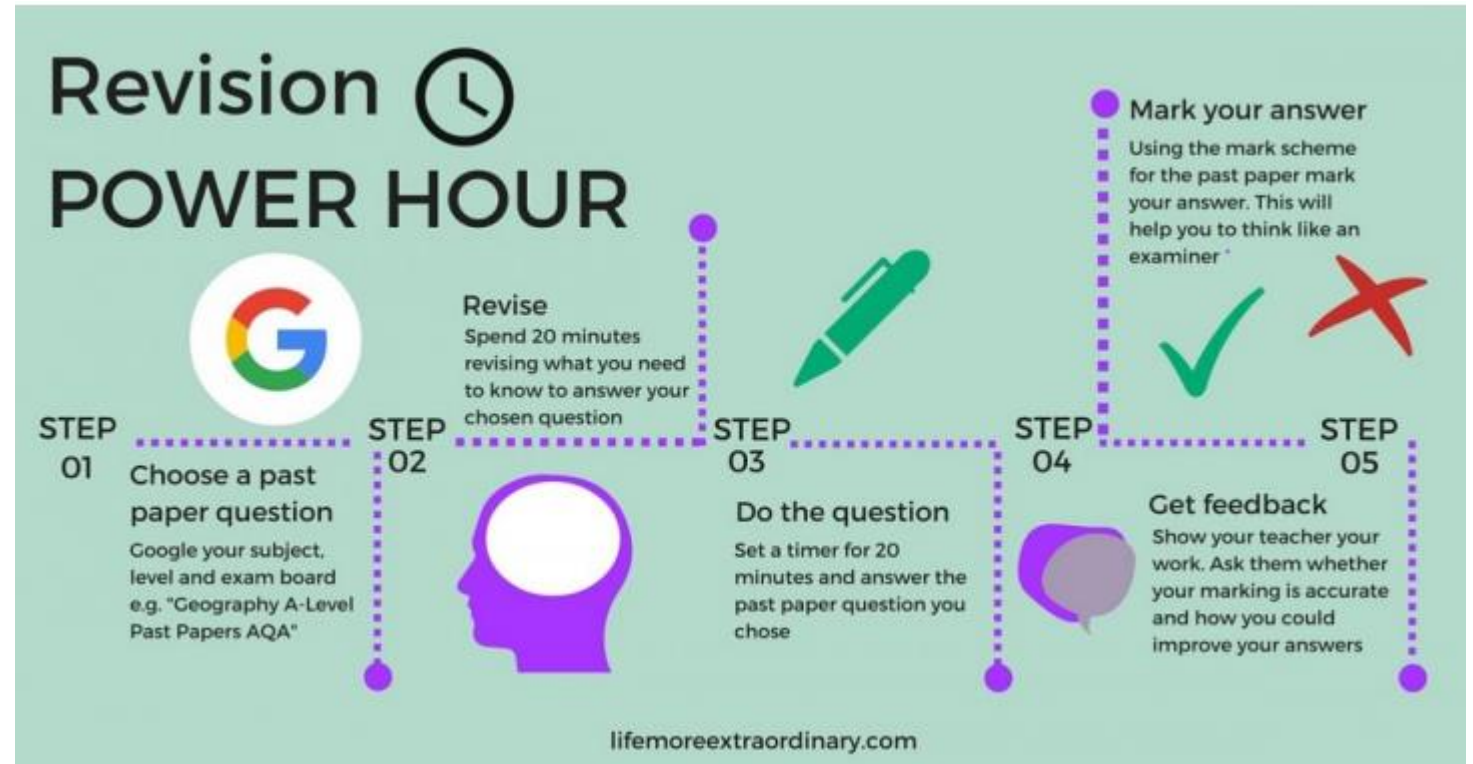
As you are doing this, another highly effective strategy is to try to think of connections between topics you are studying considering similarities and differences.

Studying one topic for a long time can give them impression you have mastered it but often this can be misleading.

- Interleaving involves switching between ideas and topics during a study session and not revising in blocks of topics.
- This ensures that you are not studying one idea/topic for too long.
- Mixing up your revision and not chunking it supports learning and strengthens your memory.

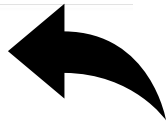
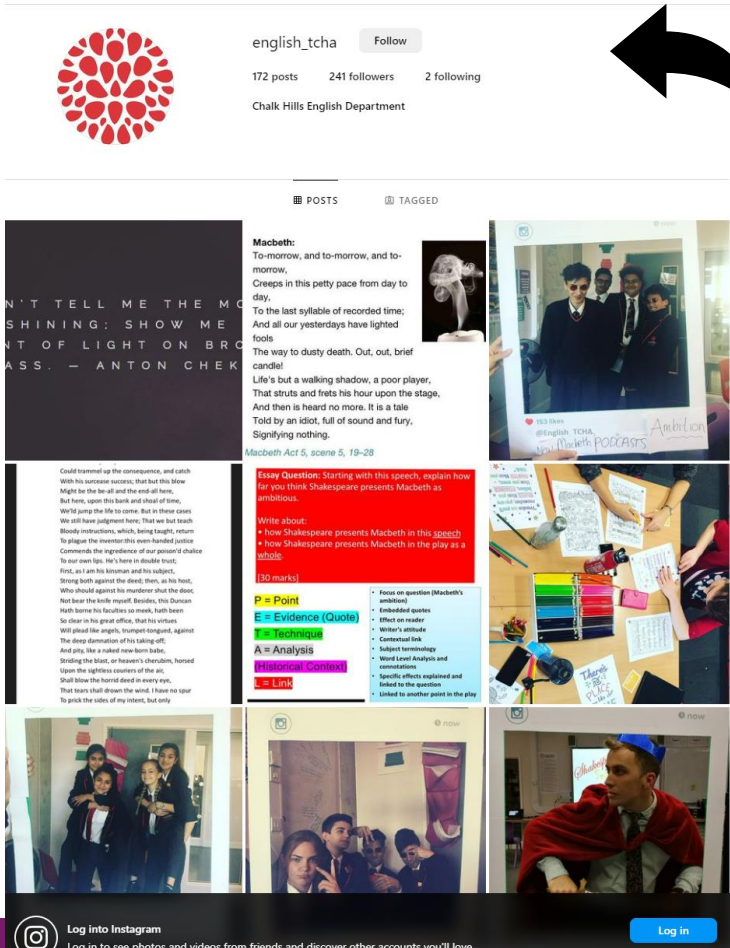
Avoiding Procrastination: How do you do a revision power hour?

1. Find a past paper question to answer (and the mark scheme!)
2. Set a timer and spend 20 minutes revising what you need to know – flashcards, brain dumps, cornell notes!
3. Do the question
4. Check the answer
5. Show your teacher!



How good is technology?

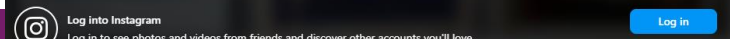
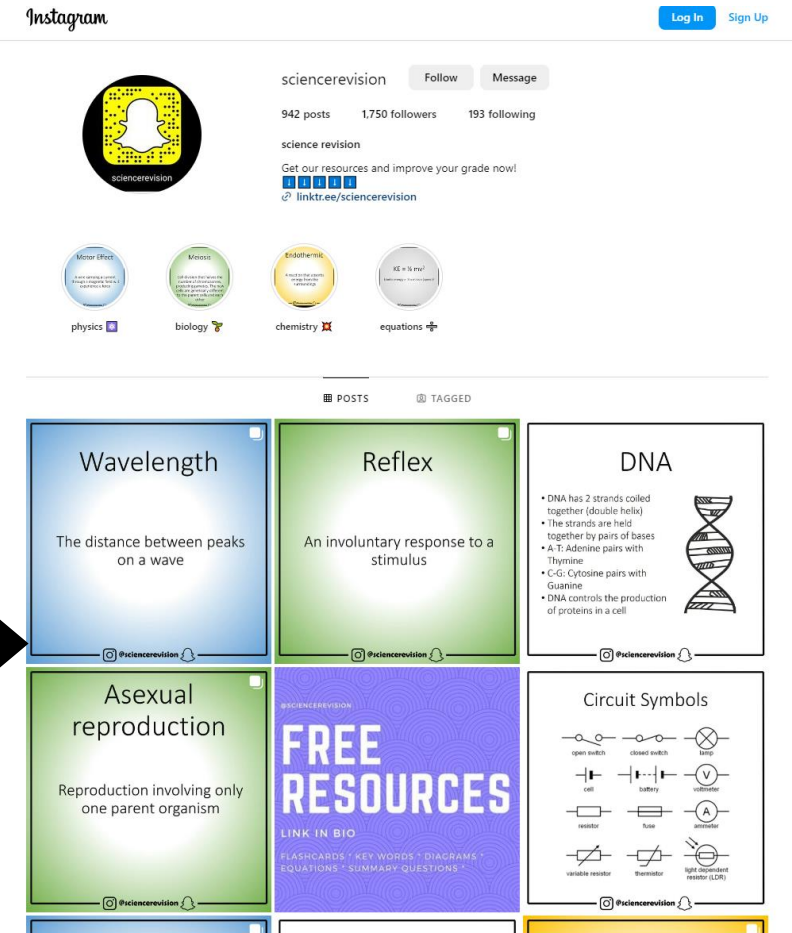
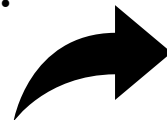
1. Instagram



English_Tcha (GCSE English):
This is Chalk Hill Academy's Instagram page for their pupils

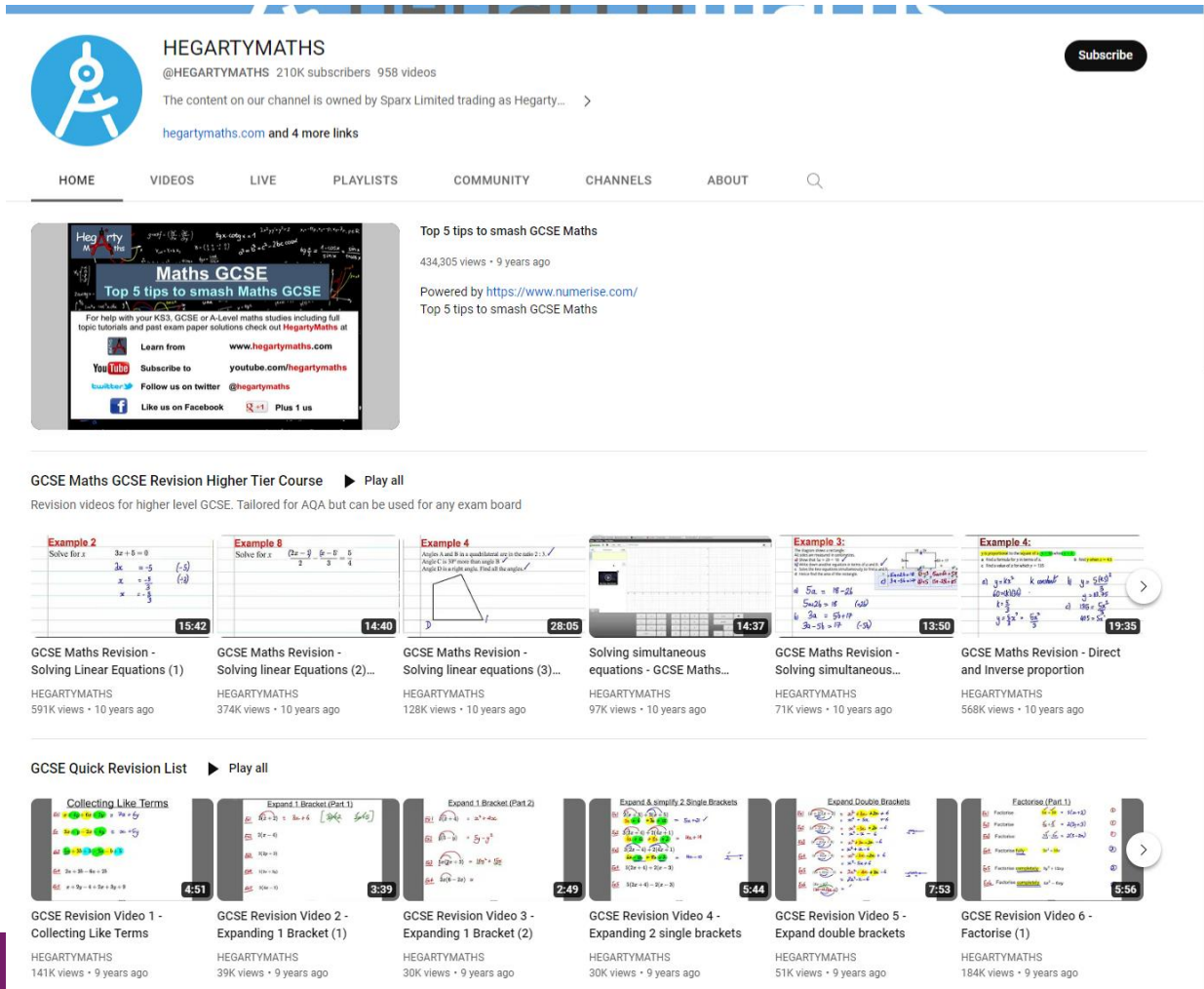
They regularly post about exam technique, annotated texts and how to use key terminology.

ScienceRevision (GCSE Science):
Science Revision accounts are available to follow on multiple social media sites They tweet a flash card a day about a key scientific word.



How good is technology?

2. Youtube



The screenshot shows the YouTube channel for HegartyMaths. The channel name is HEGARTYMATHS, with 210K subscribers and 958 videos. The content is owned by Sparx Limited trading as Hegarty. The channel has a 'Subscribe' button and a search icon. Below the channel information, there are navigation tabs for HOME, VIDEOS, LIVE, PLAYLISTS, COMMUNITY, CHANNELS, and ABOUT. The main content area features a video titled 'Top 5 tips to smash GCSE Maths' with 434,305 views, 9 years old, and a 'Powered by' link to numerise.com. Below this, there are two rows of video thumbnails. The first row is titled 'GCSE Maths GCSE Revision Higher Tier Course' and includes six thumbnails for solving linear equations, simultaneous equations, and inverse proportion. The second row is titled 'GCSE Quick Revision List' and includes six thumbnails for collecting like terms, expanding brackets, and factorising.

HegartyMaths (GCSE Maths)

This is one example of a channel that uploads videos about key topics with straight forward steps on how the achieve the correct answer. Watching videos at your own pace is really important!

You can find Geography, Science, English, History, Film, DT, Drama examples everywhere – these include walking through exam questions with you inc. sharing model answers

How good is technology?

3. Tiktok

TikTok can be very useful – short revision videos are proven to significantly help your memory

As long as we avoid the infinite scroll on our FYP, TikTok can be really powerful.

Some creators even include weekly free lessons and past papers like Hannah Kettle Maths



Hannah Kettle
MATHS TUTORIALS

GCSE LIVE LESSONS:

FOUNDATION 7-8PM, HIGHER 8-9PM

Open to Everyone | Subscribers Only

Weds 29th March	Sun 26th March
Weds 12th April	Sun 16th April
Weds 19th April	Sun 23rd April
Weds 26th April	Sun 30th April
Weds 3rd May	Sun 7th May
Weds 10th May	Sun 14th May
Weds 17th May	Sun 21st May

FRI 19TH MAY PAPER 1

Weds 24th May	Sun 28th May
Weds 31st May	Sun 4th June
Tues 6th June	

WEDS 7TH JUNE P2

Tues 13th June	Sun 11th June
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WEDS 14TH JUNE PAPER 3



How good is technology?

4. Revision Apps

Kahoot!

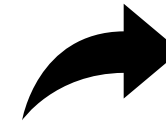
Great app for creating timed quizzes for added competition for key words or ideas.



Exam season can be stressful for pupils and mindfulness can be a way to combat this and improve grades overall.



BREATHR



A study and flashcard app, Quizlet let's you create quizzes with your own information. There are also 400million quizzes already available across a wide range or areas.

The Hall Mead Revision Revolution

What are we going to be doing for our students?

Publishing of exam timetables early	Targeted intervention sessions before PPE2	Targeted intervention sessions following PPE2
Curriculum Support Evening	Easter and May Masterclasses	Learning checklists for all subjects
Dedicated revision space in school	3 weeks of exam techniques during form time	Tutoring programmes and smaller group sessions
Student panels and focus groups in CLT	Individual career appointments to help students plan next steps	Creating revision timetables – masterclass sessions

What to do next? Our 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.



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.



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.



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*)



Use effective study strategies

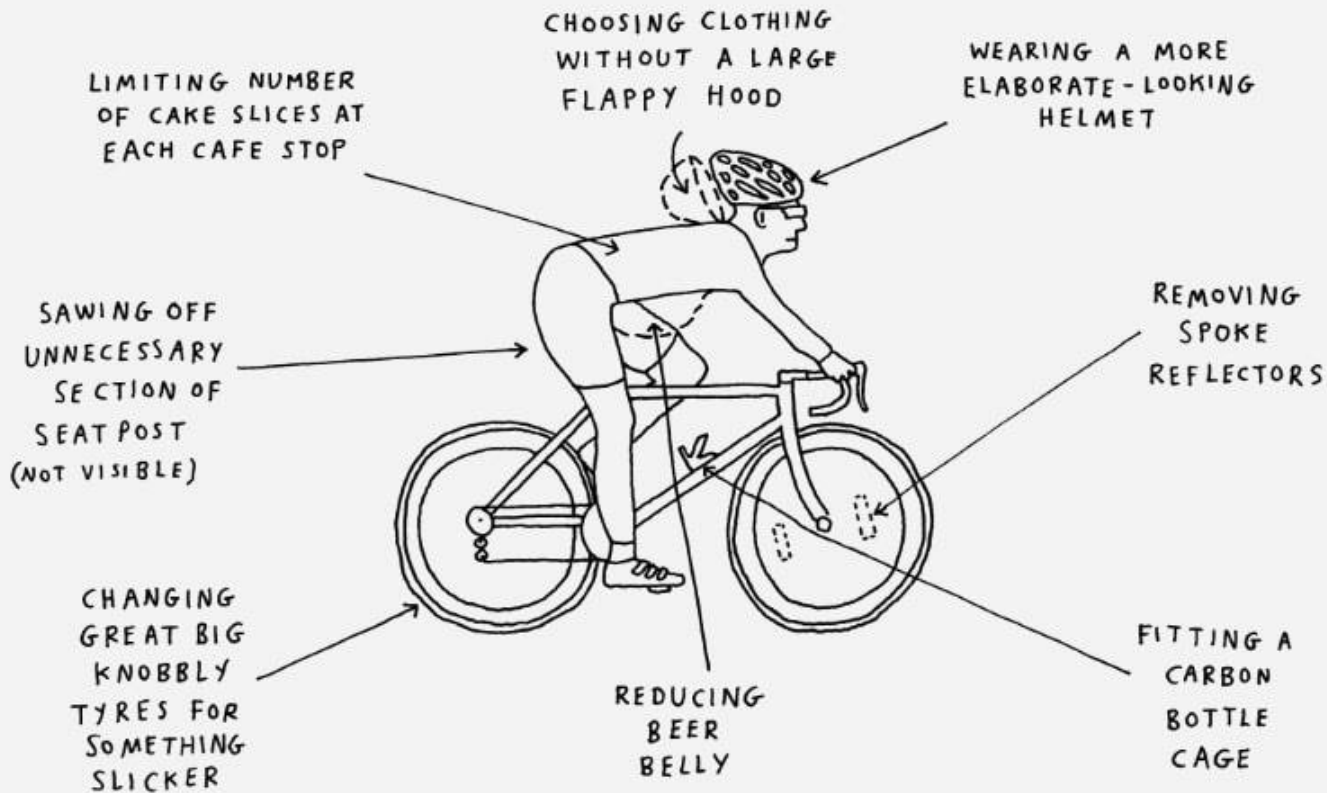
That's what this booklet is all about. Keep re-reading and highlighting to a minimum. Highlight what you need to learn – but that won't make you learn it. Test yourself, using retrieval strategies. Think twice before loading up your favourite playlist!

Be the 1%



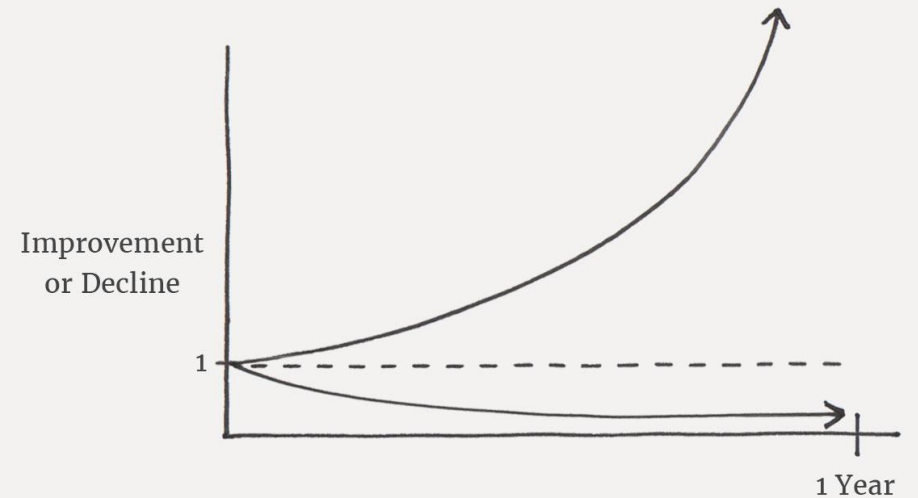
MARGINAL GAINS

HOW THE PROFESSIONALS MAKE SMALL CHANGES TO IMPROVE THEIR PERFORMANCE



The Power of Tiny Gains

$$\begin{aligned} 1\% \text{ better every day} & \quad 1.01^{365} = 37.78 \\ 1\% \text{ worse every day} & \quad 0.99^{365} = 0.03 \end{aligned}$$



JamesClear.com





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If not now, when?

If not you, who?

'Using your memory, shapes your memory'

Bjork, 2012



Key Contacts

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