

Midhurst Rother College Sixth Form

Revising for A Level Exams – A Guide for Students

This is a guide to support students in revising for their internal and external examinations.

Studying for your A Levels can be stressful, and the pressures of examinations are immense – your results can dictate whether you get into your first-choice university or not. However, there are steps you can take to reduce your stress.

Top Tips to Super-charge your Revision

- 1. **Be organised** ask your teachers for a list of topics to revise. Chunk out your time so that you can get through everything. Leave time in case something comes up and you have to catch-up later.
- 2. **Give yourself plenty of time** the earlier you start, the better. Revise in Year 12 as well as Year 13, then you'll have the revision resources ready for your external exams.
- 3. Be on the inside talk to your teachers! Find out how the examiners work by asking about assessment objectives, examiners' reports, mark schemes and so on.
- 4. **Try different learning methods** learn your material in different ways. Try watching YouTube clips, listening to podcasts, making mind-maps and posters, producing flashcards and re-writing notes.
- 5. **Practise Past Papers** ask your teachers for past papers. Alternatively, check the exam board's website for each subject for papers, mark schemes and guides.
- 6. **Take Breaks, Sleep and Eat Properly** it is important to recharge. You will not perform at 100% if you are tired, drained or stressed. You should work hard but take breaks to relax.

Guides from Other Sources

Advice from students on getting A* grades Tips on revising for A Levels Revising for A Levels – Hodder Education ThinkStudent – 7 top tips that actually work King's Education – Guide to Revising for A Levels

Quick Guides

How to Make a Revision Timetable Making Flashcards (YouTube) How to Remember What You Study



Electronic Revision Aids <u>Adapt App</u> – a revision timetabling app for planning out all your topics. <u>Quizlet</u> – a useful flashcard app with many cards made for you. <u>Flow</u> – a useful app to help you time focused chunks of revision.

A Note on A Level Study

The transition from GCSEs to A Levels is a huge one. Many students start off in Year 12 thinking it is easy because teachers deliberately try to pace the amount of knowledge you have to accumulate so that they're not overloaded. However, it all comes together, and you have to remember a huge amount of material by the time the exams come around.

You have three or four subjects at A Level and it is really important that you put in 100% with every one. Use your study periods effectively – don't sit chatting with friends, don't play games – get your head down and study. Even if you aren't set specific homework for a subject, use the time to revise. Remember, you should be doing one hour of work outside of lessons for each hour you spend in class. Did you spend eight hours last week working on each of your A Levels?

Upcoming Exams

It is really important to be aware of when all of your exams are. Print them out and stick them to your ringbinders, or copy them out into your phone or planner.