

10 Ways to Revise for your GCSE Exams

If you're determined to **get as many top grades as possible when you open your GCSE results** in August, you may be searching for better revision techniques. Nothing beats hard-work, especially when it comes to studying, but there are ways you can guide your brain to recall information more easily, which supports your ability to learn.

We have gathered the **best revision techniques from past GCSE students** who achieved top class results to help you understand how you can learn more effectively and therefore improve your GCSE results.

1. Create a Revision Timetable

Building a revision timetable can add structure to your revision and help you **identify which GCSE subjects you need to prioritise to get better marks**. Creating a revision timetable is a great way to organise your study time, plus it also helps boost your motivation to revise for your exams. You can use the Study Planner on Get Revising to help organise your revision.

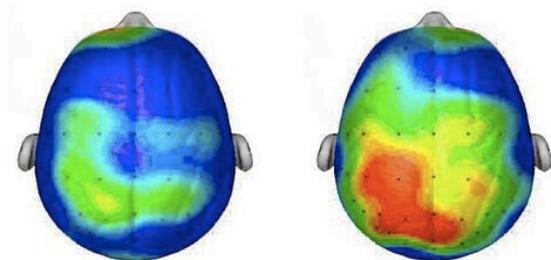


	Mon 20th	Tue 21st	Wed 22nd	Thu 23rd	Fri 24th	Sat 25th	Sun 26th
09:00 - 10:00	GCSE Law	AS Mathematics	AS Psychology	AS Biology	AS Psychology	Lie in	Lie in
10:00 - 11:00	AS Mathematics			add activity	add activity	Badminton	AS Psychology
11:00 - 12:00	AS English Literature (AGA)	Free time	AS Biology	GCSE Law	AS English Literature		add activity
12:00 - 13:00	AS Mathematics (Edexcel)	add activity	add activity	AS English Literature (AGA)	add activity	AS Biology	AS Mathematics (Edexcel)
13:00 - 14:00	Extra Maths revision	AS English Literature	add activity	AS Biology	Lunch with Izzy	AS Biology	add activity
14:00 - 15:00	AS Biology		GCSE Law	AS Psychology	add activity	AS Psychology	add activity
15:00 - 16:00	Individual help	Free time		AS Mathematics	AS Biology	AS Psychology	
16:00 - 17:00			AS Psychology	add activity	add activity	AS Mathematics (Edexcel)	Sarah's birthday
17:00 - 18:00	add activity		add activity	add activity	add activity	GCSE Law	
18:00 - 19:00	Play rehearsal	add activity	GCSE Law	Play rehearsal			
	Dinner	Dinner	Dinner	Dinner	Dinner	Dinner	Dinner

2. Take Regular Study Breaks

Do you feel **stressed, tired and as if no new information is entering your head**? There is no point in forcing yourself to study for hours upon hours as this will not result in a positive outcome. Taking regular study breaks and exercising is proven to engage your brain in study and improve your exam performance. **See the evidence adjacent:**

Composite of 20 student brains taking the same test



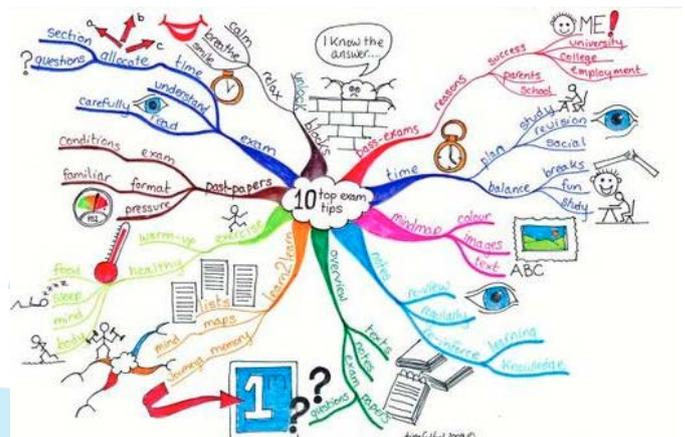
After sitting quietly

After 20 minute walk

Research/Scan compliments of Dr. Chuck Hillman University of Illinois

3. Use Mind Maps to Connect Ideas

If you find it difficult to remember tons of new study notes, Mind Maps may be the key to improving your memory. The theory behind mind mapping explains that making associations by connecting ideas helps you to memorise information more easily and quickly. A Mind Map making tool can be found on the Get revising website, along with Flash Card and Revision Card making tools.



4. Understand Your Learning Style

While many think there is one **best way to study**, the reality is that each person will have a personal preference. Once you discover whether you are a visual, auditory, reading/writing or kinaesthetic learner, then finding efficient study techniques for remembering and recalling new information will become much easier. Experience will also tell you if you work better during the night or in the morning/daytime.



5. Practice, Practice, Practice

One of the biggest recommendations from past GCSE students is to **do as many GCSE past papers as you can**. Completing past papers will help you get familiar with the exam format, question style, time pressure and improve your overall ability to retrieve information more quickly. Practice GCSE exam questions to make sure you are fully prepared for your exams.

6. Collaborate with Classmates

If you find your course syllabus to be 'too much', why not **divide the course study notes between trustworthy classmates** and share your notes with each other? This will reduce your initial workload, plus you will gain an insight into other students' revision techniques, and you may find something new that works for you!



7. Variety is the Spice of Life!

Mix up your study habits and methods by trying some of these: **listening to podcasts; watching videos or documentaries; writing quizzes; moving to different study area; or even something as simple as using different colours for your study notes.**

This is different from other GCSE revision tips mentioned here as it encourages you to try a few different things to see what works for you. Your brain will recall where you were or how you revised for a topic which will help you remember more information. There are different suggestions on the Get Revising website for you to try. Give it a go!



8. Day of Your GCSE Exam

The day of your exam can be the most stressful of the entire examination experience but there are ways which you can **minimise your anxiety** such as avoiding panicking friends, and giving yourself plenty of time to get to school. Plus don't underestimate the power of eating a healthy breakfast the day of your exams!



9. Adapt for Different GCSE Subjects

It may seem obvious but many students try to study for different subjects using the same study methods. **Your GCSE revision should take account of the difference between your subjects** and the challenges they represent.

For example, flashcards are an ideal study aid to help prepare for a Spanish, French or German exam and exams such as GCSE Science where you need to remember key definitions. However, an Online Quiz is a great way to test your GCSE Maths skills. Once you understand that different subjects need to be approached in different ways, there is no stopping you!



10. Twitter!

All faculties have Twitter pages for you to follow. They will Tweet regularly with tips and questions for you to try.

