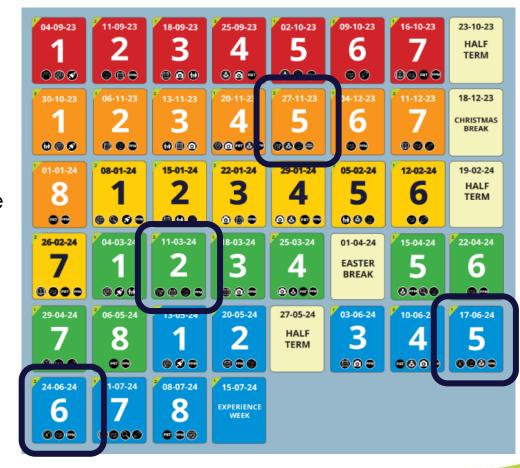


Parent Forum: Assessment Preparation



Assessment at EPC...

- At EPC we use our Annual Learning Programme Cycle to map out what happens during the academic year.
- At two points in the year (LP2:5 and LP4:2), pupils complete summative assessments.
- These assessments are based on everything the pupils have learnt so far in the year and provide teachers with a full and complete picture of what your child knows and what their next steps are.
- We also have an exam fortnight at the end of the school year (LP5:5 & 6). This serves a similar purpose to the summative assessments that we complete throughout the year.



Our Vision:

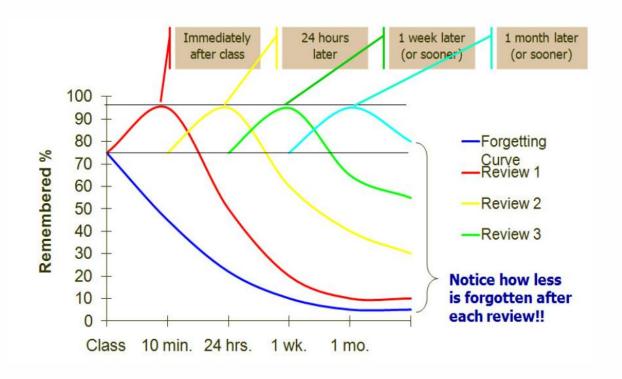
Our Vision...

- We want to ensure that every child understands both the importance of these assessments, as well as how they can effectively prepare for them.
- If we can develop good habits early on, then it will mean by the time pupils face external examinations in Year 11, they will already know how to revise.
- Creating excellent habits now will ensure better outcomes in the future.

Our Vision:

Why revision is important...

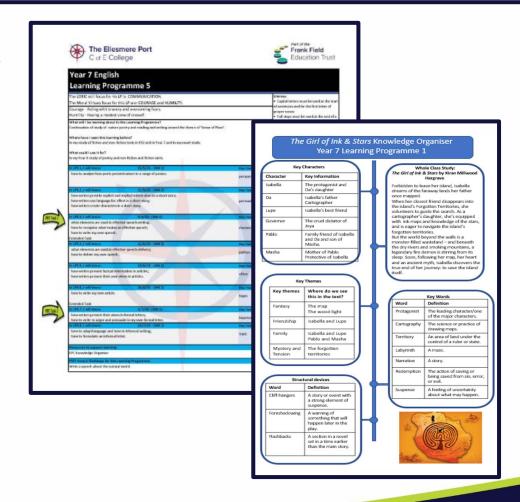
- Regularly revisiting information helps form neural pathways in your brain, making it a permanent fixture.
- Effective revision can help increase confidence and reduce anxiety surrounding your assessment.
- Studies have shown that an effective revision strategy can help explain up to 30% difference in how well people do in their final exam/assessment.



Our Vision:

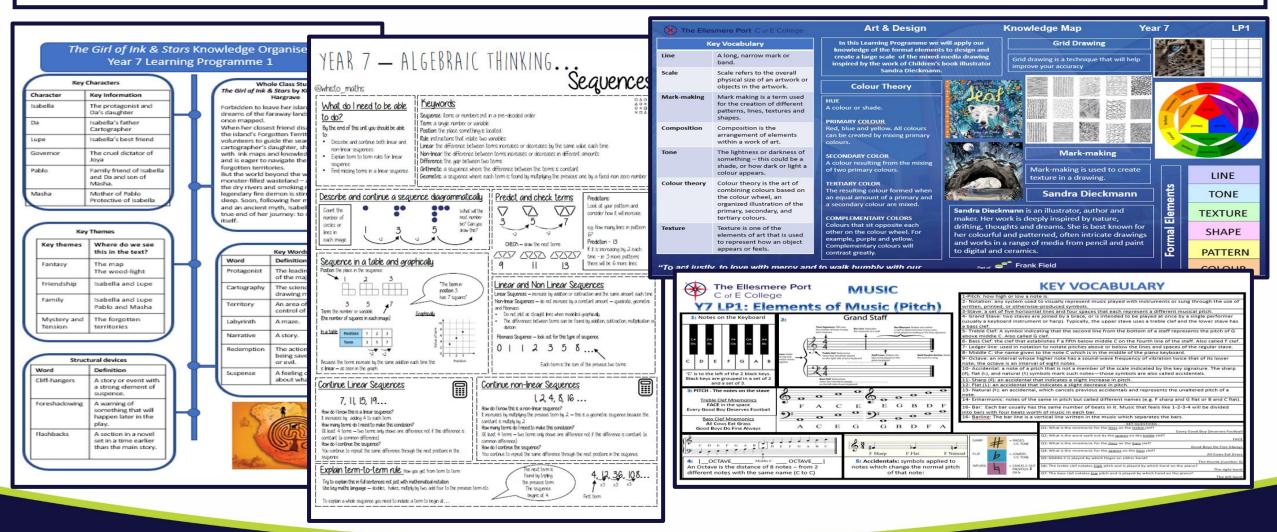
Where to start...

- Each subject creates a 'Learning Programme' to map out the content for each part of the school year.
- These are available on the school website.
- Each subject also creates a 'Knowledge Organiser' to identify the core knowledge pupils will need for each topic.
- These are in every pupils' book.
- Most subjects use an exercise book for your child to complete their work in. This will contain everything your child needs to revise. It will also contain PRTs and teacher feedback so your child knows how to improve on what they have already done.



Our Vision:

Knowledge Organisers



Our Vision:

To act justly, to love with mercy and to walk humbly with our God

Revision Timetables

- Building a revision timetable can add **structure** to your **revision** and help you to identify which 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 assessments. Recognising a need for a revision timetable means that you
 have already made a great start to combat assessment stress.
- Planning out what you will revise, when you will revise it, and how you will revise it is the very first step to completing assessments successfully.

Our Vision:

Work *around* Homework tasks. These tasks *are* revision.

Build around the school day and any activities you may have after school.

Aim to fit *some* revision in every day.

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Subject	Sessions Per Week
9am									
10am									
11am									
12pm									
1pm									
2pm									
3pm									
4pm									
5pm									
6pm									

Be REALISTIC – you know what will challenge you.

Be DETAILED – write times, subjects, even topics to revise.

Plan breaks and give yourself adequate time to 'switch off' and relax after your revision.

Our Vision:

To act justly, to love with mercy and to walk humbly with our God

Be Specific:

Once you have the bones of a revision timetable in place, you can now be more specific with what you will revise.



	MON	TUES	WED	THUR
4pm	Maths			
	PE			
5pm	RS			

7		MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT	SUN
	4pm	Maths	RS	English Lit.				
		MathsWatch	Christianity	'Macbeth'				
		Practice questions	Concept Map	Character Concept Map				
	5pm	Practice questions	Practice questions	Character essay plan <u>timed</u>				
				MathsWatch				

Our Vision:

To act justly, to love with mercy and to walk humbly with our God

2. Create the right environment

Paying attention to information you are trying to revise will help ensure it is encoded into your memory. Working in a noisy environment or where there are distractions can make it more difficult for revision to be effective.

You can accommodate this by providing a desk or space to work at. Or by encouraging your child to work in a quiet space – without the distractions of the television or their mobile phone!



Our Vision:

3. Use different revision methods...

- Flash Cards
- Mind Maps
- Concept Maps
- Mnemonics
- Dual Coding

Flashcards

- Flashcards are a great way of training your **memory**. They train you to actively recall information.
- You write key topics/prompts on one side and all the information you need for that topic on the other. It is essentially like writing your own revision guide! When you reveal the answer side of a flashcard to assess your correctness, you are essentially asking yourself "How did my answer compare to this correct answer?" and "How well did I know (or not know) it?" This act of reflection is known as **metacognition** and metacognition deepens knowledge. Fact.
- They will support you to feel confident about a topic and because flashcards exist loosely, rather than
 tied to a book or document, you are able to separate them into piles based on whether (or how often)
 you need to study them again.

Our Vision:

Buy or make some cards. Make sure that they are **small** (half A5) and that you cannot see through them.



On the back, you can then list or detail the key things (cues) you need to remember about the topic.



Add key subjects or topics clearly on the front which will be your prompts.



You can use the prompt to **recall** the information out loud and then check it.

Or you can have someone show you the prompt and check the information as you recall it.

They are for Testing; not summarising

Our Vision:

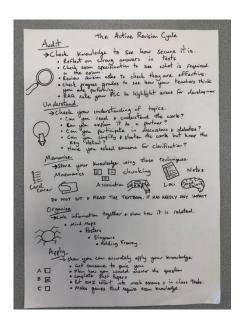


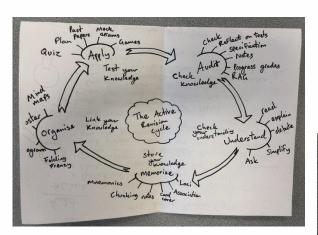
Concept and Mindmaps

- Concept Maps are a great way of **condensing** lots of information into chunks which are **easy to digest**.
- They are very **visual** and can help you to **explore** ideas, thought processes, problems or topics.
- They can also be carried with you (via your revision files, planners or exercise books), so you can jot ideas **in lessons** and then **review them at home**.
- They can also support you to prioritise the information or topics you need to revise.

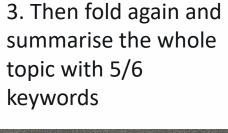
Our Vision:

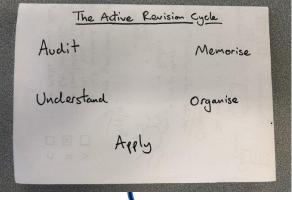
1. Start by making a page of notes on a topic. Use lots of keywords and some images

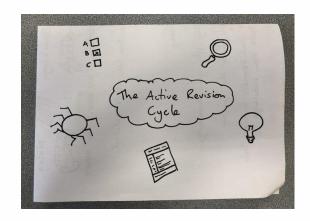




2. Then fold your notes and make a summary diagram, keeping the keywords you have used but organising the information



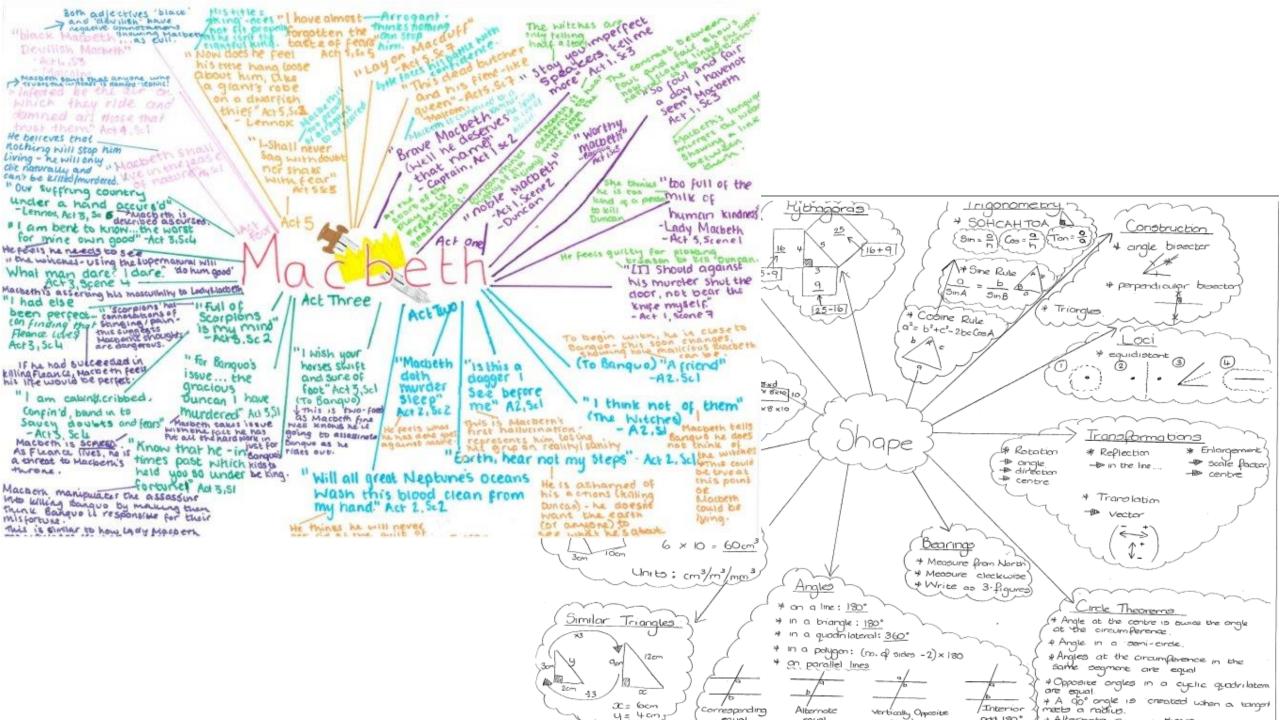




4. Lastly flip over and summarise the topic with a few images. You have now synthesised the information 4 times. You can be tested and check your knowledge in multiple ways. The more unfolded the folding frenzy, the less confident you are on a topic.



Our Vision:



Mnemonics

- Mnemonics are **memory devices** that help learners recall larger pieces of information, especially in the form of lists like characteristics, steps, stages, parts, phases, etc.
- The word comes from the Greek **mnemonikós**, which refers to the mind.
- It has been regularly proven since the 1960s that mnemonics increase recall by up to 77%!
- Many types of mnemonics exist and which type works best is limited only by the imagination of each individual learner.
- Some examples of mnemonics include Song, Expression, Spelling and Rhyme.
- You will already be aware of many mnemonics, but creating your own is a great way to train your memory.

Our Vision:

Some examples from across the curriculum

MFL

O pinionC onnective

R eason

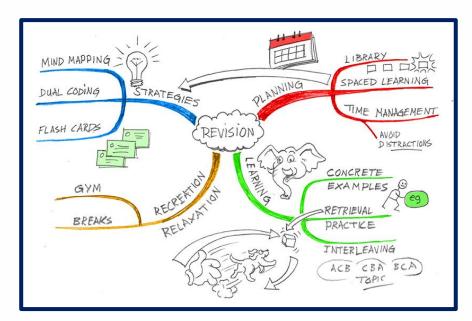
MATHS Some Of Harry's Cats Are Healthy Till Old Age

	Negative	Positive		
M	malicious	MOTIVATED		
A	anxious	AMBITIOUS		
С	callous	COURAGEOUS		
В	barbaric	BRAVE		
E	emotional	EMOTIONAL		
Т	tyrannical	TORMENTED		
Н	heinous (immoral)	HONEST		

Our Vision:

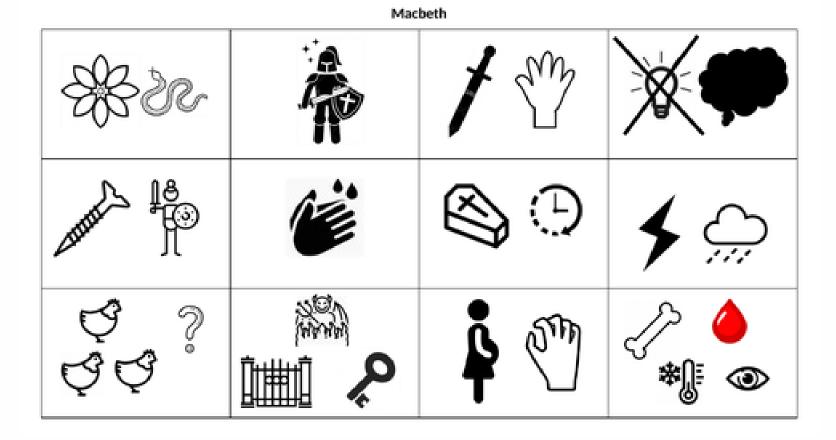
Dual Coding

- Dual coding is when you use a combination of pictures/visuals and words to help you learn and revise.
- By transferring the material from a visual form into words, or from words into visuals, you are strengthening the connections in your brain around the material itself.
- You are also giving yourself multiple formats to remember things in – the words might act as a memory hook for the visuals, or you might remember the visuals and that will trigger the memory of the words.



Macbeth



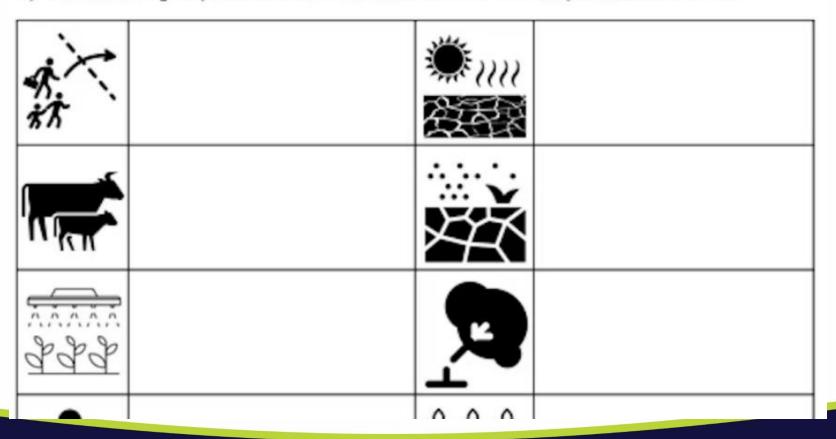


Our Vision:

Geography

There are many causes and impacts of desertification.

- Try to work out what each of the pictures represents.
- 2) Colour code whether it represents a cause of desertification, an impact, or both.
- 3) Explain how each one either causes desertification or is an impact of desertification.
- 4) Extended writing explain how the different factors interact to cause the process of desertification.



Our Vision:

4. Recall, or Look, Cover, Write, Check

Repeating information several times helps to encode it into your memory, making it easier to recall later. This can be as simple as saying something out loud, writing it down or reviewing it multiple times.

Practising being able to recall information from memory will help strengthen it. This can be done through using **quizzes**, writing down what you can remember or relaying information to someone else.

Look, cover, write, check is a simple way of recalling information. You look at the content, cover it up, write out what you can remember and then check what you included/missed. This helps pupils identify the gaps in their knowledge so they know what to revise next.

Our Vision:

Stress & Emotion

Our Vision:



Identifying Stress

Stress can be good sometimes, it can help you to work harder and focus. But it can also have a big effect on you and make it hard to cope. Stress might be affecting your child if they are:

- struggling to sleep
- having negative thoughts about the future
- getting headaches or feeling unwell frequently
- not eating because of how you're feeling
- always thinking about your exams or worrying about them
- not able to enjoy things.



Our Vision:

Talk

Talking about how they're feeling can reduce the pressure and help them to feel more in control. Or it can help someone realise that they might be putting too much pressure on them.

Encourage:

- talking to an someone they trust you!
- asking a friend for support



Our Vision:

To act justly, to love with mercy and to walk humbly with our God

Keeping Healthy

It can be tough trying to stay healthy when they've got a lot of work to do. But there are small things they can do every day to help them cope:

- •Eat healthily Make sure they don't skip meals and encourage them to eat healthy meals.
- •Exercise Exercising can clear their mind and give them more energy, they could play sports, go for a run or do some yoga.
- •Self-care Taking care means finding things that help them to feel calm and relaxed, this could mean taking a short break or getting some rest.



Our Vision:

Strategies for Coping with Stress & Emotion

Think positively – replace sayings such as 'I can't do this' or 'I'm going to fail' with 'everything is going to be ok'.

Be honest about how you feel – make sure you talk to someone when stress and your emotions feel too much

Don't compare yourself to your friends – whilst a bit of competition can keep you motivated, it can also make you feel like you are not good enough. Try keeping a list of the revision you have done so you can see what you have accomplished and feel proud.

Let your stress out – write about how you feel, talk to a trusted friend/adult, exercise or meditate

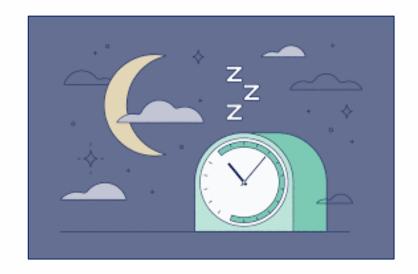
Our Vision:



Getting enough sleep

Sleep is crucial for memory consolidation, which is the process of transferring information from your short-term memory to your long-term memory. Ensuring you get enough quality sleep will improve your ability to recall information from memory.

Once assessments have started, panic-revising into the early hours interferes with memory recall, concentration and, therefore, assessment performance the next day. As well as that, the brain is less able to absorb new information late at night, so it's doubly unhelpful.



Our Vision:

Encourage regular breaks

No matter how much work you have to do, it's important to take regular breaks and find ways to relax. Taking a break can leave you feeling more able to cope, and even make it easier to concentrate when you start working again.

There are lots of things you can do to take a break and relax:

- Set a timer to take a 20 minute break every hour so you don't forget.
- Give yourself something to look forward to, like a treat or an activity you enjoy.
- Plan when you're going to start and finish your revision so you know when to stop.



Encouraging exercise

Exercise is a great way to destress, increase blood flow to the brain and improve cognitive function.

Stress and anxiety will have a negative impact on the effectiveness of any revision task you undertake. Activities such as yoga, meditation or breathing exercises can help you to de-stress.





Our Vision:

The Circle of Control

questions on the paper structure my actions my revision planner other people's actions

This activity can help you think about what you can and can not control to allow you to focus on your exam preparation a little better.

My actions

When I revise

How long I revise for

My revision planner

Topics I need to revise

My nutrition/hydration

Equipment list

Where the exam is

How long the exam is for

How many marks are available

Structure of the paper

Types of questions, long, short, multiple choice

Questions on the paper

Other people's actions

Our Vision:

To act justly, to love with mercy and to walk humbly with our God C Veitc