

First BIG GCSE Exam 2026

115 School DAYS



**Tuesday 23rd
September
2025**

**115 DAYS
TO GO**

All is possible

A black and white photograph of Martin Luther King Jr. speaking at a podium. He is wearing a dark suit, white shirt, and dark tie. His mouth is open as if he is in the middle of speaking. In front of him are several microphones. To his left and right are two men wearing white hats, looking towards the camera. The background is dark and out of focus.

We have a dream

Thursday
20th August
2026

9:00am









**Tuesday 23rd
September
2025**

**115 DAYS
TO GO**

All is possible

Celebrate successes so far...

- 94.07% attendance
- Over 90% attendance at period 6
- Positive attitudes to learning
- 2531 positive points on classcharts
- 1413 pieces of home learning set
- 94% home learning completed

Monday 22 Sep	Tuesday 23 Sep	Wednesday 24 Sep	Thursday 25 Sep	Friday 26 Sep
11y/En1 English K Bradbury	11C/Hi2 History C Brown	11C/Cs1 Computer Science S Howells	11D/Bs1 Business Mrs C Gray	11C/Bs1 Business Mrs C Gray
11x/En1 English K Bradbury	11D/Ho1 Hospitality and Catering Miss A Savigar	11C/Gg1 Geography L Farmer	11y/En3 English V Dorsett	11B/Cc1 Childcare Mrs R Coley
11C/Fr1 French Mrs J Collins-Dodd	11D/Md2 Media K Jones	11C/Hi2 History A Allsopp	11x/En2 English V Dorsett	11x/En3 English V Hayward
11D/Hi1 History A Allsopp	11D/Md1 Media K Jones	11y/Sc3 Science Miss M Cullis	11B/Gg1 Geography Mr W Elver	11y/En2 English K Smith
11B/Hi2 History E Gilles	11y/Sc1 Science M Munir	11D/So1 Sociology C Brown	11D/Gg1 Geography L Farmer	11x/En4 English T Webster
11x/Sc2 Science Ms P Bobowska	11x/Sc2 Science Miss G Chandler		11x/Ma3 Maths S Poynton	11D/Fr1 French Mrs C Freeman
11y/Sc2 Science Mr D Dale	11y/Sc2 Science Miss M Cullis		11C/Sc2 Science Miss M Cullis	11C/Hs1 Health and Social Care Mrs R Coley
11C/Te1 Technology J Davenport	11x/Ts1 Triple Science Ms P Bobowska			11x/Ma4 Maths Mr S Parmar
11x/Ts1 Triple Science Miss G Chandler				11x/Ma5 Maths M Joss
				11x/Ma2 Maths J Wythe
				11y/Ma2 Maths A Hill
				11x/Ma1 Maths S Northwood
				11y/Ma1 Maths Ms S Newton
				11y/Ma3 Maths S Poynton
				11y/Sc3 Science Mr D Dale





What's ahead?



Year 11 Roadmap 2025-2026



**Do not book a holiday until after the 1st July 2026
and the exam season is over**



September

- Thurs 4th Sep at 8.30am - Y11 return
- w/c 8th Sep - Revision topic lists shared with pupils.
- w/c 8th Sep – Careers Interviews Begin
- w/c 15th Sep - Phase 1 targeted Period 6 & breakfast commence (4 weeks)
- Tues 23rd Sep - Y11 Parent Study Skills Evening
- Timetable for October mocks shared with students.

October

- w/c 6th Oct – French Speaking Exams
- w/c 13th Oct - Mock Exams Window 1 Begins
- Fri 24th Oct – INSET DAY

October Half-Term: 27th – 31st October

November

- w/c 3rd Nov - Phase 2 targeted Period 6 & breakfast clubs commence (4 weeks)
- Tues 18th Nov – 6th Form Open Evening
- Tues 18th Nov – 6th Form Applications Open
- Fri 21st Nov – 6th Form Taster Sessions
- Mon 24th Nov – Mock Results

December

- w/c 1st Dec - Phase 3 targeted Period 6 & breakfast clubs commence (7 weeks)
- Thurs 4th Dec – Y11 Parents Evening
- w/c 15th Dec – No Period 6

Christmas Holiday Dates: 19th Dec – 4th Jan



January

- w/c 5th Jan - Revision topic lists shared with pupils.
- w/c 12th Jan - P6 restarts
- Fri 16th Jan – 6th Form Applications Deadline
- Timetable for February mocks shared with students.
- w/c 19th Jan - 6th form interviews begin

February

- w/c 23rd Feb – Mock Exams Window 2 Begins
- Sixth form interviews continue.

February Half-Term: 16th – 20th February

March

- Mon 2nd Mar – Post 16 Placements Deadline
- w/c 9th Mar - Phase 4 targeted Period 6 & breakfast clubs commence (3 weeks)
- Thurs 26th Mar – Y11 Parent Information Evening
- Fri 27th Mar - Mock Results

Easter Holidays: 30th Mar – 10th April

- Easter Revision Clinics

April

- w/c 13th April - Phase 5 targeted Period 6 & breakfast clubs commence (3 weeks)
- GCSE Art Exam Dates

May

- 1st May - GCSE exams start.
- Dropdown timetable begins
- Revision sessions throughout exam period.

May Half-Term: 25th – 29th May

- Half-Term Revision Clinics

June / July / August

- GCSE exams continue.
- 24th June 2026 – Provisional Final Exam Date
- Friday 26th June 2026 - Confirmed Prom Date
- Thurs 20th August 2026 - GCSE Results Day

Key Dates

- 15th September 2025– Phase 1 Period 6 starts
- 23rd September –Study Skills Evening
- 9th October – Mocks begin
- 3rd November – Phase 2 Period 6 starts
- 24th November- Mock Results Assembly
- 1st December – Phase 3 Period 6 Starts
- 4th December –Parents Evening
- 23rd February - Second Mocks Start
- 9th March – Phase 4 Period 6 Starts
- 26th March –Parent Information Evening
- 27th March – Mock Results Assembly
- 13th April – Phase 5 Period 6 starts
- 13th April – Art Exam
- 1st May – Dropdown timetable begins
- 1st May – First Big GCSE Exam
- TBC – Leaving Date
- 26th June – Prom Date
- Thursday 20th August 2026 – Results Day

Making Every Lesson Count – Successful learning lesson time is essential

- Teachers using mocks and ongoing assessments to help:
 - Understand students' strengths, areas to improve and ways to improve
 - Plan lessons to close gaps
- Shed loads of practice – making students more exam savvy and confidence
- All lessons are built towards the final exam – **attendance, focus and hard work in every lesson is key!**

The key to the next stage

Maths/English/Science

Maths – Key Facts

Exam Details:

- **Exam Board – Edexcel**
- 3 papers (80 marks & 90 minutes each)
- All equally weighted – total of 240 marks
- Paper 1 - non-calculator
- Paper 2 and 3 - calculator allowed

Popular websites:

- www.mrmorleymaths.co.uk
- www.mathsgenie.co.uk
- www.mathedup.co.uk

Top Tips!

- **BUY YOUR OWN SCIENTIFIC CALCULATOR**
- **Focus on marks, do not worry if you cannot answer a question**

Exam					Grade								
Board	Month	Year	Tier	Total	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1
Edexcel	June	2025	F	240					175	144	105	67	29
Edexcel	June	2025	H	240	217	186	156	121	87	53	36		

Maths – Key Facts



How should you revise for Maths?

Topic specific

- Identify target topics from mock exam QLA's
- Use sites such as mathswatch.co.uk, mathsgenie.co.uk or corbettmaths.com to watch videos and worked examples before attempting questions independently.

Exam Technique

- Work on moving from skill to skill using past papers as revision.
- There are lots online (same sites as above plus many more) or paper copies are available regularly from your Maths teachers.

Revision Tips:

- Little and often - using something like Corbett Maths 5-a-day can make revision more manageable and less daunting.
- Priorities key topics - 1st class maths ranks topics by how frequently they appear on the GCSE papers. For example, fraction operations have appeared on 100% of Edexcel foundation tier papers. Whereas angles in irregular polygons has only been in 7% of Edexcel foundation papers. This list will help you to choose your revision topics and priorities wisely. [GCSE Maths Topic Appearance % | 1st Class Maths](#)

English Language Key Facts

Paper 1: Explorations in Creative Reading and Writing

What's assessed

Section A: Reading

- one literature fiction text

Section B: Writing

- descriptive or narrative writing

Assessed

- written exam: 1 hour 45 minutes
- 80 marks
- 50% of GCSE

Questions

Reading (40 marks) (25%) – one single text

- 1 short form question (1 x 4 marks)
- 2 longer form questions (2 x 8 marks)
- 1 extended question (1 x 20 marks)

Writing (40 marks) (25%)

- 1 extended writing question (24 marks for content, 16 marks for technical accuracy)

Paper 2: Writers' Viewpoints and Perspectives

What's assessed

Section A: Reading

- one non-fiction text and one literary non-fiction text

Section B: Writing

- writing to present a viewpoint

Assessed

- written exam: 1 hour 45 minutes
- 80 marks
- 50% of GCSE

Questions

Reading (40 marks) (25%) – two linked texts

- 1 short form question (1 x 4 marks)
- 2 longer form questions (1 x 8, 1 x 12 marks)
- 1 extended question (1 x 16 marks)

Writing (40 marks) (25%)

- 1 extended writing question (24 marks for content, 16 marks for technical accuracy)

English Literature

Key Facts



Paper 1: Shakespeare and the 19th-century novel

What's assessed

- Shakespeare plays
- The 19th-century novel

How it's assessed

- written exam: 1 hour 45 minutes
- 64 marks
- 40% of GCSE

Questions

Section A Shakespeare: students will answer one question on their play of choice. They will be required to write in detail about an extract from the play and then to write about the play as a whole.

Section B The 19th-century novel: students will answer one question on their novel of choice. They will be required to write in detail about an extract from the novel and then to write about the novel as a whole.

Paper 2: Modern texts and poetry

What's assessed

- Modern prose or drama texts
- The poetry anthology
- Unseen poetry

How it's assessed

- written exam: 2 hour 15 minutes
- 96 marks
- 60% of GCSE

Questions

Section A Modern texts: students will answer one essay question from a choice of two on their studied modern prose or drama text.

Section B Poetry: students will answer one comparative question on one named poem printed on the paper and one other poem from their chosen anthology cluster.

Section C Unseen poetry: Students will answer one question on one unseen poem and one question comparing this poem with a second unseen poem.

English – Key Facts

How do we want our pupils to be revising?

- Short daily sessions
- Create a timetable
- Address gaps in knowledge through writing exam responses
- Use of common approaches which are shared with all pupils in their tool kits
- Complete GCSE Pod home learning tasks

What are our key tips for revision in English?

- Focus on the questions and how to annotate them.
- Use Post it notes/flash cards
- Past papers

	Max	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1
English Language	160	121	111	102	92	82	73	54	35	16
English Literature	160	137	121	106	90	74	58	42	27	12

Science – Key Facts



How should you revise for Science?

Topic specific

- Identify target topics from mock exam Merit analysis and use sites such as mmerevise, study mind, savemyexams, there are also primrose kitten or free science lessons on YouTube to watch.
- You will also find walking talking mocks to practice on these websites

Exam Technique

- Work on retrieval of key facts, applying knowledge and practice

Science – Key Facts



Exam Details:

Combined Science:

Biology, Chemistry and Physics

Paper 1 and 2:

1 hour 15mins each

Triple Science:

Biology, Chemistry, Physics

Paper 1 and 2:

1 hour and 45 mins each

Combined Grade Boundaries of Paper 1 and 2

Total	Tier	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Combined Biology	F	25	42	59	77	90				
Combined Biology	H			24	31	45	60	75	86	98
Combined Chemistry	F	16	33	51	69	84				
Combined Chemistry	H			19	26	39	52	67	80	94
Combined Physics	F	22	40	59	79	92				
Combined Physics	H			30	36	48	60	73	84	97

Triple Grade Boundaries

Total	Tier	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Triple Biology	F	22	52	82	113	132				
Triple Biology	H			37	48	69	90	112	126	141
Triple Chemistry	F	24	53	82	112	133				
Triple Chemistry	H			35	46	68	90	112	130	149
Triple Physics	F	24	56	89	122	136				
Triple Physics	H			58	67	85	103	122	136	151

Period 6 – Phase 1 Offer

MONDAY INTERVENTION	TUESDAY INTERVENTION	WEDNESDAY INTERVENTION	THURSDAY INTERVENTION	FRIDAY INTERVENTION
History - Miss Allsopp - 302	Business - Mrs Gray - 206	English - Ms Bradbury - 311	English - Miss Kapoor - 306	Art - Mrs Edwards/Mrs Bingham - 112
History - Mrs Giles - 301	Sociology - Mrs Brown - 305	English - Mrs Dorsett - 307	Urgent HSC / CC Catch Up - 110	Hospitality - Miss Savigar - 105
History - Mr Collier - 203	Media - Mrs Jones - CADCAM (218)	English - Mrs Smith - 302	Urgent Sport Catch Up - 110	Science - Miss Munir 115
History - Miss Humphires - 303	Sport - Mr Parsons - 107	English - Mrs Hayward - 309		
Geography - Miss Farmer - 201	French - Mrs C-Dodd - 109	English - Ms Webster - 313		
Geography - Mr Elver - 202	French - Miss Freeman - 108	English - Mrs Kelly - 307a		
Geography - Miss M Morris - 204	French - Mr Wilson - 113	Maths - Mrs Poynton - 206		
Science - Miss Munir 216	Computer Science - Mrs Howells - 110	Maths - Miss Newton - 205		
Maths - Miss Kapoor - 306	Design Technology - Miss Davenport - 117	Maths - Mr Parmar - 209		
Maths - GCSE Pod - 110	ICT - Mr David - 107	Maths - Mr Hill - 210		
	Psychology - Mrs Roberts - 111	Maths - Mr Northwood - 213		
	Art - Mrs Edwards & Mrs Bingham - 112	Maths - Ms Begum - 211a		
	Maths - GCSE Pod - 110	Maths - Mr Joss 207a		
		Science - Miss Kapoor - 306		
		Statistics - Mr Wythe 211		
		Maths - GCSE Pod - 110		



gcsepod
education on demand



KS4 Introduction

GCSEPod is a revision website used by schools across the country. It covers many subjects and has two main parts – videos and quizzes.

This PPT will tell you a bit more about the following.

1. Logging in
2. Selecting and managing your subjects
3. The Home Page
4. Finding Topics
5. Finding Your Home learning
6. The revision activities – Pods, Check & Challenge, Courses
7. Things to look out for in different subjects

Like any revision technique, GCSEPod works best if you use it regularly a few times a week over several weeks and months. It will be less effective if you cram lots of Pods into a short time or if you passively revise (this is explained a bit more at the end). The important thing is that you do something with the information.

The highest Podders and Check & Challengers will make fortnightly leaderboards, earn House Points, and be put forward for half-term prizes.

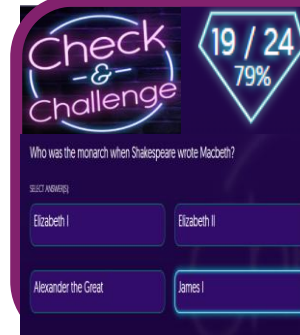


PODS

3 – 5-minute videos with key facts. Search from 7500 Pods, download, or use Boost to create Playlists.

Be careful to select what you need:

- ☐ Combined or Triple Science
- ☐ Exam boards and course names
- ☐ Pick Achieve Maths or English if you are aiming for a Grade 5



CHECK & CHALLENGE

Multiple-choice self-marking quizzes. You can pause and save but must finish to collect points. Questions answered correctly on:
1st attempt = 2 diamonds
2nd attempt = 1 diamond

Student



Login as a student

LOGGING IN

Click "Login as a student"
Your username and password have been created for you.
If you forget your login, please let your form tutor know – your details will be reset and emailed to you.



gcsepod
education on demand

THE HOME PAGE

Below is a snapshot of the home page. From here, you can access new topics, create playlists, see notifications and complete homework. These features will be explained in the following slides.

The screenshot shows the gcsepod home page interface. On the left is a purple sidebar with navigation icons and labels: Home, Exams, Homework, Boost, and Collections. The main area features a search bar at the top, followed by 'My Courses' and 'My Homework' sections. Below these are 'KS4 Subjects' represented by a grid of colorful tiles for various subjects. On the right, there are links for 'Help Centre', 'Notifications', and 'Account Settings'. Annotations with arrows point to specific features: 'Exams Exam Playlists' points to the Exams icon; 'Homework' points to the Homework icon; 'Boost Create playlists' points to the Boost icon; 'Collections Create playlists and access Pod videos you have bookmarked' points to the Collections icon; 'Help Centre Videos and a website tour' points to the question mark icon; 'Notifications The bell icon shows notifications' points to the bell icon; 'Account Settings Change login details and manage your subjects.' points to the user profile icon; and 'Subject Tiles' points to the subject tiles grid.

Help Centre
Videos and a website tour

Notifications
The bell icon shows notifications

Account Settings
Change login details and manage your subjects.

Subject Tiles

Exams
Exam Playlists

Homework

Boost
Create playlists

Collections
Create playlists and access Pod videos you have bookmarked

What would you like to learn today?

My Courses
Continue with the courses you have chosen for yourself

My Homework
Complete homework assigned by your teacher

KS4 Subjects

- French 2024
- Sociology
- Maths
- Statistics
- Achieve Grade 5 Maths
- English Language
- Achieve Grade 5 English
- Biology
- Chemistry
- Physics
- Geography
- History
- Religious Studies
- ICT
- IT (Cambridge Nationals)



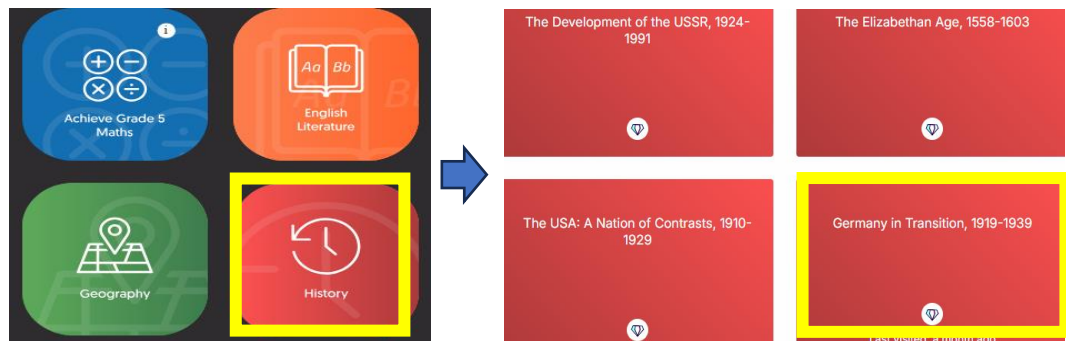
gcsepod
education on demand

FINDING TOPICS

There are two main ways of finding topics. Please make sure you know which topics and case studies are relevant to your subject. For example, not all the case studies in the Geography section are studied in class. Ask your teacher if you are unsure.

SUBJECT TILES

- > Click the tile you need on the Home Page.
- > Select the topic. You may need to know the name of your courses. For example, in History we study Germany in Transition 1919 – 1939. You would not click on the other Germany options. Ask your teacher if you are unsure.
- > Click the sub-topic or chapter title.

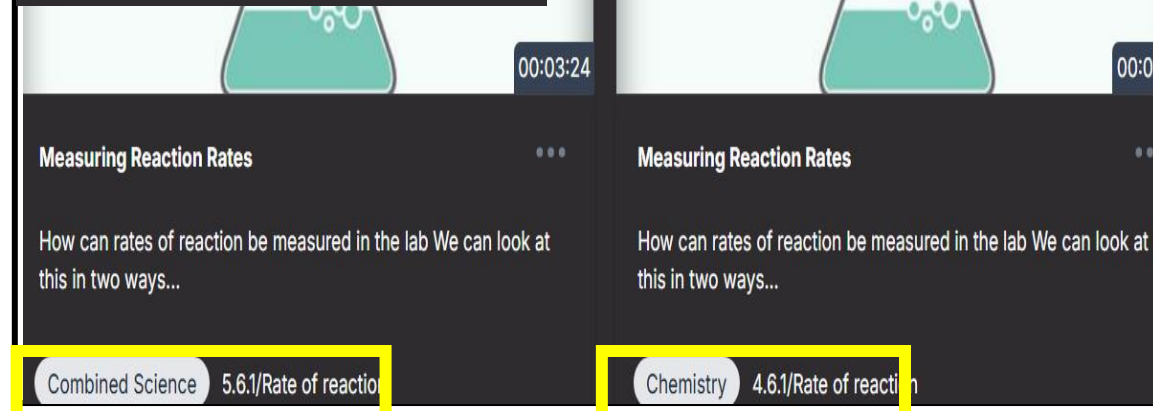
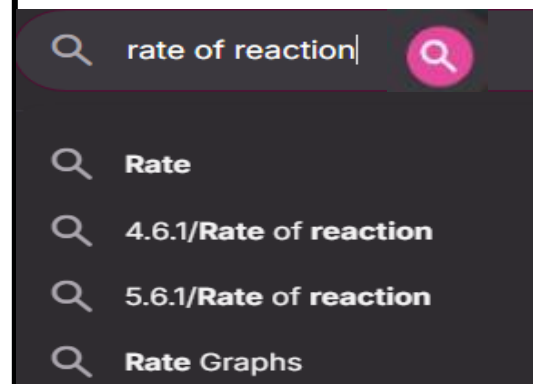


SEARCH BAR

The search bar is at the top of the page. **Double-check the search code or the bottom of the search results to ensure you have what you need.**

This is particularly relevant for:

- Science (Combined or Triple as in the example below)
- Maths ('Achieve Grade 5 Maths' or 'Maths' which is aimed at 5+)
- English Language ('Achieve Grade 5 English' or 'English' aimed at 5+)





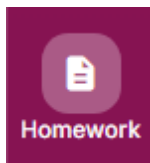
gcsepod
education on demand

5. FINDING YOUR HOME LEARNING

Your teachers may set homework tasks on GCSEPod. There are three different ways of accessing your homework but they all take you to the same page. You can use the filters and calendar view. Your teachers will be able to see how much of the homework you did.

THE SIDE MENU

> Click the Homework tab in the side menu



MY HOMEWORK BOX

> Click My Homework at the top of the Home Page

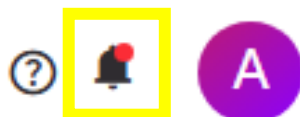


My Homework

Complete homework assigned by your teacher

BELL NOTIFICATIONS

> Tasks will appear as dots on the bell icon in the top right corner. Click to see the notification.

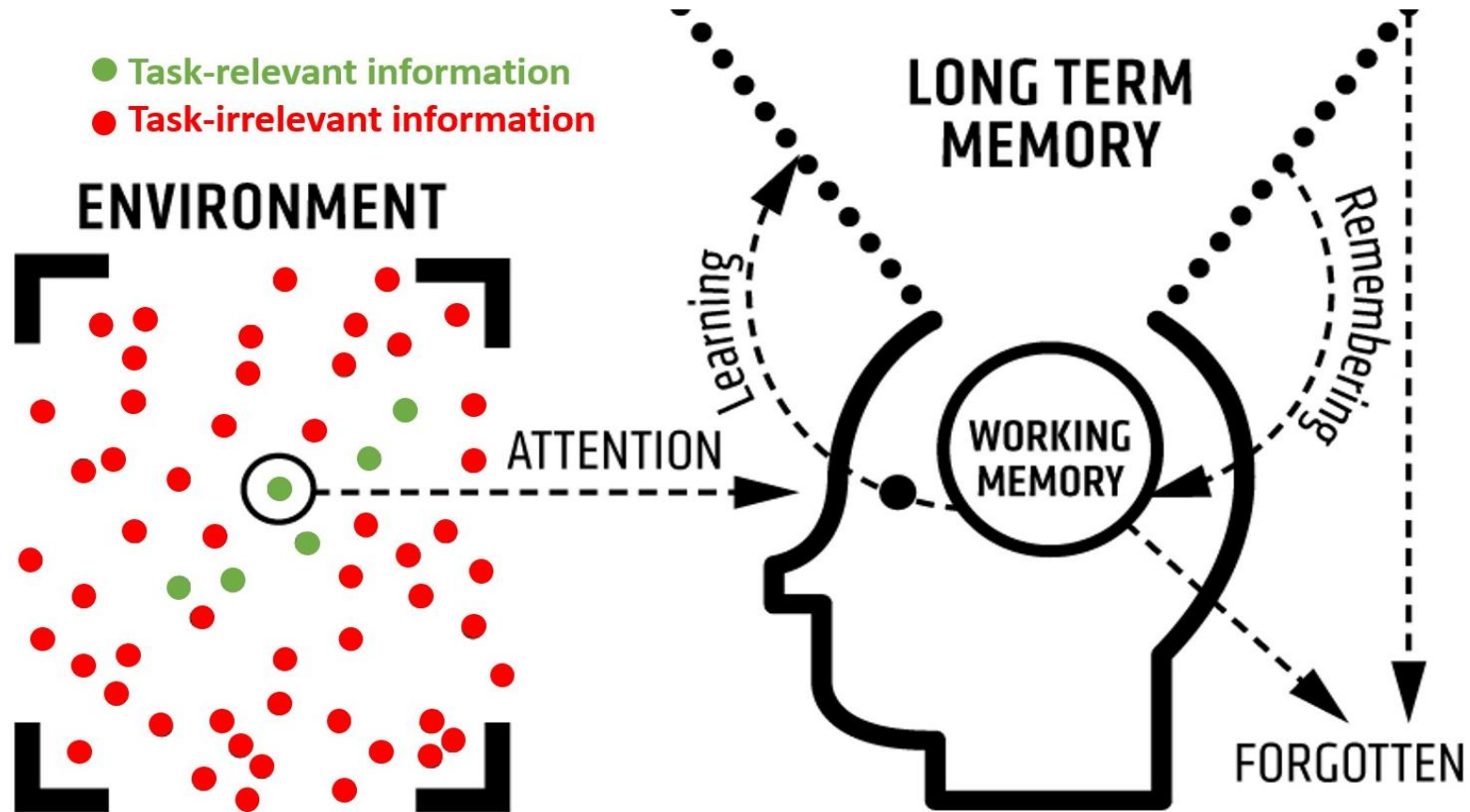


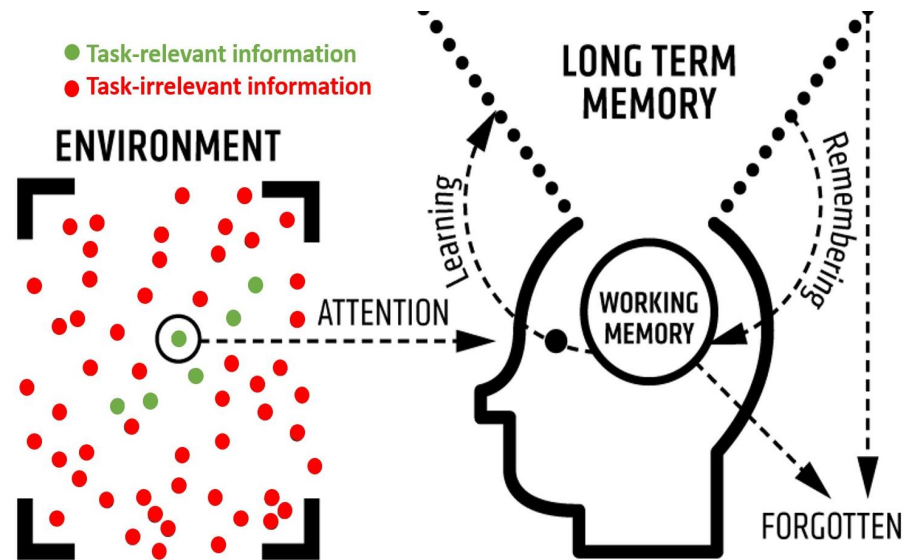
The screenshot shows the GCSEPod app interface. On the left is a purple side menu with icons for Home, Exams, Homework, Boost, Collections, and Activity. The 'Homework' icon is highlighted. The main content area is titled 'My Homework' and features a search bar at the top. Below the search bar is a 'View By Status' section with a table:

Status	Count
Upcoming	1
Overdue	0
Completed	0

The 'Upcoming' row is highlighted with a yellow box. Below this is a 'View By Subject' section with a dropdown menu. At the bottom is a 'View By Teacher' section with a dropdown menu. On the right side of the screen, there is a 'Due next week and into the future' section. It contains a 'History' card for 'Germany Chapter 1 Pods' due on '11 Sep 2025 (11:59 PM)'. The card shows 'Not started' and '0 Q's'. A 'Start' button is visible. Above the 'History' card, there is a navigation bar with 'Back', 'Home / My Home', 'List' (highlighted with a yellow box), and 'Calendar'.

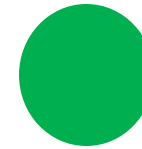
How to study so the information sticks?



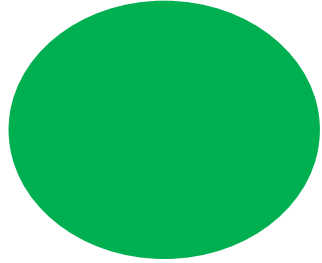


Wednesfield Academy

Mock Exam Revision Support Package



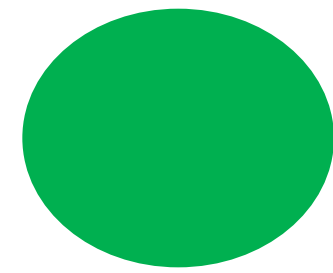
Tip One – Plan



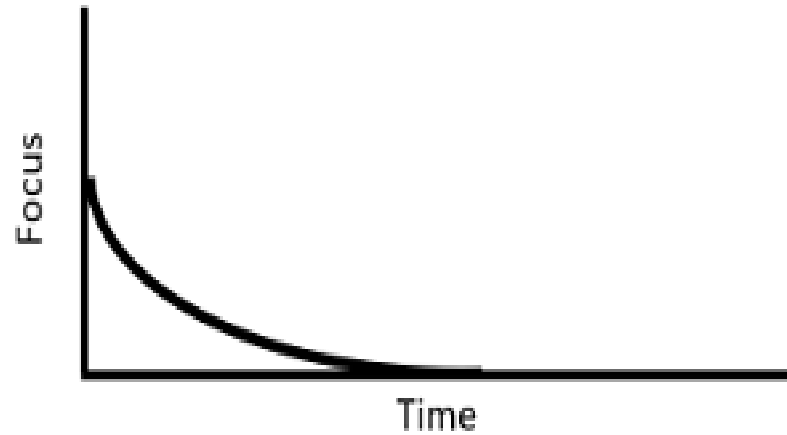
Time	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
8-9 am							
9-10 am							
10-11 am							
11-12 pm							
12-1 pm							
1-2 pm							
2-3 pm							
3-4 pm							
4-5 pm							
5-6 pm							
6-7 pm							
7-8 pm							

- **Step 1:** For each subject make a list of content you need to cover .
- **Step 2:** Identify the after-school revision sessions you are going to attend.
- **Step 3:** Identify the times you are going to complete revision at home.
- **Step 4:** Create your revision plan.
- **Step 5:** Collate any revision resources you need

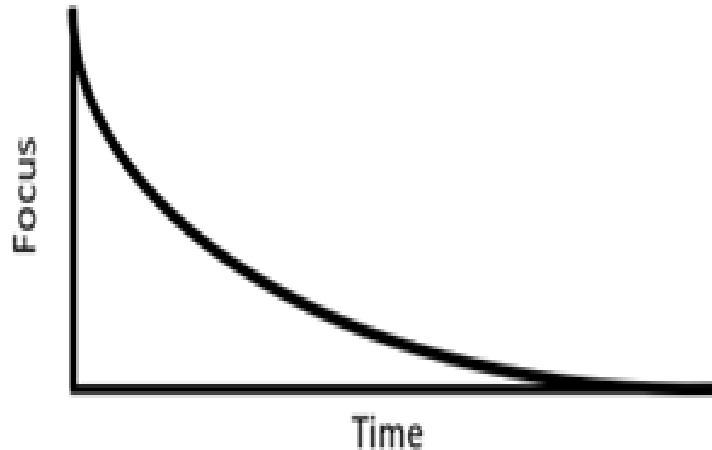
Tip Two – Right time



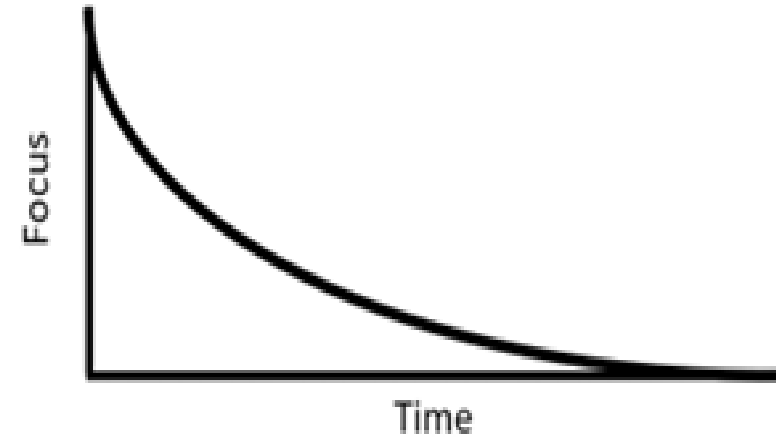
Revising when you are tired:



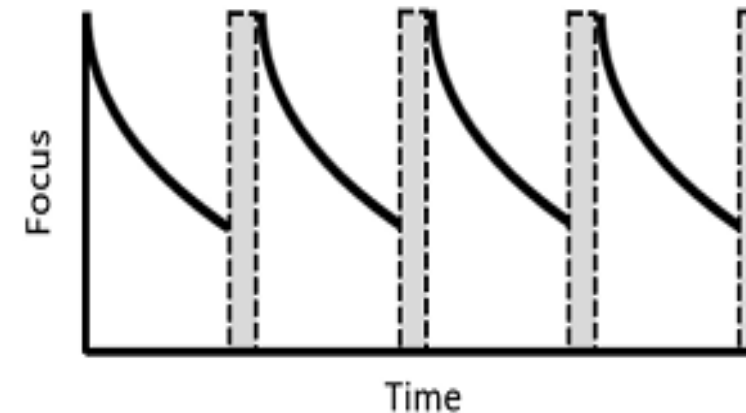
Revising without a break:



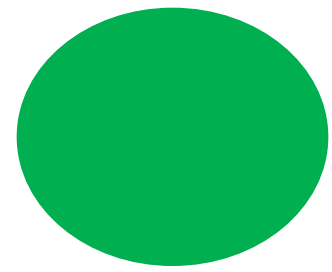
Revising when you are well-rested:



Revising with small regular breaks:



Tip Three – Space



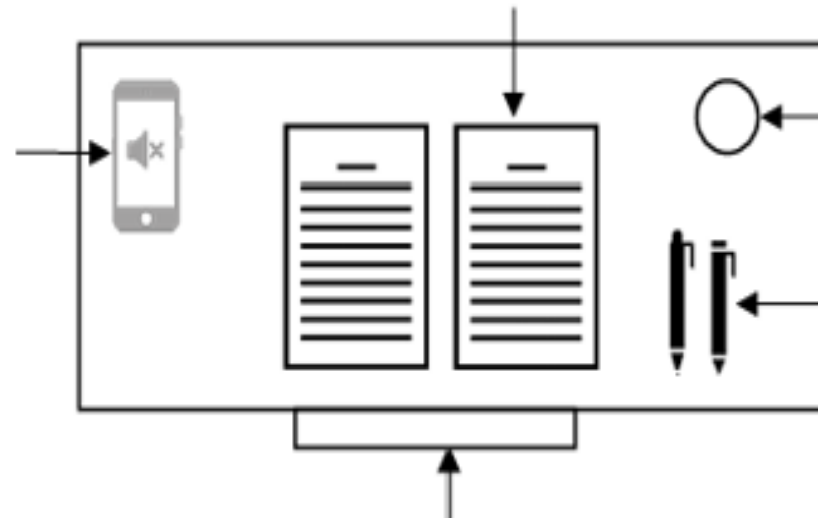
An example of an effective revision space:



A quiet environment, such as a classroom or library

The resources you will need to revise using your chosen method

Put your phone on silent if you will need to use it or put it in another room.

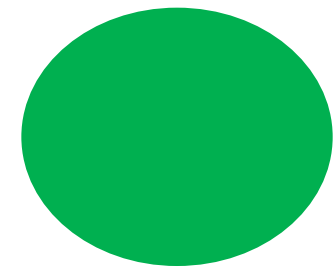


A drink, such as a glass of water

The pens and pencils you will need to revise

A chair which is similar to the chair you use at school (not a sofa or bed)

Tip Four – Your Strategy

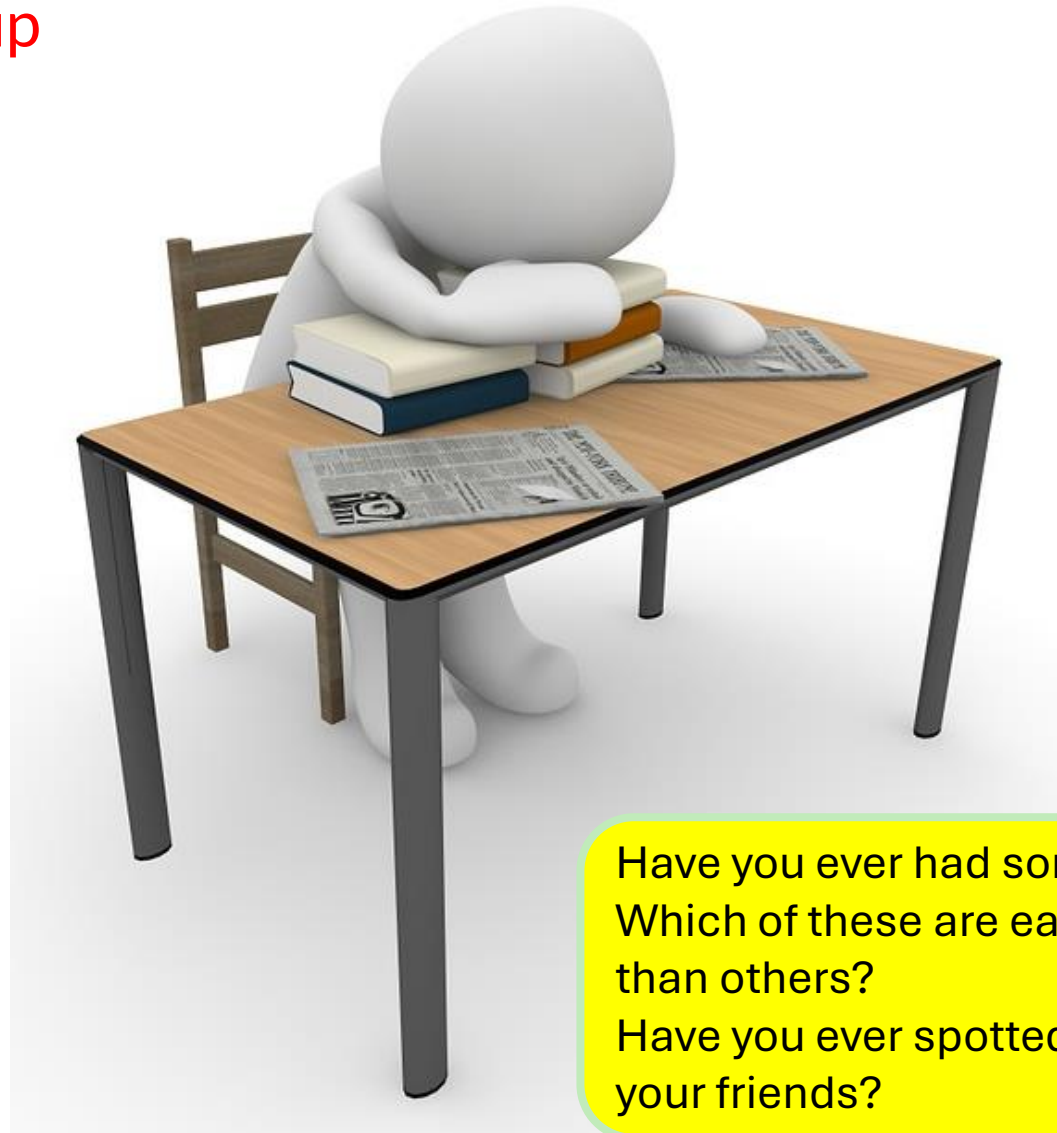


1. Look – Cover – Write – Check
2. Knowledge Dump
3. Knowledge Quiz
4. Flash Cards
5. Effective use of exam questions

Recognising some of the physical symptoms of stress

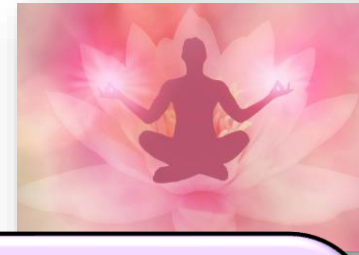


1. Difficulty in sleeping or waking up
2. Constant tiredness
3. Forgetting things
4. Unexplained aches and pains
5. Poor appetite
6. Loss of interest in activities
7. Increased anxiety
8. Increased heart rate
9. Migraines & headaches
10. Blurred vision and/or dizziness
11. Comfort eating
12. Drinking too many caffeinated/energy drinks
13. Run down immune system
14. Generally feeling 'run down'.



Have you ever had some of these?
Which of these are easier to identify
than others?
Have you ever spotted any of these in
your friends?

Positive Mental Health



Self-care

Introduce activities/times to help you relax and reduce any anxiety/worry. This might be a home workout, having a bath, cooking, cleaning, organising areas of your house, watching TV, DIY projects, anything that you enjoy and find pleasure in!

Routine

Some pupils really struggle to maintain a routine – do not underestimate the power of getting into and managing a routine!

Allow yourself rest breaks, keep a lunch break, and be more flexible in putting in activities like watching the tv, playing sport or doing household activities.

Positive Mental Health



Social media

For some social media is highly important in keeping connected and in touch with family/friends/vulnerable people. But it can also be a source escalating your worry. Consider whether it might be better to reduce social media use, perhaps by time (10 minutes at a time) or only at certain times of the day (when taking work/school breaks).

Time and space

Give yourself a space to worry: It is natural and normal to worry, particularly in stressful times, however this can get the better of us. You could consider planning small time frames where you allow yourself to worry, or use a form of expression (e.g. writing, art or talking) to let out these thoughts. Giving yourself a space to allow this can help contain worry so that it does not feel all consuming all of the time.

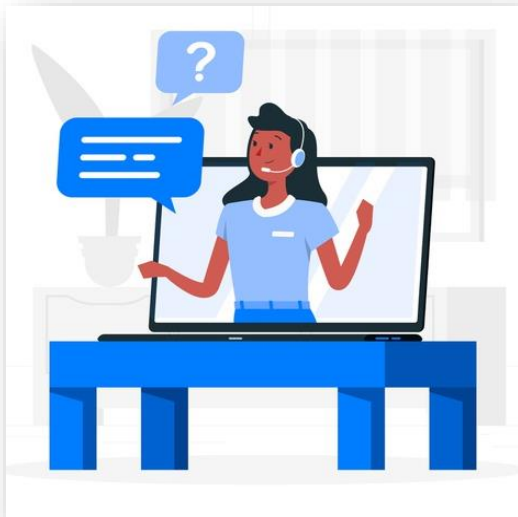
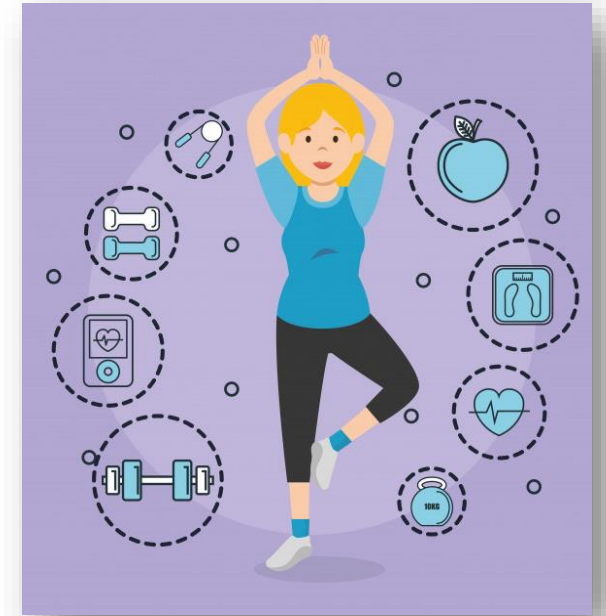


Positive Mental Health



Exercise

Exercise helps to manage anxiety and releases some of the anxious energy in the body. YouTube has loads of workouts you can do at home, try the body coach, search for home workouts, home yoga or any home alternative to the exercise you enjoy! Follow the guidance from the government.



Support

If you have existing mental health problems reach out to your support network and professional if you have one. If these feelings are new also reach out to people that you find supportive. Many people are feeling the same way and it may help you to feel less alone. There is support in school with the mental health practitioner and the school counsellor – please reach out.

Study Hacks — From the Sidelines



**Tuesday 23rd
September
2025**

**115 DAYS
TO GO**

All is possible

Any questions?

