

The Final Stretch:

How to support your child with
revision this GCSE exam season



SSHS Parents' Information Evening: Aims

- **The importance of supporting students in their revision**
- **What SSHS plans to implement in order to support our students**
- **How parents/carers can support students at home**



The importance of supporting students in their revision

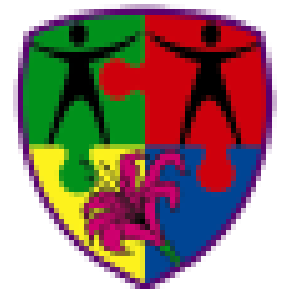
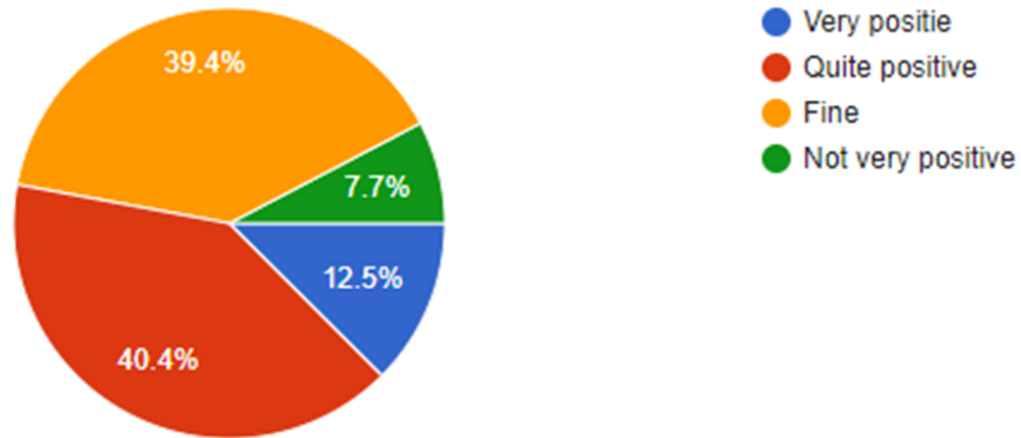
- **GCSE exam season is probably the first, most stressful event in our students' lives, so it is important that our students are getting well rounded support wherever they can.**
- **By enabling revision at home, having those conversations, you are not only encouraging them to keep going, you are helping them to build resilience.**
- **Developing good habits now will benefit them in years to come in their chosen careers**



Pupils views about school in Y10 survey

1. How positive do you feel about your school work?

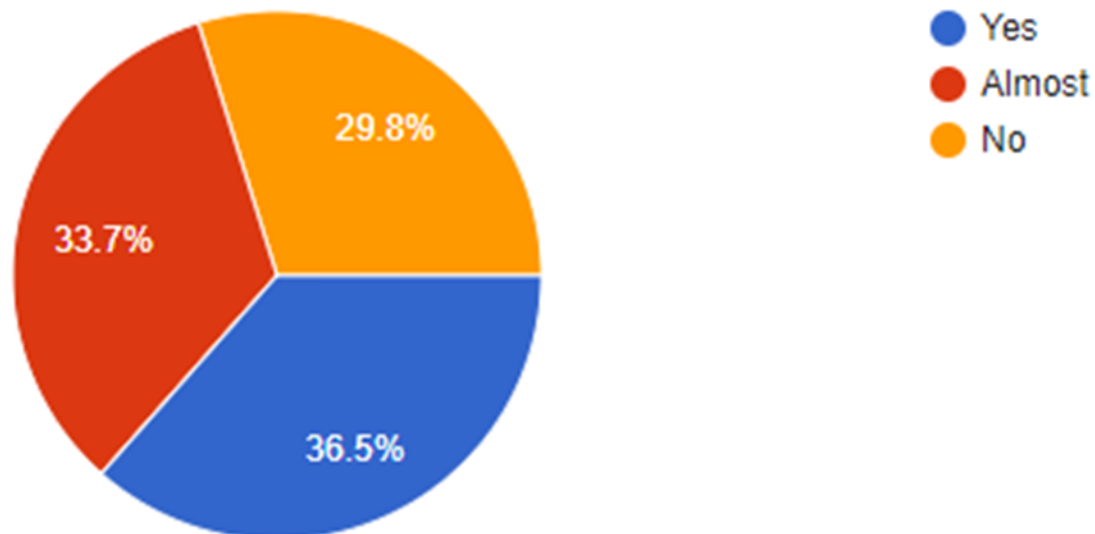
104 responses



Pupils views from Y10

3. Do you have a clear idea of what career you want when you are older?

104 responses



Previous pupils' views on their revision techniques

- I highlight important information and read it a few times and I do this in every subject. I also like to write down notes and read them as well.
- History cue cards
- Note taking
- **being tested**
- i write a bunch of things on paper which doesn't help me but i don't know how to properly revise
- **past papers for pe**
- detailed notes, mind palaces, flashcards, active recall, blurting
- que cards, PEE para, **Past papers**
- English - Annotating
Maths - Maths revision at school
The rest of my subjects - reading
- note taking - science
mind maps - science
flash cards - science
- flashcards science, geography revision clock,
- Biology with flash cards and same with chemistry and physics. Photography by looking at other peoples work online
- **Write and read every week then test my self**
- **seneca - all**
- I use some things on my pc at home
- Videos and questions
- Watch videos
- Process of elimination revision sheet - English, Geography and History



What conclusions have been made from previous Y11 efforts?

- **Some students seem apathetic towards their exams**
- **Some students are not willing to put in the work needed outside school**
- **Despite SSHS offering structured revision support, some pupils are not willing to benefit from it.**
- **When revising on their own, the majority of pupils use low level revision skills, that do not adequately prepare them for their exams.**



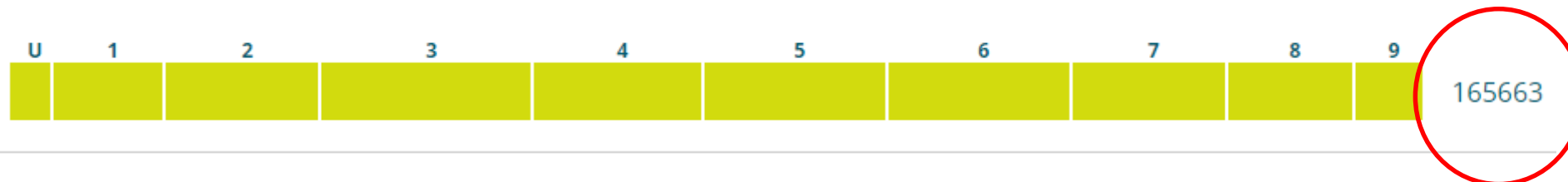
Why do students find it hard to revise independently?

- **Feel overwhelmed – they can't see small wins in the bigger picture**
- **Don't know where to start**
- **They have nowhere quiet to study**
- **They think Y11 is too late – it's not. This is a marathon, not a sprint**
- **They don't feel supported at home – past pupils have said 'no one cares' when asked about parental support**
- **Apathetic – some just don't care at all to bother**



Reality check: how many students take GCSEs each year

History 2023:



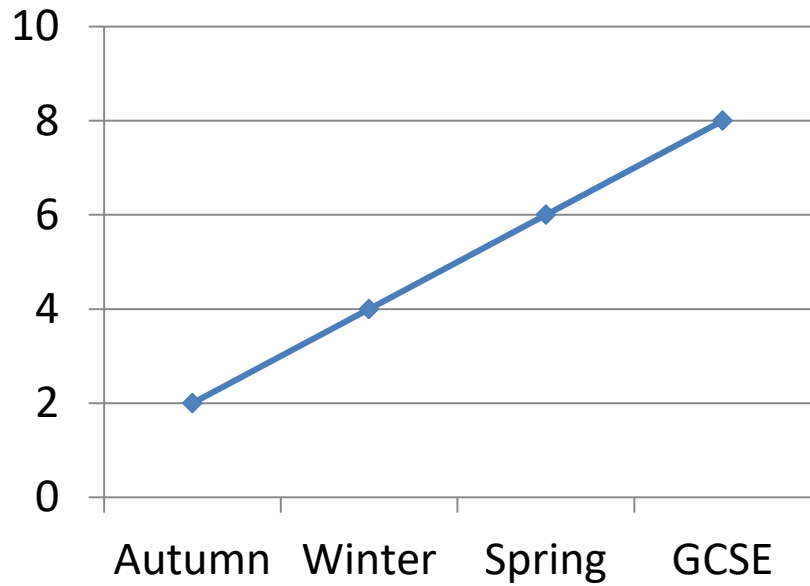
Science 2023:

Entry	Cumulative % by grade																
	99	98	88	87	77	76	66	65	55	54	44	43	33	32	22	21	11
354678	1.1	2.1	3.6	5.9	8.8	13.2	18.6	24.6	35.8	46.4	56.9	68.9	78.6	86.1	91.4	94.9	97.3

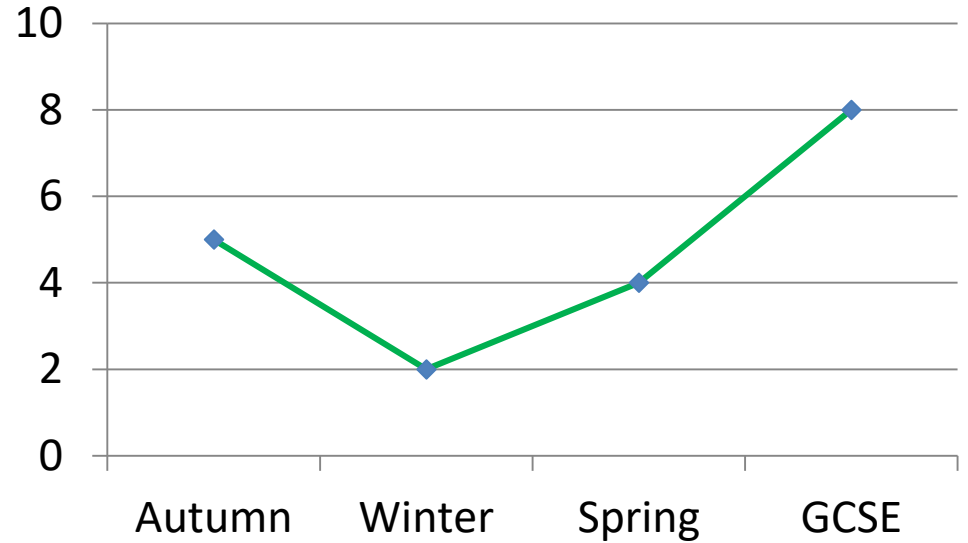
***Grade boundaries in 2023 were higher than pre-covid levels in 2019; UK government wanted tougher boundaries which meant more grade 3s than grade 4s**



What students think progress looks like vs what progress actually looks like



Expectation

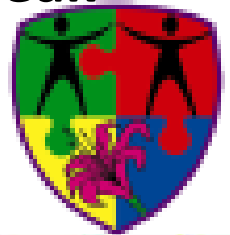


Reality



What SSHS plans to implement in order to support our students

- Many staff are running revision sessions at lunchtime and after-school already; encourage your children to attend their weakest subjects first.
- In the new year, every Tuesday, from 3.15-5.30pm, SSHS will be running a weekly revision session in the Hall for Y11s.
- The purpose of these weekly sessions is to help Y11s revise in a quiet, structured and supported way. We hope pupils will become more independent in their studying, and see that hard work pays off.
- There will be four* sessions, 25 minutes long, with one break lasting 5 minutes, and a longer snack break.
- *Pupils will have to bring their own revision work.*



How parents/carers can support students at home

- **Work with your child on a revision timetable which includes lunchtime revision in school.**
- **Support them by taking away distractions during revision periods – mobile phones, games consoles etc.**
- **Encourage your child to take study breaks. These can include exercise, baking, going for a run, listening to music... and make sure these are built into the revision timetable.**
- **When they hit a ‘low’ point, explain to them that having those is perfectly normal. They’re expected! However, they won’t last long and they will bounce back from it.**



How parents/carers can support students at home

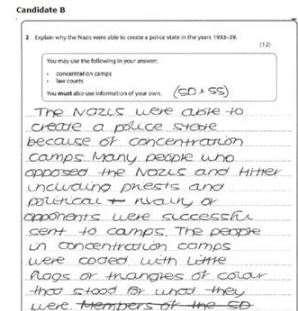
Below are some suggestions of revision techniques. Our pupils are familiar with them, so they should be able to do them at home:

Low impact
revision



High impact
revision

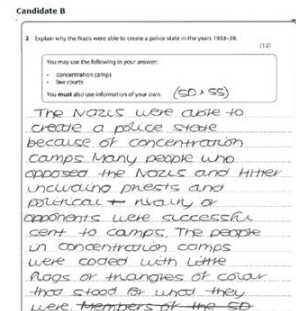
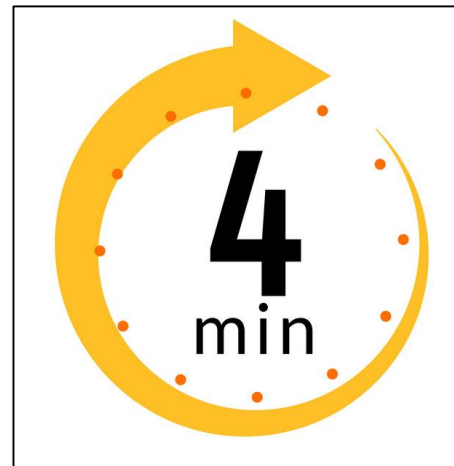
Free recall
Highlighting text
Mindmaps
Online quizzes
Cue cards
Watch videos and make notes
Bulletpoint notes
PEEL paragraphs
Past paper questions
Re-draft answers using feedback



Task: Free recall

On the whiteboard, write down everything you know about tourism in Guernsey. It can be anything: places, events, people – we will then compare what you have with what the Guernsey tourism board has!

You have 4 minutes!



Task: Free recall

How many did you get? Tick off your answers that appear here:

Castle Cornet

Table des Pions

Little Chapel

Cobo Bay

Sausmarez Manor

Occupation Museum LV

Paddle Boarding

Oaty and Joeys

Jerbourg Point

Moulin Huet

Beaucette Marina

Hautville House

Cup and Saucer

Bluebell woods

Underground Hospital

Renoir Walks

Lihou

Herm

Sark

Victoria Gardens

Candie Gardens

Guernsey Tapestry

Bathing Pools



Candidate B

2 Explain why the Nazis were able to create a police state in the years 1933-36 (12)

You may use the following in your answer:

- concentration camps
- Gestapo

You must also use information of your own. (50 + 50)

The Nazis were able to create a police state because of concentration camps. Many people who opposed the Nazis and Hitler including priests and opponents were successfully sent to camps. The people in concentration camps were coded with little flags or triangles of colour that stood for what they were members of the SA.

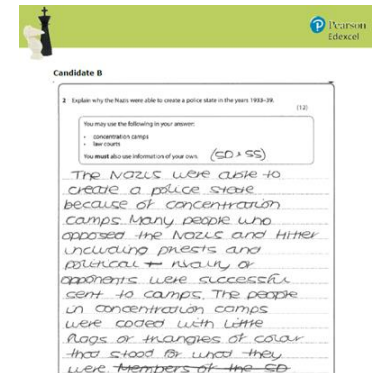
The point of free recall is to see what you already know, and revise the gaps you have.

From here, pupils should work their way up to PPQs which can be found online



Task 2: searching for PPQ/Examiner reports/mark schemes

- After every marking period, examiners compile a report about the quality of exams they marked.
- They highlight when pupils have struggled with a topic/question strand – this helps teachers with forward planning.
- It tells you **EXACTLY** what they are looking for and gives examples of when this has been achieved!
- **MANY PUPILS KNOW THESE EXIST BUT NEVER USE THEM!**
- So let's have a go at finding them ourselves! Our topic > Triple award science.



Task 2: searching for PPQ/Examiner reports/mark schemes

Need to know:

- Exam board
- Exam level: Foundation or Higher

How to find it:

Google 'GCSE Science AQA' and this will be the top result



gcse science aqa specification

[All](#) [Images](#) [News](#) [Videos](#) [More](#)

About 652,000 results (0.50 seconds)

<https://www.aqa.org.uk> > subjects > combined-science-t...

GCSE | Combined Science: Trilogy - AQA

Find all the information, support and resources you need to deliver our **specification**. Teaching from: September 2016. Exams from: June 2018. QAN code: 601/8758/ ...

[Specification at a glance](#) · [Changes for 2022](#) · [Media](#) · [Introduction](#)

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SECONDARY SCHOOL PARTNERSHIP

Task 2: searching for PPQ/Examiner reports/mark schemes

Then, look for the 'specification' – it is usually a large doc to download.

GCSE Combined Science: Trilogy

8464

☰ Because of the impact of Coronavirus (COVID-19) there are some changes to how GCSE Combined Science: Trilogy will be assessed in 2022. [Find out more.](#)

Find all the information, support and resources you need to deliver our specification.

Teaching from: September 2016

Exams from: June 2018

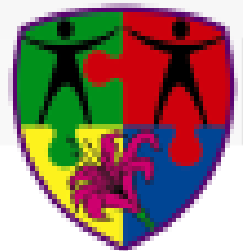
QAN code: 601/8758/X

Specification

Planning resources

Teaching resources

Assessment resources



Task 2: searching for PPQ/Examiner reports/mark schemes

You can also find past papers/mark schemes and examiners reports here too under ‘assessment resources’

GCSE Combined Science: Trilogy

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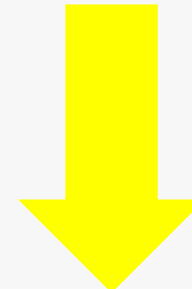
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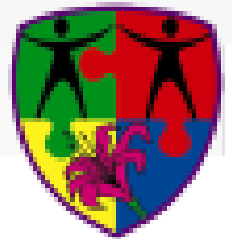


Specification

Planning resources

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Assessment resources



Why we all must do our part

