

# Exam Success 2020

Parents Information Evening

Welcome

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Raising Achievement

Leader





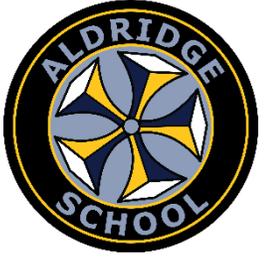
# Why have this Evening now?

- The earlier pupils get into good habits the more they'll get out of them.
- Year 11 isn't really a year – it's more like 30 weeks in school, which means pupils have around 60 school weeks until their GCSEs.
- Pupils in Year 10 are hearing this advice from various sources in various ways but if we can maintain the 'triangle' we know it will be more effective.
- Just about every one of our pupils desperately wants to do well at school, this is about how we can best go about supporting them.



# What is going to make the difference?

- How hard pupils work in every lesson.
- How prepared pupils are to find things difficult and yet still persevere.
- Whether pupils do 'just enough' or go the extra mile.
- How quickly pupils realise that we're all on 'the same side'.
- How effectively pupils revise



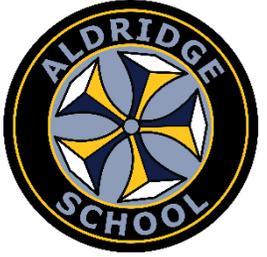
# Effective Revision



# What do we mean by Effective Revision?

- Often when a pupil wants to improve they will say 'I will revise'
- Unfortunately too many revision techniques used by pupils are ineffective and end up as a waste of time.
- Last month your child took part in a Study Sensei Seminar to set them off on the right track when it comes to effective revision.

# What techniques are ineffective?



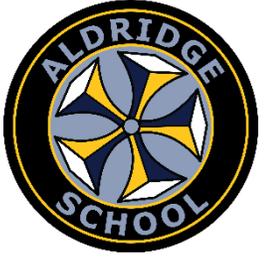
- Extended periods of reading textbooks.
- Revising whilst listening to music.
- Revising whilst talking to friends.
- Revising the same topic for a long period of time.
- Cramming at the last minute – pupils need to use long term memory not short term memory.



# What should pupils be doing?

- Continually testing themselves to see what they've learnt.
- Mixing up topics and subjects and then revisiting things at different times.
- Finding a quiet space away from any distractions (No TV, no phone, no music!)
- Making sure they spend the most time on the things they find difficult rather than the things they find easy.

# How long is too long?



- If pupils aim to revise for 5/6 hours at a time it is unlikely that they will be productive by the end of this.
- It might be better to have several 30-45 minute sessions with breaks between them – but they must make sure the breaks don't become more important than the revision!
- It is better if they can do a smaller amount every day rather than hoping to revise for long periods on certain days.
- This is easiest for them if they start now.

# What specific techniques might our pupils use?



- Replace lengthy notes with 'Trigger Notes.'
- Spider Diagrams/Mind Maps/Flash cards.
- Frequent recall testing of facts and definitions.
- Past Paper – Exam Questions
- Interleaving/Spaced Practice – working on one topic, then not doing it for a period of time (e.g. a week) and then testing themselves.



# Key Messages for our Pupils

- Revision should involve doing something with information, not just hoping to remember it.
- Revision should be hard; if it's not hard, you're probably not learning.
- Whilst it is possible to revise with company, and indeed it might be helpful for testing each other, you should be silent for long periods and you should make sure that you also spend time revising alone.
- You should make sure you have time to do other things, if you plan on spending 10 hours a day revising you are unlikely to stick to this, and you're very unlikely to still be productive in that 10<sup>th</sup> hour.
- **Take responsibility for your own Achievement!**