

Revision hints and tips

GCSE AND A LEVEL



ABBOTSHOLME

AN EDUCATION FOR LIFE

Condense your notes

- Highlight key definitions
- Condense your notes into key words, with the aim to get topics down to one page or even one revision card
- Test yourself using these cards BUT look to expand your brief notes into a fuller response
- Do this with a revision buddy/family member so they can correct/develop where necessary



Exam board websites

You will find a lot of materials on the exam board websites: be clear on the specification and exam board (AQA, OCR, Edexcel for example)

You'll find many useful resources, but in particular:

- Past papers from previous years
- Mark schemes
- Grade boundaries
- Study guides

If you are unsure which exam board to refer to, check with your subject teacher



Creating mind-maps

Creating a colour coded mind-map allows you to make notes in a different form and provides a more visually engaging way of revising those notes.

1. Write the main topic in the middle of the page and draw a ring around it;
2. For each key point that comes off the main topic in separate branches, use a different colour;
3. Ensure key words and phrases stand out;
4. Look for links between the different branches and show these



Time management

- Set yourself a structured revision timetable that will maximise your learning potential
- Plan in regular breaks (away from your revision materials)
- Reward yourself for all the hard work you've done



The best revision methods involve being active

- Passively reading through notes and books isn't always the best way
- Use flashcards and ask a buddy to test you
- Create quizzes
- Have post it notes stuck around the room with key questions or definitions on
- Interact and discuss various topics with a buddy
- Use visual aids, such as graphs, diagrams, charts and mind-maps

Actively engaging with the material through memory techniques rather than just reading notes in the most effective strategy



Good Luck!

