



Revision Timetable

By helping your child to create a revision timetable, your child will be able to plan their study effectively to ensure they regularly revisit each subject. Tutors and teachers will discuss methods of creating revision timetables with students, but they will need to work independently to create one that suits them.

Short sessions of 30-40mins on a couple of different subjects per day are shown to be more effective than a prolonged session on one subject.

Once completed, this could be displayed in the kitchen or lounge for you to refer to and remind as needed!

Practice Testing

Each study session should start with a practice test to review the topic revised last time that subject was scheduled. Methods for practice testing include the following:

- Copy cover check – the student copies out a piece of information and then covers it to see if they can write it out again from memory. Together, you could then check between the two to see how close they were.
- Flash cards – create revision cards with questions on one side and answers on the other (eg, key terms and definitions). Students can use these themselves and make two piles of right and wrong for further revision, or you could quiz them.
- Quizzing – at the end of each revision session, the student could create a quiz for you to use at the start of their next session.

Relearning

Following their practice test, students should focus on one topic for revision. Highlighting or simple copying are proven to not be effective. Instead, students should focus on using the information they are revising. Methods for relearning include the following:

- Redesign – present the information in a new format, eg turn a plot summary into a flow diagram, turn a list of definitions into a song. You could help them compare between the source information and new format to ensure they included everything, or ask them to explain it to you.
- Memory tests – spend half the time memorising your topic in its current format, then try to exactly recreate that without looking, eg rewrite a mindmap. You could then help them check against the original and add in any missing information in another colour.

Discussion

Ask your child to explain a topic to you – perhaps they could even teach you! As they are explaining, probe their understanding by asking them ‘why’. By explaining topics further and further developing their understanding independently, your child is strengthening their understanding and recall.

Making Links

Challenge your child to form links between topics, or to link what they are studying to what they already know. This encourages your child to actively process the content and forming links within their brain to prior knowledge further strengthens memory and recall.