

Maximising Your Child's Academic Potential

Parent Information

1. Why Revise?





Revision means to 'go over again'.

'Being familiar with something is not the same as knowing it'

We can often falsely assume we really know something. If we haven't actually engaged something, and being made to think hard about this, it's likely we aren't able to recall this.

Look at the multiple-choice question below.

1. Which logo is the correct colour combination for Google?

- A) 
- B) 
- C) 
- D) 

Whilst Google is a logo we have all seen multiple times each week, or even daily, we haven't necessarily studied the correct colour pattern, and therefore, we aren't able to correctly recall the correct answer.

Revision is the bridge in achieving this. Going over content again and again means that the information is far more likely to stick in our long-term memory

2. How can you support your child at home with their revision?

- Revision needs to be part of a daily routine. Cramming a few weeks before an exam is not effective. Sit down and make a revision timetable at home together.
- Revision needs to be carried out in a quiet space with no distractions (no mobile phone, tv or listening to music).
- Revision needs to be short. Carry out short 20-minute sessions with a small break in between.

Example Revision Timetable	
Day	Subjects
Monday	Chemistry & History
Tuesday	Maths & Physics
Wednesday	English & Geography
Thursday	iMedia & Biology
Friday	Chemistry
Saturday	None
Sunday	Maths & History

3. What are the common mistakes often made with revision?

The following strategies listed below are **NOT effective**, and often give the illusion that we feel we are revision, when actually it serves very little impact:

- Only reading a revision guide
- Re-writing notes out in the same format
- Only revising a few weeks before an assessment or exam

4. Effective Revision Methods

Effective Revision is a cycle. This cycle needs to be repeated continuously for core knowledge to ensure it gets stuck in our long-term memory.

- 1) Prepare
- 2) Retrieve
- 3) Apply

Part 1) Prepare

First, we need to break down the important information to our own words.

Making revision material is an important part of revising. When you make your own resource, you are taking large amounts of content from a revision guide or textbook and reducing it down.

Part 2) Retrieve

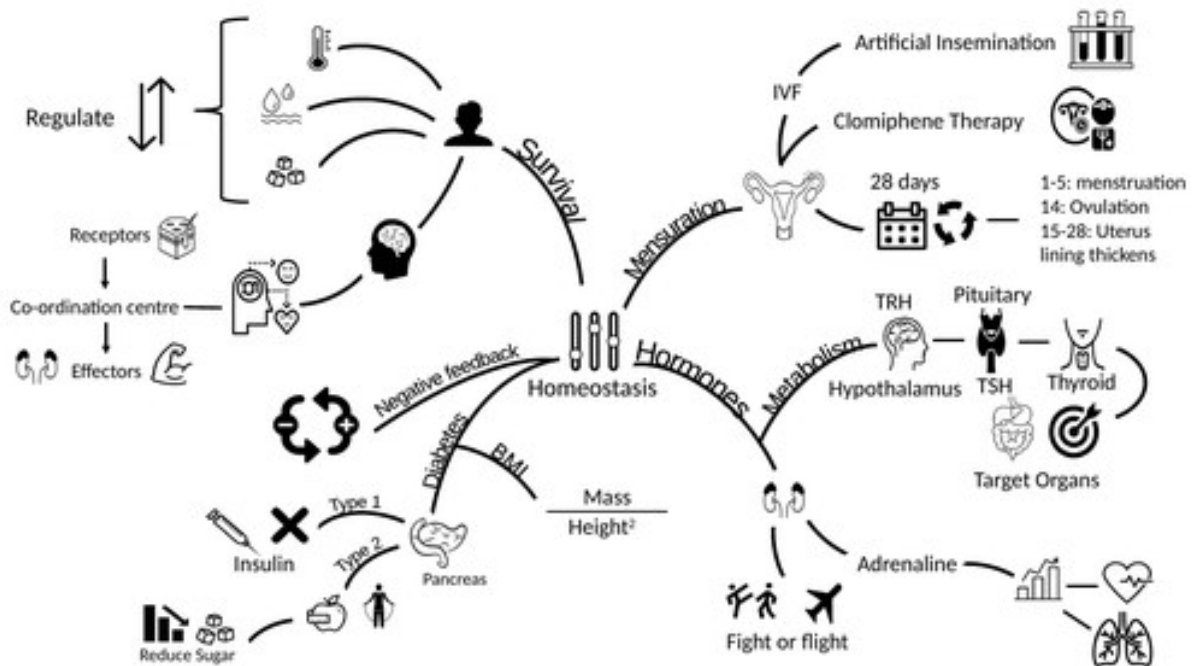
This step is about checking your knowledge. Here you need to work out what is sticking in your brain and what you are struggling to remember so that you can go back over it.

Part 3) Apply

Attempt your questions FROM MEMORY, do not copy from your notes – it is important for you to find out what you can remember!

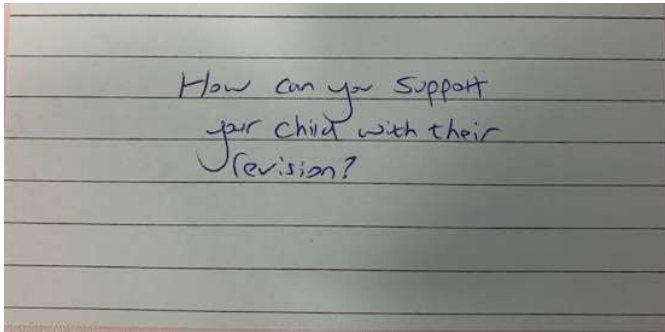
1) Prepare

Mind Maps

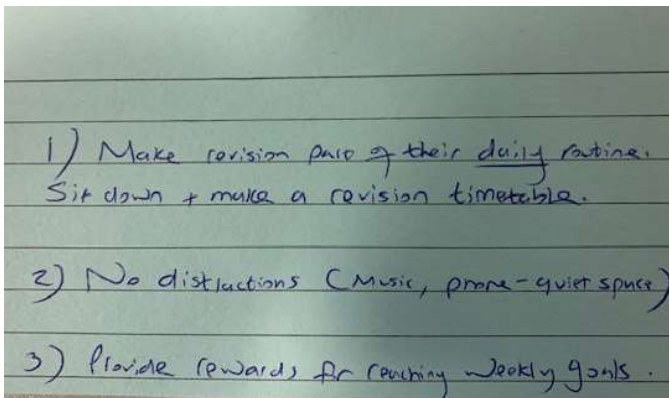


Flashcards

Front



Back



Creating Flashcards

Step 1) Take one page of A4, and cut this into four squares.

Step 2) On the front cover, write the topic title and key questions – 'How can you support your child with their revision?'

Step 3) On the reverse side write 4-5 short facts which answer the question or are linked to the topic.

2) Retrieve

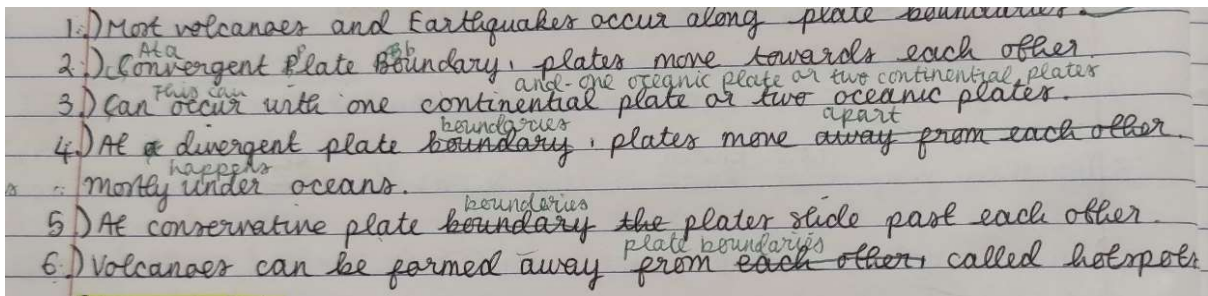
Look, Cover, Write, Check

Step 1) Read through the content in your knowledge organiser.

Step 2) Cover up the information and see how much you can **write from memory**.

Step 3) Go back and **check**. Did you miss anything? If so, add in your corrections in a different colour pen.

Step 4) Repeat again until you can write everything out from memory, with no corrections needed.



Using Flashcards

- Test your child at home. Read out the question or topic title, and see how much they can remember.

3) Apply

- Re-do questions from their exercise books or homework
- Example questions in revision guides and workbooks
- Past papers