

PARENTS GUIDE TO REVISION & STUDY SKILLS

Students at Swans achieve excellent results and you should be reassured by this. However, below are a few tips:

1. It is difficult to quantify how much time your son/daughter should spend on revision. However, as a rough indication, they should have done *at least* two hours per subject per fortnight in the run up to the trial examinations and double that in the run up to the actual examinations in May.
2. Be aware that much of the homework leading up to the examinations will be revision. Teachers may not ask them to record this.

Basically, they may claim not to have homework in Year 11 but there is always revision preparation and planning of their study skills.

3. By reading the whole of their booklet you will be able to help reassure your son/daughter that they are doing the right thing. All of us like to have a degree of autonomy in our work, but if they are ignoring all of the points in their booklet, then their revision sessions are unlikely to be as successful as they could be.
4. Try and help your son/daughter with the things that you know they find more difficult – organisation / designing a revision timetable / providing pens and paper /testing etc without them feeling that you are taking away their responsibility.
5. Keep an eye on your son/daughter's progress by looking at the revision timetable, **but don't use it as a stick to beat them with!**
6. Be flexible about social arrangements – your son/daughter will want to go out and really needs to go out if he/she is to keep fresh – however, if they wish to go out during a revision period, then negotiate with them when the time will be recovered.
7. In terms of techniques for revision, your son/daughter might not work in the same way that you would – but so long as there is a rationale that doesn't go against the general principles set out in their booklet, support them. The bottom line is that they should tailor their revision to their learning preferences.
8. **Make yourself available** – your son/daughter is likely to feel under extraordinary pressure and students notoriously 'shut down' at these points. Support in any way you can and if at all possible!

At the end of the day, if you are unsure about anything and want to check – feel free to contact the school.