



PUDSEY GRAMMAR
SIXTH FORM



A-LEVEL REVISION:

STUDENT GUIDANCE

A-Level Revision:

What Actually Works

How much should I revise?

- Spaced revision over a longer period of time beats cramming
- Aim for 30–60 minutes per session
- Build up to 15-20 hours per week total by Easter
- Quality over quantity → focused work wins

The 4 most effective revision strategies:

(Backed by cognitive science)

1 Retrieval Practice (MOST IMPORTANT)

- a. Test yourself from memory
 - b. Use past questions, quizzes, flashcards, mind maps
 - c. Normalise practice recall testing with your family and friends
- Top Tip: Recall by following the steps. Read and cover and write and check.*

2 Exam Practice

- a. Do real exam questions early
- b. Use mark schemes to identify weaknesses
- c. Learn how marks are awarded

Reminder: Don't save past papers until the end

3 Interleaving

- a. Switch between topics or subjects
- b. Don't revise one topic for hours
- c. Make a revision plan which schedules in some time off. Share it with others so they can hold you accountable.

4 Metacognitive Practice

- a. Know the timings of each exam & how long to spend on questions
- b. Learn approaches to questions
- c. Revise key terminology so you understand the questions



A-Level Revision:

What Doesn't Work

What Seems Like Revision (But Isn't Very Helpful)

These make you feel busy, not better prepared:

- Re-reading the same notes
- Highlighting large sections
- Neatening notes for the sake of it
- Watching videos without active practice (useful only if you test yourself after)

Phones, Distractions & Focus

- A phone in the room makes it harder to stay focused
 - Best to leave it elsewhere
 - Work in short sessions around 25–45 minutes
- Take real breaks instead of checking your phone



A-Level Revision:

Revision Checklist

What a Good Revision Session Looks Like

Clear goal



Timed focus



Active recall



Check answers



Note mistakes



Plan next steps

