

## ***Making the most of your revision guide***

Simply copying out sections of the revision guide is certainly better than not doing any revision at all however you will need to use much more active ways that really get you thinking if you want to get the most out of it.

One of the most important rules for effective revision is to stop yourself from only revising those areas you like or feel happy about. It is the ones which you find dull and difficult that you must work hard on! Be prepared to challenge yourself and be uncomfortable as that is when we learn best!

The following are some great ideas for how to use it more effectively:

- 1. Firstly make sure you know from your teacher exactly which pages you need for the exam you doing! Email them to find out if you are not in school and need to know.**
2. Revise one page at a time by reading the information very carefully. Then on a separate piece of paper with the revision guide closed write down as bullet points on everything you can remember from that page. Then open the guide and repeat the exercise until you have covered everything.
- 3. Make 10 bullet points for a page of all of the things that you weren't sure of or didn't know before. Go and tell them to someone else so that they stick in your head.**
4. For a page of the guide write 10 questions on the material covered. Then close the revision guide and on a separate piece of paper answer your own questions. Then the next day answer those same questions again. The more you are reminded of something the more likely you are to remember it!
- 5. Answer the revision summary questions at the end of the section for that exam and ask your teacher to mark them for you/with you.**
6. For a page make a spider diagram or mind map of all the key information. Add drawings, pictures and your own notes and ideas to make it more memorable. Many people choose to make these bright and colourful and really personalised, this definitely helps you to remember it.
- 7. Make flash cards for a particular topic or page. Cut up paper or card into small rectangles and on one side write a key work or piece of information and on the other side give write a detailed account of what they word or information means and why it is important. Then use these cards to test and remind yourself of the key words /ideas.**
8. For a particular topic or section of the revision guide make a list of all of the key words (usually underlined in the guide) then make sure that you know what each of them means. Try to use these key words as much as you can when talking about science to anyone!
- 9. Choose 10 key words from a page and randomly write them down spread out on an A4 piece of paper. Then try to connect every word to every other word by writing a connecting sentence along a line drawn between the words. This can get quite challenging but remember that this is what we want, you having to think hard as you will remember it better!**
10. Choose a page or a section of a page and try to explain all of it using only pictures and drawings.
- 11. For a section write a short news report to explain to people watching/listening about the science and why it is so important. Don't worry you won't have to show it to anyone but do say it out loud as doing so helps your brain to remember it.**
12. Make sure you use you revision guide every day and get to know it well. You'll be amazed how much you'll learn by simply repeatedly reading and using the book!