Maths G.C.S.E.

REVISION GUIDE.

Do you recognise yourself from the descriptions below?

'I always mean to revise
for exams, but it all seems
too much, so I pretend
they're not really happening!
'

'I'm too cool to revise
for exams. I've never revised
before and I'm not starting
'

'I revise in my own way,
but I never seem to
get anywhere!'

Whatever your past revision experiences, take just a few minutes to go through this guide (with its helpful advice & hints) and it will help you.

GO ON, WHAT HAVE YOU GOT TO LOSE?

READ ON.................

Time leading up to the exam: A few weeks before.
• Make sure you know the details of your upcoming exam.
  
  Date; Time; Length of exam & is it with or without a calculator.

• Start to do an equipment check. Do I have everything I need? If not, try to get sorted in plenty of time. Also check to see if equipment you already have works and is not damaged.
  
  You will need:  
  A calculator  
  Black pen(s)  
  Pencil & sharpener  
  A rubber  
  Compass  
  A ruler (preferably clear/see through)  
  A protractor (preferably clear/see through) otherwise it may slip.

**You will be revising in class.**

You teacher will be covering some of the topics needed for the exam.

LISTEN CAREFULLY and make sure you fully understand. It will save you having to spend more time at home covering the same thing again!

**PAST PAPERS:** Studies show that actually doing maths questions is the most effective way of preparing for an exam. So, if your teacher sets you a practise paper DO IT so that we can find out where the weak areas are and put it right!

**ON LINE:** There are many maths sites to choose from, but we would recommend

www.mymaths.co.uk login ashby

Check with your teacher:  →  Password  ---------

You should know your own personal login details but if not, find out asap from your teacher, write it down and keep it safe!

**In school,** the Maths dept. resources can be found on RM shared (w)/maths  
Here you can find Unit topic lists, past papers etc.

**REVISING AT HOME.**

• Find out how many days you have until the exam.
• Draw up a revision plan/table to try and plan you time sensibly. Keeping track of how much you can allow on each topic/section.

• **MIX IT UP:** Don’t just revise one way. Swap between
  - Reading revision guides & your notes
  - Computer revision
  - Doing past papers
  - Writing down key notes / formulae.
  - Using a revision CD ROM (Maths Watch)

**Understand key words in the questions…**

- **Calculate/evaluate** = Work out the answer
- **Sum of** = add it up
- **Product** = multiplying

- **Estimate** = Make a realistic ‘good guess’ eg the height of a door (2-2.5m)

- **Approximate** = Do the actual sum but with the numbers correct to 1 significant figure (1sf) eg actual sum 1.95 x 18.76 → 2 x 20 ≈ 40 approx.

- **Similar** = same shape but not same size (all sides will scale up or down in the same ratio)

- **Congruent** = same shape and same size (identical)

**NIGHT BEFORE THE EXAM**

A little ‘last minute’ revision going over some key areas. Don’t stay up too late. Check all equipment and exam details are in your bag. **Get a good night’s sleep!!!!**

**MORNING OF THE EXAM.**

1. **Get up on time!** Set an alarm clock and/or get a parent on ‘wake-up’ duty.
2. **Have a good breakfast** (you need the energy to think clearly)
3. **Don't miss the bus!**

4. **Be near your allocated room in plenty of time.**
   
   This will help you stay calm.
   
   Check your seat number before you get in. You will have been given it before, but if you've lost it don't panic the list is on a display board next to B Block main reception.

**IN THE EXAM ITSELF:**

Switch off your mobile and leave it in your bag.

Get to your seat quickly and quietly.

Put equipment out ready on your desk (no Tippex allowed).

Listen to all the instructions carefully.

Look at what formula you have been given at the front of the paper.

Read each question carefully at least twice so that you know what they are actually asking for, not what you think they are asking.

Show all of your working out if the question is worth more than 1 mark.

Make your answers easy to read and in a logical order. Write all your numbers clearly so that there can be no doubt what it is. Don't put two decimal points in the same number!

Measure angles and lines carefully to make them as accurate as possible.

If you go wrong, don't try to write over it. Just cross it out with a single line and write it again correctly.

Remember to ask for tracing paper for reflections/rotations.
Sometimes if you think you can’t do the first part of a question, you still may be able to do some of the later parts—so don’t give up!

Try never to leave any question unanswered. At the end of the exam after checking your work, have a good guess!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Riddles and rhymes to help you remember:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Multiples = Times tables.</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hey diddle, diddle The <strong>MEDIAN’S</strong> the middle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>You add and divide for the <strong>MEAN</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The <strong>MODE</strong> is the one that you see the most</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>And the <strong>RANGE</strong> is the difference in-between.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Quadrilaterals:</strong> 4 sided polygon</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Like <strong>quad</strong> bike (4 wheels)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Factors always come in pairs unless your number is a SQUARE.</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Dividing fractions, don’t be shy</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>flip the last one over and multiply</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Probabilities lie from 0 to 1</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>So if yours don’t, you’ve sure gone wrong!</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| **Prime numbers** don’t have many friends. Just **one and itself**, and that’s where it ends! |

| **The power of **² **does not mean double, but ‘times by itself’ then you’ll stay out of trouble!** |

| **The Mid points are used when the data’s in groups. To work out the mean, times by each frequency seen.** |

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>FOR SIMILAR POWERED TERMS</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>THE RULE is just CHILDS PLAY:</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>When timesing, add the powers but when dividing, takeaway</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Perpendicular- cross at 90°</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Parallel- like train tracks from London to Leeds.</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Use this for distance, speed and time.</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Put your finger on the letter you want to find.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>REVISE</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>No one ever prepares to fail</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>They just fail to prepare!!!!!!</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>