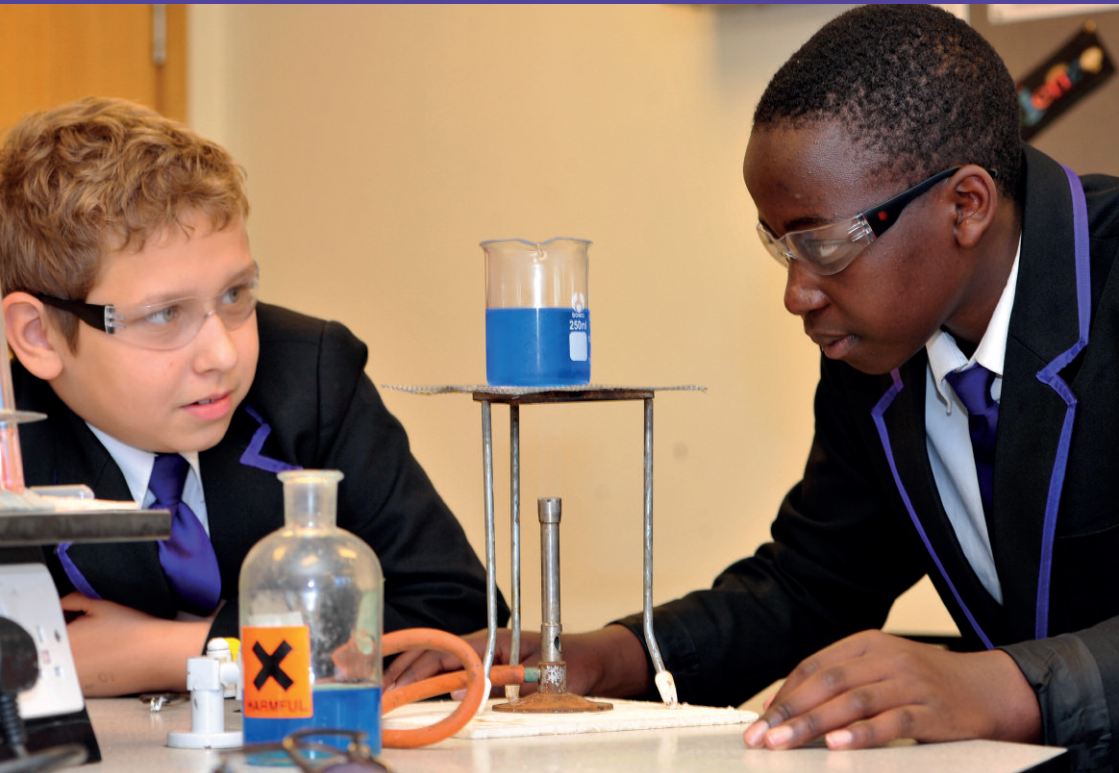


**New College Leicester**

Learning & Sports Village



Outstanding Progress for All



**How can you support your child  
to do their best in exams and tests  
at schools?**

**GCSEs are the most important examinations taken by 15–16 year olds. They are the first step in allowing your child to move on to further education or to a career. Your child will need your support to give them the best chance of achieving success in these exams.**

**In order to prepare our students for their GCSEs, they will face exams and tests throughout years 7-11. If we want our young people to be as successful as possible, then we need to work together.**

## **What can parents do to help?**

**Help your child to start preparing for their exams and tests now!**

The summer exams every year will cover all the work studied during the year, but students will be tested every half-term, on that half-terms work, to make sure they are making good progress. Please:

- Make sure that your child attends school every day and on time
- Make sure that they are keeping up with homework
- Alert your child's tutor if they are not getting enough homework
- Talk to your child about what they have been learning

### **Did you know...?**

**Studies show that high parental interest is linked with better exam results than for children whose parents show no interest. What will you do to give your child the best chance of achieving success?**



# Top 10 revision tips for parents

- 1 Help your child to make a revision timetable which includes all their subjects.
- 2 Have the timetable displayed in your child's room and ensure that they stick to the plan.
- 3 Ask to see your child's revision notes and check that they are complete.
- 4 Make sure that revision is spread out evenly so that your son/daughter is not planning to do too much at once.
- 5 Ask them to explain something they have just revised.
- 6 Encourage your son/daughter to ask for help at school on any work that they do not understand.
- 7 Encourage your child to attend revision sessions offered by the school.
- 8 Make sure that they have all the books they need to hand so they don't waste time.
- 9 You can buy revision guides to help with study.
- 10 Encourage the use of different memory aids e.g. writing notes on cards or putting post-it notes around the house with key facts.

# School contacts

- Get in touch with us if you would like more help or advice via your child's tutor.

# Top 10 revision tips for students

**You can support your son/daughter by helping them to follow these tips:**

- 1 Do not revise for more than one hour without taking a 5-10 minute break. Have a glass of water or something similar to drink.
- 2 Stay focused. Don't waste time on social networks and mobile phones.
- 3 Revise one or two subjects every evening after school.
- 4 Revise specific topics on each subject, not everything at once.
- 5 Tackle the most difficult topics first.
- 6 Cover each topic several times and revisit each one near to the exams/tests.
- 7 Turn off the TV, radio or any loud music. Quiet background music may help some students.
- 8 Reading is not enough. Making brief notes in either words or pictures will help.
- 9 Answer questions from past papers, sometimes under exam conditions, to test learning.
- 10 Do not leave revision to the last minute.

**Students with 5 GCSEs at grade A-C including English and Maths are likely to earn £250,000 more in their career than students without these qualifications.**

# What else can parents do to help?

- Reward your child's efforts to revise
- Reduce the number of chores they have to do when exams/tests start
- Make sure that the whole family keeps disturbances to a minimum
- Allow your child to study in the school library or New Parks Library if there is not a quiet place to study at home
- Be sensitive to the pressure and stress that your child may be experiencing
- Make sure that time is built in for exercise and recreation
- Respect your child's growing independence. Ask them how you can best support them
- Help them to keep things in perspective
- Have a copy of the exam and test timetable at home so that you can provide encouragement for each exam

## Before exams, try to ensure that:

- Your son/daughter gets enough sleep, especially the night before exams
- He/she is eating sensibly - especially breakfast on exam/test days
- He/she has all the equipment required e.g.
  - pens and sharp pencils, eraser, a ruler and a watch (mobile phones are not allowed in the exams)
  - a calculator and protractor
- Your son/daughter knows what day the exam/test is on and at what time it starts
- He/she knows how long the exam is
- He/she knows what is being tested in each exam/test
- Attendance at mock exams and controlled assessments is also essential

## Useful websites for past papers and revision:

[bbc.co.uk/schools/parents](http://bbc.co.uk/schools/parents)

[s-cool.co.uk](http://s-cool.co.uk)

[bbc.co.uk/schools/gcsebitesize](http://bbc.co.uk/schools/gcsebitesize)

[aqa.org.uk](http://aqa.org.uk)

[gcseguide.co.uk](http://gcseguide.co.uk)

[edexcel.org.uk](http://edexcel.org.uk)

[gcse.com](http://gcse.com)

[ocr.org.uk](http://ocr.org.uk)

[gcsepod.co.uk](http://gcsepod.co.uk)

[wjec.co.uk](http://wjec.co.uk)

Also have a look at the revision materials available in bookshops - there are some useful revision guides on sale.