

# HOW CAN I HELP MY CHILD REVISE?



CHURCH *of* ENGLAND  
ACADEMY

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# What is retrieval practice?

Retrieval practice refers to the act of recalling learned information from memory (with no or little support). Every time information is retrieved, or an answer is generated, it changes that original memory to make it stronger.

## 'Using memory, shapes your memory'

Robert Bjork

The retrieval process cements the information in the long-term memory, which should enable that information to become easier to retrieve in the future.

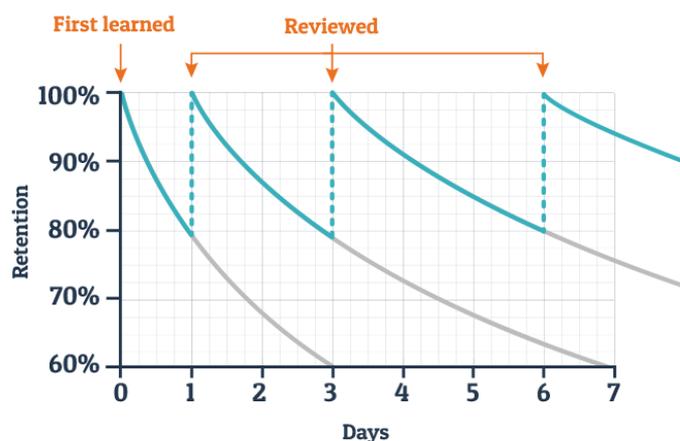
Memory consists of three stores:

- **Store 1:** Sensory store, where information is encoded.
- **Store 2:** Short-term memory or 'working memory'. All information stored in the short-term memory that is not rehearsed is lost within 18-30 seconds.
- **Store 3:** Long-term memory. Where information is stored after being rehearsed.

It is not enough to be able to store information in our long-term memory, we need to be able to retrieve it from there too.

It is important that your child starts revision early and has time to prepare for each assessment effectively ensuring information is storage in the long-term memory and recalled later. The diagram below shows the 'Forgetting Curve' and how memory retention declines in time if there has been no effort made to retain it.

**Typical Forgetting Curve for Newly Learned Information**



Linking to revision it is vital that your child keeps revisiting key content, improving memory retention over time. If your child covers a topic or masters a skill in Year 7 and does not try to recall it again until the end of Year 8, the chances are that he/she will have to relearn it again. However, by supporting your child using the revision strategies in this guide, your child will improve memory retention, will feel more confident and prepared.

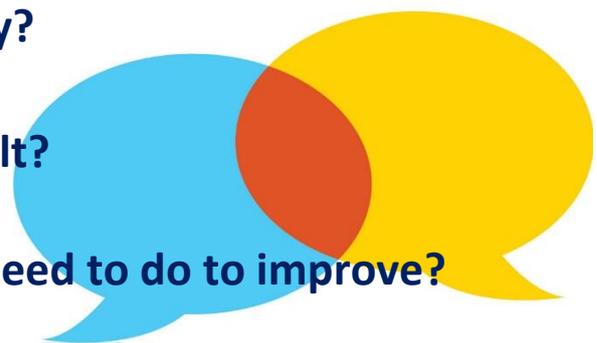
View your child's journey in school as a marathon, not a sprint! Your child should not wait until the week before the test to cram all of the information. Using the strategies in this booklet over time will help your child to recall more and better!

As a parent, you are your child's most important educator and research shows that parents who are actively involved with their child's learning help their children to achieve more too. Parental support is crucial to the success of students' learning, and is very much welcomed and appreciated by teachers.

Research states that 'The effect of parental engagement over a student's school career is equivalent to adding an extra two to three years to that student's education.' One way in which parents can help - easily and immediately - is by encouraging students to think differently about their learning, and this begins by speaking differently about their learning.

The language used at home to discuss learning is as important as that used in school. Classroom teachers are acutely aware of the value of asking probing questions to challenge students to think hard about their learning, and parents are encouraged to adopt this practice at home.

- **What did you learn today?**
- **What did you find difficult?**
- **Do you know what you need to do to improve?**



The responses to these questions like the ones listed above can open up a useful dialogue about your child's learning, and help students understand that learning is something to be thought about and talked about - and something that everyone can, and should be encouraged to, get better.

# Why is retrieval practice important?



**Strengthens your child's memory, making information more retrievable**



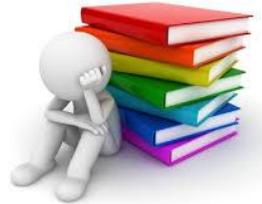
**It improves transfer of knowledge to new contexts**



**It gives your child information on what he/she remembers and does not remember**



**It promotes long-lasting durable learning**



**It reduces exam stress and anxiety**



**It will help your child to understand how to learn effectively**

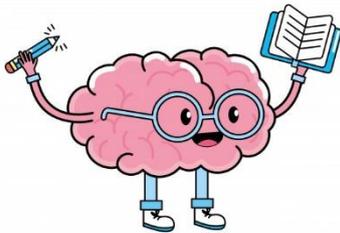
**“The best preparation for tomorrow is doing your best today”**

H Jackson Brown Jr

# What works and what does not work to support your child with revision

Research shows that three most useful learning methods are:

## Recall and test practice



- Encourage your child to test his/her knowledge. Use some of the strategies in this booklet.
- **Making mistakes is a part of the learning process!** Mistakes will give your child information about what to revise more and frequent misconceptions that have to be addressed.
- Encourage your child to practice the most difficult content first.
- Do not allow your child to jump directly into the homework. Ask your child to go through the book/revision guide first.

- Also called **distributed learning**. Encourage your child to revise a little bit every day.
- **Forgetting is a good thing!** It boosts long-term retention if you use recall strategies.
- Ask your child to review information but not immediately after class. Allow time to forget. Forgetting and trying to recall at a later time boosts your child's memory.
- Ensure your child goes back to older information.
- It will be difficult at the beginning. Encourage your child not to give up!

## Spaced practice



# Importance of educational visit on your child's learning

## 1. Enhance Understanding

Embarking on days trips to educational monuments e.g. museums, galleries, zoos etc. can help your child develop new understanding of topics which may have been covered in the classroom or will be in the future. For example visit a historical landmarks will give your child the opportunity to visualise and experience historical events. Your child will have the opportunity to contextualise historical actions and understanding people of the past. This gives them a deeper understanding of situations which in turn can teach your child to critical thinking and reflect on their own life. Some believe museum are caretakers of history as much as they offer connections to history that may not be covered in as much in school due to limited curriculum time.

## 2. Improve Thinking Skills

Art galleries provide the opportunity for your child to compare and contrast what is important for them which leads to higher critical thinking skills. Galleries will contain various types of artwork and as they stroll through an exhibit there will be differences in the style, subject matter, and techniques demonstrated in the artwork which can foster interesting conversations. Educational trips opens the door for your child's curiosity in the form of questions. Some of these will be questions that have answers, questions that should be encouraged, questions that make you think, and questions that may not have answers.

## 3. Creates Lifelong Learners

By visiting landmarks, it is creating lifelong learners. While we can agree most careers require a specific type of education, in truth the world is already change, in our adult life we have had to learn knew school due an ever changing labour market. Therefore, your child needs to be lifelong learners to continue to grow as the demands change.

## 4. Hands-On Learning

Outside of the structure and confinement of school, a child on an educational trip is free to delve deeply into whatever they want to learn. An archaeological dig, for example, provides the opportunity for a child to experience the sights, sounds and tactile experience of digging for and identifying fossils. Small day trips can have similar hands-on benefits. Your child may be able to decorate a cookie at a bakery excursion or milk a cow during a visit to a nearby farm.

## 5. Global Citizen

Travel and school trips are an excellent way for students to gain a better insight of the world around them, from political, economic and societal stand points. Experiences like educational trips will not only allow your child to view a country and culture as it is today but explore how it got there through its history and where it's heading in the future. Hands on, first-hand experiences allow children to develop their own, more rounded understanding of countries and cultures rather than what they hear or see on social media.

**MORE IMPORTANTLY, IT'S FUN AND A GREAT BOND ACTIVITY AS  
A FAMILY TO CULTIVATE MEMORIES!**

# Art and Textiles

What are the students learning?

Year 8
<b>Here Come the insects</b> Developing drawing techniques, textiles, printing, collage and ceramics
<b>Me, Myself and I</b> Exploring identity through drawing, self-portrait and personal possessions.

What can my child do at home to support their learning?

Year 8
Read, research, ask questions, explore, be a pro-active learner!  Reading about the artist or craftsman on Art Gallery Websites, Artists pages and books rather than relying on Wikipedia alone will give a clearer insight in to their work and help you make deeper, more personal connections. What was going on in the world at the time? History can often have a great impact on the type of art or the subject of the artwork  Day trips and visits to galleries and museums to see work.  Make sure they are organised with basic art materials

What other educational opportunities would support my child's learning?

Year 8
BBC Bitesize <a href="https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/z6f3cdm">https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/z6f3cdm</a>
Tate Modern/ Britain – you can search information on lots of artists <a href="https://www.tate.org.uk/art">https://www.tate.org.uk/art</a>
National Gallery <a href="https://www.nationalgallery.org.uk/">https://www.nationalgallery.org.uk/</a>
The Art Story This website focuses on modern and contemporary artists. It has a great, clear layout making it easy to use. Analysis of artists' work and context is set-out

alongside relevant biography. The writing style and ideas are accessible Students can get high quality information on the 319 artists currently featured.  
<https://www.theartstory.org/>

## Computer Science

What are the students learning?

### Year 8

1. Computer Crime and Cyber Security
2. Scratch Project - Pac Man Project
3. HTML and Website Development
4. From Scratch to Python
5. Back to the Future (History of Computing)

What can my child do at home to support their learning?

### Year 8

You can go through the following website with your child to develop their understanding of programming using Scratch, HTML and Python:

- <https://www.khanacademy.org/>
- <https://scratch.mit.edu/projects/editor/?tutorial=getStarted>
- <http://www.pythonschool.net/>
- <https://www.w3schools.com/html/>
- <https://projects.raspberrypi.org/en/codeclub>
- <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zhy39j6>
- 

Create Flashcard at the end of each unit in preparation for an assessment.

Ask your child what keywords they have learnt in Computing and what do they mean.

What other educational opportunities would support my child's learning?

Year 8
Watch a show on BBC Click: <a href="https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b006m9ry">https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b006m9ry</a>
BBC Teach - Secondary Computer Science: <a href="https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLcvEcrsF_9zLgDzVvFr1LC5E0FETaCxl">https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLcvEcrsF_9zLgDzVvFr1LC5E0FETaCxl</a>
Watch TedTalks on the following:
History of Computing <a href="https://ed.ted.com/videos/?search=history%20of%20computers&amp;video=-M6lANfzFsM">https://ed.ted.com/videos/?search=history%20of%20computers&amp;video=-M6lANfzFsM</a>
Future of Computing <a href="https://ed.ted.com/videos/?search=history%20of%20computers&amp;video=-M6lANfzFsM">https://ed.ted.com/videos/?search=history%20of%20computers&amp;video=-M6lANfzFsM</a>

## Design & Technology

What are the students learning?

Year 8
<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Activity Pack project</li><li>2. 4 Piece Puzzle project</li></ol>

What can my child do at home to support their learning?

Year 8
<p>The activity pack is aimed at younger children, so your child could ask siblings or younger relatives about the games they might want to play. If you have any board games then play them as a family and see what works best. Go to charity shops and buy some board games you don't have and test those too.</p> <p>Look at everyday objects round the house. What are they made from and why? Discuss this or ask your child what they think. For instance, ask your child to examine a fizzy drinks can. They should be able to tell what material it's made from (Aluminium) you could then discuss why, (lightweight, easily recycled).</p>

What other educational opportunities would support my child's learning?

### Year 8

Look at the recycling marks on a number of plastic items.

There is a number and sometimes letters. Investigate what these plastics are and how they are made by searching for plastics recycling codes. Here is one example; <https://learn.eartheasy.com/articles/plastics-by-the-numbers/>

Stretch learning by having a go at the GCSE revision on BBC bitesize <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/guides/zrstng8/revision/1>

Day trips such as mentioned in the year 7 column are really stimulating to growing minds and great for family bonds too. I still remember my trips to the Science museum with my Dad over 50 years ago.

## Drama

What are the students learning?

### Year 8

**Play text – ‘The Terrible Fate of Humpty Dumpty’ by David Calcutt and devising around the theme of Fame.**

Students will initially use the play to explore issues surrounding peer pressure and bullying then delving into believable characterisation.

Followed by a unit that develops purely devising skills and non-naturalistic elements.

## What can my child do at home to support their learning?

### Year 8

Using the internet research the play and look at how others have performed it.

Pick a famous person that you are a fan of and research the ups and downs of their career. Is being in the spotlight as good as it seems?

## What other educational opportunities would support my child's learning?

### Year 8

Mousetrap – every home a theatre project.

<https://www.mousetrap.org.uk/every-home-a-theatre>

Satgedoor resource page.

[https://stagedoorapp.com/streamdoor?i=98&fbclid=IwAR2RTYnYJ9eazwalnBK9wZcpdk\\_j-la8pnqMNTRSjj6dglJHxd5zQ9g31k](https://stagedoorapp.com/streamdoor?i=98&fbclid=IwAR2RTYnYJ9eazwalnBK9wZcpdk_j-la8pnqMNTRSjj6dglJHxd5zQ9g31k)

The Globe education resources.

<https://www.shakespearesglobe.com/learn/>

BBC bitesize home learning.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zn6k92p>

# English

## What are the students learning?

Year 8
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Noughts and Crosses</li><li>• Rhetoric</li><li>• Julius Caesar</li><li>• The Lord of the Flies</li><li>• C19th Childhood extracts</li><li>• Poetry - Equality</li></ul>

## What can my child do at home to support their learning?

Year 8
<p>Read, read, read – books, magazines, newspaper articles, leaflets, blogs, reviews, literature from charitable organisations – this can be in paper form or online websites/resources.</p> <p>Below is a fantastic link to a recommended reading list compiled by teachers: <a href="https://funkypedagogy.com/the-reading-list-project-teachers-helping-teachers/">https://funkypedagogy.com/the-reading-list-project-teachers-helping-teachers/</a></p> <p>Listen to an audio recording of the texts your child is reading; listen to them together, or share them as a family.</p> <p>Borrow, download or stream an adaptation of the Shakespeare play and watch the scenes together.</p> <p>Discuss what's going on in the world – politics, current affairs, world news, the latest film and book releases – this helps children develop cultural awareness of the world and helps make sense of their learning.</p> <p><a href="https://www.dictionary.com/e/word-of-the-day/">https://www.dictionary.com/e/word-of-the-day/</a> The Word of the Day is a great way for your child to broaden their vocabulary. As well as discovering new words, they also get to learn about their origins and usage.</p> <p>Discuss what your child is learning in English. Ask questions about their work. If they have a Knowledge Organiser, get them to tell you what the key terms mean.</p> <p>Talk about the adverts and think about what messages they are trying to get across when you are watching TV or reading a newspaper. Why not ask the 'expert' (your child) – to 'read' the advert; encourage them to use the technical terms to talk about the language and style of the advert?</p>

Use the internet to help your child. Websites often give reading tips for texts as well as explaining the key ideas and characters. Use the search engine [www.google.co.uk](http://www.google.co.uk) to help you find suitable sites.

Don't forget reading for pleasure – it is good to read for fun. Reading a magazine, comic or book is a good way to take a break

*Remember that your child is reading when they are looking at bus timetables, menus, instructions, TV guides and the internet.*

## What other educational opportunities would support my child's learning?

### Year 8

Oak National Academy have a range of online lessons that complement some of schemes of learning, should your child wish to explore the topics in further detail.

<https://www.thenational.academy/>

BBC Bitesize – support many of the texts we teach in year 9 and offer support in preparing students for the transition to GCSE

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/z3kw2hv>

Mr Bruff (youtube) is a great favourite with GCSE students, covering all the texts on the GCSE syllabus. He has produced short videos on all aspects of these texts, many of which we study in Year 8 and 9.

# French

## What are the students learning?

Year 8
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Holidays</li><li>• Sport</li><li>• Francophonie</li><li>• France v UK</li><li>• Entertainment</li><li>• Technology</li></ul>

## What can my child do at home to support their learning?

Year 8
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Review class notes, particularly for new grammar</li><li>• Create vocabulary flashcards for new topics (English on one side, French on the other)</li><li>• Try listening to French songs on YouTube</li><li>• Use your VocabExpress account to complete vocabulary work (the whole of the year's vocabulary is always available to you)</li><li>• Use Linguascope to practise topical language learnt in class</li><li>• To reinforce grammar, go to <a href="http://LanguagesOnline.org.uk">LanguagesOnline.org.uk</a> (great for the all-important tenses!)</li><li>• There are free and subscription activities on SenecaLearning based on all the KS3 topics which propose a good level of challenge and range of skills practice</li><li>• Create a Memrise account which provides a unique and engaging way to learn new vocabulary</li><li>• Set your phone to 'French' menus!</li><li>• If you talk / communicate with your classmates on social media, why not try doing it in French - have fun with it</li></ul>

## What other educational opportunities would support my child's learning?

Year 8
<p>There are plenty of authentic French materials on the internet (particularly videos). Find a topic that interests you and research – you don't need to understand every word! The search term 'site:.fr' may help to bring up more French-based materials. Remember that it is easier to engage with something that you enjoy (a hobby, a music artist etc) – it doesn't just need to be the news / radio! There are plenty of other French students of a similar age with similar interests providing opportunities for you to engage with their language on the web.</p>

# Geography

What are the students learning?

Year 8
1. Population Change 2. Globalisation 3. Aspiring Asia 4. Riveting Rivers

What can my child do at home to support their learning?

Year 8
Read, research, ask questions, explore, be a pro-active learner!
Reading around the subject will give a clearer insight in to the topics you are studying. Watching the news, reading newspapers and books and enjoying documentaries on the topic in question.
Day trips and educational visits to places such as The London Dockland's Museum where you can explore the area and how the River Thames had been used in the past to the present day.
Use your vocabulary sheet in the front of your exercise book to help guide you on the key terms you need to know.
In your written work make links to SEEP (social, economic, environmental and political) where relevant.

What other educational opportunities would support my child's learning?

Year 8
<b>1. Population Change</b> -Resources and quizzes <a href="https://classroom.thenational.academy/subjects-by-year/year-7/subjects/geography">https://classroom.thenational.academy/subjects-by-year/year-7/subjects/geography</a> -Hans Rosling on population: <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FACK2knC08E">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FACK2knC08E</a>
<b>2. Globalisation</b> -Resources and quizzes

<https://classroom.thenational.academy/subjects-by-year/year-9/subjects/geography>

### 3. Aspiring Asia

-Research projects of different countries in Asia using google or <https://www.ducksters.com/geography/asia.php>

### 4. Riveting Rivers

-River resources and quiz <https://classroom.thenational.academy/lessons/what-is-the-land-in-the-uk-made-of/activities/1/view/>

## History

What are the students learning?

Year 8
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Tudor and Stuart England</li><li>• The British Empire</li><li>• The African Slave Trade</li><li>• The Industrial Revolution</li></ul>

What can my child do at home to support their learning?

Year 8
Independent reading and research to support what is being learned in school.  Access the following websites: History Learning site History today National geographic history magazine BBC Bitesize history History Extra BBC history

What other educational opportunities would support my child's learning?

Year 8
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Museum of London Docklands has a lot of space devoted to the slave trade</li><li>• History channel</li></ul>

## Mandarin

What are the students learning?

Year 8
<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Greetings</li><li>2. About me</li><li>3. My family</li><li>4. My things</li><li>5. Schools</li><li>6. My week</li><li>7. Going out</li><li>8. Holiday</li></ol>

What can my child do at home to support their learning?

Year 8
<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Listening, reading, writing and speaking!</li><li>2. Research and practice!</li></ol> <p>Each week, we have asked our students to read an audio book. This will allow your child to build up their listening and reading skills. It will help students to understand the context better.</p> <p>You can find the audio resources in below link: <a href="https://www.uniteforliteracy.com/">https://www.uniteforliteracy.com/</a></p> <p>Students are required to search the meaning of the keywords from each reading task. They will then be asked to translate a few sentences from the text they have read/listened. Repetition is the key for memorizing characters, therefore, each student has been asked to write all the keywords 7 times each, including those tasks in pre-recorded videos, as a practice.</p> <p>Students are also required to study the pre-recorded lessons thoroughly and complete the tasks within the videos for each unit. These videos have been shared on OneDrive for your child to access.</p>

Another way to support your child with their home learning is to join in with their lessons. Students are set projects previously such as introducing their family members and show their siblings how to say new words. They can also hold a small conversation with the family member/or themselves, record and send it over to us so we can give feedback on their pronunciation. Most of the lessons have implanted fun songs in the recordings. Encourage them to sing along with the video and have some fun as a family!

## What other educational opportunities would support my child's learning?

### Year 8

Other useful learning resources are:

1. SMHW quizzes,
2. Quizlet,
3. Apps
4. Chinesebuddy - Youtube Channels.
5. Creating different sets of flashcards

Quizlet(links attached):

Unit 1: Hello

Unit 2 How are you

Unit 3 My family

Unit 4 My things

Unit 5 Shopping

Unit 6 Where

Unit 7 Nationality

Unit 8 Jobs

Unit 9- Going out

Chinesebuddy:

All videos

Free App that you can download: HelloChinese

Chinese typing software/App: Sougo

# Maths

## What are the students learning?

Year 8
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Indices</li><li>• Prime factorisation</li><li>• Rounding</li><li>• Fractions</li><li>• Percentages review</li><li>• Linear Equations</li><li>• Co-ordinates and basic graphs</li><li>• Units of measure</li><li>• Angles</li><li>• Circumference</li><li>• Proportional Reasoning</li><li>• Fractions, Percentages and Decimals</li><li>• Ratio</li><li>• Areas of Composite shapes</li><li>• Presenting and Interpreting data</li><li>• Averages</li><li>• Two way Tables</li><li>• 3D visualisation</li><li>• Volumes</li></ul>

## What can my child do at home to support their learning?

Year 8
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Do extra work online to improve on their independent learning skills.</li><li>• Watch Math videos on line.<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ <a href="http://www.Hegertymaths.co.uk">www.Hegertymaths.co.uk</a></li><li>○ <a href="http://www.mathsgenie.co.uk">www.mathsgenie.co.uk</a></li><li>○ <a href="http://www.corbettmath.co.uk">www.corbettmath.co.uk</a></li></ul></li></ul>

## What other educational opportunities would support my child's learning?

Year 8
Attend Math clubs at Lunch time in school

# Music

## What are the students learning?

Year 8
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Jazz and Big Bands*</li><li>• Improvisation</li><li>• Reggae*</li><li>• Pop Composition</li><li>• Film Music*</li><li>• Composing to a Visual Brief</li><li>• Baroque Music*</li></ul>

## What can my child do at home to support their learning?

Year 8
<p>Practise for performance tasks (marked *) - students can practice at break/ lunchtime at school if instruments are not available at home.</p> <p>Research the topics that they are studying and listen 'around' them. For example, when we are studying film music, students may wish to watch their favourite film but focus on the musical scoring and consider how it helps to tell the story and underpin the on-screen action.</p> <p>Students can explore and strengthen their composition skills at home, either by composing acoustically (e.g. using a keyboard or guitar), or by using music software such as GarageBand. If they do not have access to such software, then you can set up a free account to Soundtrap, which is an online software package that works in a similar way to GarageBand and other sequencing software. This can be found at <a href="http://www.soundtrap.com">www.soundtrap.com</a></p> <p>Students can access the resources on <i>Focus on Sound</i>. All students will be given a login for this site which provides a wealth of online resources for students to use to strengthen and further their learning. We will also be using <i>Focus on Sound</i> in class and for homework, so students will become very familiar with it over the course of the year.</p>

What other educational opportunities would support my child's learning?

**Year 8**

Watching films and analysing the music, including watching any 'extra' features such as documentaries about the music, or cut scenes which often have the music missing – this demonstrates how big a part the soundtrack plays.

BBC Bitesize for KS3, such as this unit on film music composition:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/z3dqhyc/articles/z7bphbk>

BBC 10 pieces, such as this webpage looking at pop music and its connection to art:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/what-did-pop-steal-from-pop-art/z7jtwty>

Looking at how to develop music technology in composition:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/class-clips-video/music-ks3-gcse-music-technology/zhhvwtty>

## Physical Education

What are the students learning?

**Year 8**

**Health related components of fitness:**

- Number and name of components
- Definitions of each
- Links to performance
- Reading data

**Skill related components of fitness:**

- Number and name of components
- Definitions of each
- Links to performance

**Fitness tests:**

- Names of tests
- What components of fitness they test
- Protocols of each test
- Relevance of tests to a performer/activity

## Year 8

### All students will learn a selection of sports from:

Netball, Basketball, Handball, Volleyball, Football, Table Tennis, Gymnastics, Trampolining, Fitness, Orienteering, Athletics, Rounders and Cricket.

## What can my child do at home to support their learning?

Year 7	Year 8	Year 9
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Visit the body world's exhibition in London.</li><li>- Visit BBC bitesize website</li><li>- Watching sporting fixtures</li><li>- Encourage physical activity outside of school</li></ul>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Create a poster analyzing a sports performer and the components of fitness they require to be good at their sport and why.</li><li>- Use this information to create an information booklet/leaflet that explains what tests that performer should do and how they do them. <a href="http://www.brainmac.com">www.brainmac.com</a></li></ul>	

## What other educational opportunities would support my child's learning?

Year 8
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Attending extra-curricular Clubs during lunchtime and after school</li></ul> Opportunity to attend: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Live sporting fixtures</li><li>- Masterclasses</li><li>- Competitions both in and out of borough</li></ul>

# Religious Studies

What are the students learning?

Year 8
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Jewish Belief</li><li>• Jewish Practice</li><li>• Evil and Suffering</li><li>• Evil &amp; Suffering and Philosophy of Religion</li><li>• Philosophy of Religion</li><li>• Ethics: Family &amp; Marriage</li></ul>

What can my child do at home to support their learning?

Year 8
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Be aware of religious buildings, clothing and artifacts in their area and neighbors.</li><li>• Watch the news and be aware of religious themes</li><li>• Ask and discuss questions about the meaning of existence and why we follow certain rules in society</li><li>• Talk to people in their faith community or outside about what they believe</li><li>• Go over key terms</li><li>• Read over work and additional articles</li></ul>

What other educational opportunities would support my child's learning?

Year 8
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Visit places of worship</li><li>• Imperial War Museum – Holocaust section</li><li>• <a href="https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zbbdnrd">https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zbbdnrd</a></li></ul>

# Science

## What are the students learning?

Year 8
<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. How the body works</li><li>2. Physical and chemical changes</li><li>3. Energy</li><li>4. Inheritance and evolution</li><li>5. Chemistry on earth</li><li>6. Magnetism and waves</li></ol>

## What can my child do at home to support their learning?

Year 8
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Logging on to Show my homework at the start of term to regularly check homework updates as well as reading through the key word list and researching the definitions.</li><li>• Reading around the subject and using relevant resources (on show my homework) to reinforce learning and develop understanding.</li><li>• Your child can access the following websites: <a href="https://www.educake.co.uk/">https://www.educake.co.uk/</a> (logins will be provided) <a href="https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/zng4d2p">https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/zng4d2p</a> <a href="http://www.scibermonkey.org">http://www.scibermonkey.org</a> <a href="https://www.biologycorner.com/">https://www.biologycorner.com/</a> <a href="http://www.middleschoolchemistry.com/">http://www.middleschoolchemistry.com/</a> <a href="http://www.physicsclassroom.com/">http://www.physicsclassroom.com/</a></li></ul>

## What other educational opportunities would support my child's learning?

### Year 8

- Set up a quiet place for them to work or revise. Be your child's 'study buddy' by reminding them to switch off social media or other distractions.
  - Encourage a Growth Mind set when they seem demotivated or can't do the work. <https://www.oxfordlearning.com/growth-mindset-tips-for-parents/>
  - Set up a timetable for completing homework or revision
  - Talk to your child regularly about what she is learning and doing in science;
  - Take your child to visit museums, sea life centres and zoos;
  - Check homework is completed and asking your child to explain it to you;
  - Encourage them to watch scientific programmes on television;
  - Read scientific articles in newspapers;
  - Use the Internet to do research on scientific topics;
  - Encourage them to join a library to access research materials.
- 
- 1. Edheads - Activate Your Mind! [www.edheads.org](http://www.edheads.org)  
Edheads is one of the best science websites for actively engaging your students on the web. There are currently ten interactive science related activities on this site. Those include create a line of stem cells, design a cell phone, brain surgery, crash scene, hip replacement, hip resurfacing, knee surgery, compound machines, simple machines, and weather. Edheads provides excellent educational content in science.
  - 2. Science Kids [www.sciencekids.co.nz](http://www.sciencekids.co.nz)  
This site has a large collection of interactive science games focusing on living things, physical processes, and solids, liquids, and gases. Each activity not only gives the student valuable information, but also provides interaction and the opportunity to put the knowledge to use. Activities such as electricity circuits not only gives the student the opportunity to learn about circuits, but it also allows them to build a virtual circuit.
  - 3. National Geographic Kids [www.kids.nationalgeographic.com/kids/](http://www.kids.nationalgeographic.com/kids/)  
Want to learn about animals, nature, and people and places? Well this site has it all! It has a vast amount of videos, activities, and games that will keep students actively engaged for hours. Very informative and engaging site that will add to any lesson or activity.
  - 4. Wonderville <http://www.wonderville.ca/>  
Wonderville has a solid collection of interactive activities and games that students of all ages will enjoy. Activities are broken down into things you just can't see, thing in your world....and beyond, things created using science, and things and how they work. Each game and activity is connected. The game gives you a virtual opportunity to learn, while the related activity gives you a chance to investigate on your own.
  - 5. Try Science [www.tryscience.org/home](http://www.tryscience.org/home)

Try Science offers a large collection of interactive experiments, field trips, and adventures. The collection spans the course of scientific genre covering many key scientific concepts. Each activity is engaging and informative. Students absolutely love this site. Activities such as "Got Gas?" are a natural draw for kids. You will not be disappointed in the lessons and activities this site has to offer.

- 6. Science Toy Maker [www.sciencetoymaker.com](http://www.sciencetoymaker.com)  
This website has lots of instructions for classic science toys you can make at home.
- 7. Learning Reviews: Connecting Kids to Learn on the Web: Interactive Science Websites for Kids Containing Games, Experiments and Projects <http://www.learningreviews.com/Science-Websites-for-Kids.html>  
More than 450 free interactive science websites for kids and high school students, with games, lessons, experiments and projects. These mostly free sites help students learn earth sciences, animal, human and plant biology, astronomy, and high school physics -- even computer science and engineering.
- 8. Education.com <http://www.education.com/activity/>  
One section of the larger education.com site, this specific area provides free activities and craft ideas for all ages. Includes math, science, and many other topics, sorted by both topic and grade level.
- 9. Energy Kids <http://www.eia.gov/kids/index.cfm>  
This website from the U.S. Energy Information Administration is chock full of information about energy; from energy basics to forms of energy, and from using to conserving. Visitors can go on virtual field trips across the country with Energy Ant through engaging photo journals.

# Spanish

## What are the students learning?

Year 8
<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. In my town<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• My city</li><li>• Places in town</li><li>• Directions</li><li>• Plans for the weekend</li><li>• The city and the countryside</li><li>• My town in the past</li></ul></li><li>2. My school<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• My school subjects</li><li>• Opinion about subjects</li><li>• Timetable</li><li>• School facilities and rules</li><li>• Extra-curricular activities</li><li>• Future plans</li></ul></li><li>3. Holidays<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Means of transport</li><li>• Holiday activities</li><li>• Opinions</li><li>• Describing a past holiday</li><li>• Holiday in the future</li></ul></li><li>4. Fashion<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Describing what you wear</li><li>• Talking about fashion</li><li>• Shops</li><li>• In the shopping centre</li><li>• Shopping problems</li><li>• Talking about hypothetical situations</li></ul></li></ol>

## What can my child do at home to support their learning?

Year 8
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Review class notes, particularly for new grammar</li><li>• Create vocabulary flashcards for new topics (English on one side, Spanish on the other)</li><li>• Listening to Spanish songs</li><li>• Use Linguascope to practise topical language learnt in class</li><li>• Use Languages Online <a href="https://www.languagesonline.org.uk/Hotpotatoes/spanishindex.html">https://www.languagesonline.org.uk/Hotpotatoes/spanishindex.html</a></li><li>• Create a Memrise account which provides a unique and engaging way to learn new vocabulary <a href="https://www.memrise.com/">https://www.memrise.com/</a></li></ul>

- Use OYE website to revise the topics seen in class  
<http://oye.languageskills.co.uk/index.html>

What other educational opportunities would support my child's learning?

#### Year 8

- Encourage your child to attend Spanish clubs
- Practise speaking tasks with them. They can teach you how to pronounce the words!
- Test them using the notes in their books
- Watch Spanish films/ series and listen to Spanish music
- Find a topic of your interest and do research. Eg. Hispanic celebrity or Spanish-speaking country
- Read Spanish newspapers, magazines and books online
- Visit events at Instituto Cervantes in London
- Use Duolingo app on your phone to improve your Spanish skills

## **A retrieval practice guide for parents**

**“Practice does not make perfect. Perfect practice makes perfect”**

Vince Lombardi