



# BORDEN GRAMMAR SCHOOL

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Dear Parents /Carers,

We are now into the fourth week of revision tips sent out to you, as parents and carers, to help you to support your son with his revision. With a remaining **10 school weeks** until the exams begin in mid-May, here is this week's 'Tip of the Week'.

### 'Tip of the Week'

**Get your son equipped with materials to help him devise strategies to revise:** Having completed a skills and knowledge audit in week two, and worked out a weekly timetable of revision last week, this week's tip is about your son now 'chunking' large sections of information into bitesize pieces he can revise from. This might require a set of revision cards, some highlighters, A4 plain paper for mind maps or A4 lined paper for condensing notes into a one-sided crib sheet of 'must-learn' facts - even making sure you have blutack available for sticking up key words and quotes around his bedroom! Different types of revision: mind maps work well for the visual reviser who puts a key concept or topic in the middle of the page and then branches off from this central concept with small branches of key words, dates, formulae, characters etc. Different colour branches could represent different aspects of this key concept or topic. Often, a small picture to represent a key word on a branch helps the information get stored as well.

Revision cards: these are great if your son wants you to test him on a topic or area he has reduced to key details on a revision card. He may have colour coded parts of the card to help him remember key information; he may have used a specific layout to help him visually remember where information is. Often a good idea is to hole punch the top corner and pop a treasury tag through them to collate the revision cards together – it keeps your son's revision organised. Using a nonsense sentence to help remember key information in a topic, for example if your son is wanting to remember 5 essentials to answer a 20 mark question (an example being: **C**omparison, **P**erspectives, **M**ovement, **M**ethods and **Q**uotes), he could take the first letter of the essentials and formulate a nonsense sentence = **C**old **P**eas **M**akes **M**ike **Q**uick. When he gets into the exam, he writes this nonsense sentence on the top of the question paper and that way, when he comes to answer that high tariff question, he will remember all the essentials of what makes a strong answer.

Also for the visual learner: invert an empty cereal box and use the four bare sides for writing on information that you want to revisit over and over – it could be quotes, it could be equations, it could be key vocabulary for Languages. Your son could decide to use each side for a different subject or all four sides for one subject but different topics. By having this cereal box stood on the dining table or on his desk, every time he is sitting eating breakfast, or sat with it on front of him, he can go over the information and slowly this information should start to be stored into long term memory.

Kind regards,

Mrs M Brooker  
**Head of English**



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