

AllSaints  
CATHOLIC SCHOOL

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ALL SAINTS SIXTH FORM TEACHING  
AND LEARNING STUDENT  
NEWSLETTER

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## Who are St. James's Place?

St. James's Place are a FTSE-100 wealth management business. Since they started trading in 1992, they've grown rapidly to be the largest company in their sector in the UK, with £129.3bn of client funds under management. They offer personalised advice that covers financial, investment and tax planning, designed specifically for their clients' lifestyle goals and stage of life.

If you are interested in gaining a greater understanding of SJP as a business, then this is for you!

## An insight into St. James's Place Wealth Management

- Thursday 8th, Friday 9th, Monday 12th, Tuesday 13th March (9:00 - 16:00 each day)
- Great opportunity for those interested in a career in the financial sector (cyber, technology, HR, marketing, investments & more)
- Presentation on SJP's heritage
- A day in the life of an SJP partner
- Variety of presentations and interactive sessions to learn more about the industry
- Opportunity to ask questions
- **FREE event** (limited places, first come first serve)

### Application Link:

<https://www.research.net/r/SJP-Virtual-WEX>

We have limited places for this unique opportunity so if you're interested please book on to secure your place.



**ST. JAMES'S PLACE**  
WEALTH MANAGEMENT

### SJP Early Careers Virtual Work Experience

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**DM us for your application link!**

# Subject Masterclasses Cambridge

**We're pleased to announce that Subject Masterclasses will be running virtually in the spring/summer of 2021. We're currently putting together a timetable of events and will have more details soon. Please note that the information on this webpage (such as the elements included in a Masterclass, booking and cancellation procedure) is specifically for in-person Masterclasses, and will be subject to slight adjustments for our new virtual programme. To receive updates, please complete the register your interest form.**

## What are they?

Subject Masterclasses are subject-specific events that offer academically able students in Year 12 (or equivalent) the chance to experience typical undergraduate teaching at the University of Cambridge, and to get a flavour of what it's like to be a student here.

The Masterclasses cover a range of subjects and provide students with an opportunity to explore topics of interest beyond what's covered within the school curriculum.

Each Masterclass includes:

- two taster lectures delivered by leading academic staff from the University
- the opportunity to discuss and ask questions
- an introduction to the Cambridge admissions process
- the opportunity to hear about life as a Cambridge student from current undergraduates

## When are they?

Subject Masterclasses usually take place on Saturdays throughout the year. In light of the COVID-19 pandemic, we made the difficult decision to postpone in-person Masterclasses in autumn 2020. We are currently planning to run virtual Subject Masterclasses in the spring/summer of 2021 for some subjects. To receive further information, please complete the register your interest form.

## How do I book?

**Booking is essential** and is open to individuals at a cost of £20 (to cover event costs). Funded places are available for anyone eligible for Free School Meals and for children in care. If you're eligible and would like to apply for a funded place, please submit your details on the funded place section of our website. You can book to attend as many Subject Masterclasses as you would like.

*Please note: we're unable to accept bookings from parents or teachers. Bookings are non-transferable. Whilst staff and current students are available throughout the event, we're not responsible for participants beyond our legal responsibilities as event organiser*

# Essay Writing Competitions

<https://adastrapermundum.com/2021/01/07/year-12-classics-essay-competitions-2021/>

## Omnibus Sam Hood Translation Prize

Details here: <https://classicalassociation.org/events/omnibus-sam-hood-translation-prize-2021/>

Deadline: 5th July 2021

## Gladstone Memorial Essay Prize, ICS

Details below, deadline 10th July 2021

## Gladstone Memorial Essay Prize 2021

### **St Hugh's College, Oxford Mary Renault Prize**

Details here: <https://www.st-hughs.ox.ac.uk/prospectivestudents/outreach/mary-renault-prize/>

Deadline: 30th July 2021

## **Virtual Work Experience opportunities**



There are a range of virtual work experience opportunities listed in the links below from careers in film, NHS, Law etc... Do check this out as it will help build your personal statement for UCAS.

<https://www.springpod.co.uk/virtual-work-experience-programmes/>



<https://www.getcareerconfident.co.uk/students/virtual-work-experience>

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Here's a list of virtual tours and videos from universities and colleges, so you can see what it's like on campus and what facilities are available.

<https://www.ucas.com/undergraduate/what-and-where-study/open-days-and-events/virtual-tours>

Upcoming Uni Open Days ---It is important you check out the universities you want to study at. If you attend the live Open Days you will have the opportunity to ask questions.

<https://www.whatuni.com/open-days/>



## Unifrog Webinars

–Check out the webinars here on Russell Groups and where to study in the UK. There are also lots of subject specific webinars providing career advice.

<https://www.unifrog.org/student/webinars>

# The best ways to revise: study techniques for better results

What is the best way to revise? Well, almost every guide out there will say “whatever works for you”. Well, that is true, but it’s not a very helpful answer.

In this section we’ll go through the most effective techniques you can use to revise. Then, by trying out these techniques as you go, you’ll find which ones are the most effective for your learning style.

### Avoid passive revision: embrace active revision techniques

The most common revision technique students use is also one of the most ineffective: reading notes. Sure, it seems like the most logical place to start. But - reading notes is a passive revision technique which doesn’t fully engage your brain. It isn’t an effective tactic for memorising information.

Guess what. Copying out your notes word for word is just as ineffective. Be honest with yourself: how often do you find yourself copying out notes while your mind is thinking about something different entirely?

**Active revision** is a far more efficient form of studying. Active revision is slower, but it provides three main benefits:

1. It **makes your brain work**, which activates the memory centres of your brain, and makes you more likely to form strong memories of the information you’re trying to take in.
2. It makes you re-assess the information **you think you know**, and forces you to work towards re-learning it.
3. It is **far more interesting** than passive revision exercises.

### Revise multiple subjects across the day

It might seem logical to spend one day on one subject, then move on to another subject each day. But, our brains don’t work that way. The longer we spend on a single subject, the more likely we are to grow bored, un-engaged, and stop learning the information we’re trying to force into our brains.

Instead, plan to **study multiple subjects each day**. If you only have one subject left to revise, remember to break it down into different topics throughout the day.

## Test yourself

If you remember nothing else from this guide, remember this: **testing yourself is the most important aspect of your revision**.

Why? Because it is scientifically proven that devoted a certain amount of study-time to testing yourself cements information into your long term memory. This is known as [the testing effect](#).

As [Inner Drive](#) summarise in this handy infographic, there are 6 key benefits from this effect. Make sure to use revision techniques which continually test your knowledge. Answering practice questions and asking a friend to test you are great ways to make sure you stay on top of your knowledge

Then, when you're ready, make sure you **try past papers**. Past papers are the best pre-exam preparation. They test your knowledge under timed conditions and prepare you for the kinds of questions you're going to need to answer.

But, make sure when you're doing past papers that you don't look at your notes. There's no point cheating yourself - the act of trying to remember something under pressure makes you far more likely to remember it in the real exam.

If you can't remember something in a past paper, note it down. Now you know you need to do more revision in that area.

## 12 recommended revision techniques

Depending on who you ask there are 4 or 7 distinct learning styles. The main thing to take on board is that different techniques are more effective for different people. So, in order to get the best out of your revision sessions, you need to try out lots of different techniques and see what works for you.

The important thing is to use techniques which are active, and which force you to test yourself. Try out our tutors' favourite techniques:

1. **Make [effective notes](#)** as you read through revision guides. Take the information you're reading and extract the key points which will help you remember it. Copying text word for word is pointless. But, the act of summarising information with notes forces your brain to focus on the subject matter.
2. **Write down a summary of a topic** before you move on to the next one. If you are able to sum up all of the key points from memory, you can confidently say that you know it.
3. **Create [flashcards](#)** to distil information into an easily reviewable format. You can then use these cards to test your memory and find out which topics you need to revise more thoroughly.
4. **Draw [mind maps](#)** to organise information visually. Mind maps help some people to picture information and remember the connections between key details.
5. **Practise along with educational videos**. For some people, watching videos is far more engaging than reading. If you're one of those people, make sure you actively take notes or practice questions while the video is running. This will prevent your mind from wandering.

**6. Discuss your ideas** with your classmates and friends, especially for opinion-based subjects such as [English Literature](#). Opening yourself to their ideas will help you formulate your own opinions. You should debate your ideas amongst each other, and try to persuade them with your own arguments. This will prepare you to express your opinions in the exam.

**7. Try teaching** a topic to someone who knows nothing about it. If you can teach someone else about a topic, then you have a good grasp of it. Remember, if you recognise any gaps in your knowledge while you're trying to teach a topic, make a note to go back and revise it.

**8. Draw diagrams and tables** whenever appropriate. For some people, picturing a diagram is far easier than simply trying to remember the information that diagram represents.

**9. Create a slideshow presentation** to summarise a topic. To create a PowerPoint presentation (or any similar slideshow format), you will need to work creatively to divide your topic into sections and visually organise it. This creative work will help you engage your brain and form long term memories.

**10. Test your friends** and have them test you back. Remember - there's no point cheating by using a textbook! If you don't know the answer to a question, make a note and review it later.

**11. Answer practice questions** to continually practice how you'll apply your knowledge in an exam. You can find revision questions for any subject online. There are also handy revision apps such as [Gojimo](#). But, remember that practice questions may not be a good representation of the questions you'll face in the exam.

**12. Do past papers**, under timed conditions, without your notes! There are only a limited number of past papers available online for your subject and exam board, so you should only attempt past papers when you think you're ready to do so. But, when you do, this is the best possible way of testing yourself and preparing yourself for the exam.

### **Repeat, repeat, repeat**

**Repetition is how you create long term memories.**

By testing and re-testing yourself, you will continually identify areas that you need to improve on. Focus on those areas and repeat your revision for those tricky topics, this time using different strategies.

There is a lot of science behind why repetition helps us study, but all you need to know for your revision is that **repetition is key**.

# How to plan your revision

## Look up your exam dates

As soon as your exam dates are announced, make sure you note them down in an easily accessible calendar. What subjects have you got to deal with first? How many days have you got until your first exam?

**If those exam dates seem far too close: don't panic. You can do so much with the time you have remaining.**

If those exam dates seem too far away to even think about revising: well, panic just a little bit. The longer you give yourself to revise, the easier you're making it for yourself.

## Work out what subjects you need to prioritise

Now you know when your exams are, you need to estimate the amount of time you need to put into each subject.

Look at your exam dates for each subject, and work backwards to see how long you have left. Then, think about how much revision you want to dedicate to each subject.

All of us naturally have subjects we are less comfortable with. You should put aside more time to revise for those subjects.

**But, don't neglect the subjects you're doing well at.** They give you a good opportunity to get some high grades.

## Create your revision timetable

A revision timetable is the best way to schedule your study schedule and stick to it. Download the template below to see an example.

## Plan one week at a time

A revision timetable is key, but it doesn't work if you start planning too far ahead.

Revision is a fluid process. The more revision you do, the more you'll realise which subjects and topics you need to brush up on.

Plan one week at a time. If your plan needs to change - change it.

## Keep your days varied

When you're planning each day of revision, make sure to plan in a few different subjects throughout the day. Keep your days varied and you are far less likely to become bored.

It's also advisable to **break down each subject into individual components** for each study session. For Maths, one session could focus on solving the area of a triangle. For Chemistry, one session could focus on exothermic and endothermic reactions. For English Literature, one session could be based around analysing a specific character in a text. You get the idea.



# A Student's Prayer

BY ST. THOMAS AQUINAS

*Come, Holy Spirit, Divine Creator, true source of light and fountain of wisdom!*

POUR FORTH YOUR BRILLIANCE UPON MY DENSE INTELLECT, DISSIPATE THE DARKNESS WHICH COVERS ME, THAT OF SIN AND OF IGNORANCE. GRANT ME A PENETRATING MIND TO UNDERSTAND, A RETENTIVE MEMORY, METHOD AND EASE IN LEARNING, THE LUCIDITY TO COMPREHEND, AND ABUNDANT GRACE IN EXPRESSING MYSELF. GUIDE THE BEGINNING OF MY WORK, DIRECT ITS PROGRESS, AND BRING IT TO SUCCESSFUL COMPLETION.

*This I ask through Jesus Christ, true God and true man, living and reigning with You and the Father, forever and ever. •*

AMEN.