



**The Cornerstone Academy**

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# Year 8 Rank Order Assessments

## Summer Term 2026

### 3<sup>rd</sup> June – 12<sup>th</sup> June

## Information & Support for Students & Parents

All students will have had the opportunity to take part in a revision workshop. Revision strategies can be found on the school website by going to the student area of the school website > Revision > Revision skills.

Please look at the exam timetable on the next page and highlight when your tests are.

An electronic copy can be found on the school website in the 'Preparing for Success area'



## YEAR 8 ROA TIMETABLE JUNE 2026

Each exam will take place in normal lesson time in the classroom, unless you have access arrangements, this will be communicated to you on an individual basis.

Date	P1	P2	BREAK	P3	P4	LUNCH	P5	P6
Wednesday 3rd June	French Listening and Reading (45 mins)							
Monday 8th June	History (50 mins)			Maths Non-Calculator (45 mins) Sets 2/3/4				
Tuesday 9th June	Maths Non-Calculator (45 mins) sets GS/1			Geography (45 mins)			English Reading (50 minutes)	
Wednesday 10th June	French Writing (45 minutes)			Maths Calculator (45 mins) sets GS/1			Biology (30 mins)	
Thursday 11th June				Chemistry (30 mins)			English Writing (50 minutes)	
Friday 12th June	Physics (30 mins)			Religious Studies (45 mins)			Maths Calculator (45 mins) Sets 2/3/4	



# How to Revise: A KS3 Student Guide

Revising doesn't have to be confusing or boring. With the right methods, you can learn faster, remember more, and feel confident in tests. Here are three powerful revision strategies you can start using today.

## 1. Mind Maps – Great for Big Topics

Mind maps help you see the big picture and make connections between ideas.

### How to make a mind map

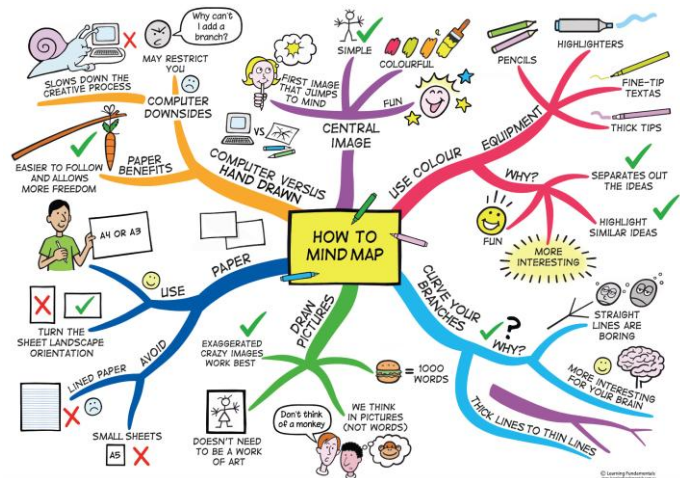
1. Write the **main topic** in the centre (e.g., "Photosynthesis").
2. Draw **branches** for sub-topics (e.g., "Chloroplasts", "Sunlight", "Glucose").
3. Add **keywords**, small drawings, or colour coding.
4. Keep words short (1–3 words each) to make it visual and memorable.

### Why mind maps work

- They organise knowledge visually.
- They help your brain create links between ideas.
- They're quicker than long notes.

### When to use them

- ✓ Science processes
- ✓ Geography case studies
- ✓ English texts and characters
- ✓ History events





## 2. The Leitner Method – A Smarter Way to Use Flashcards

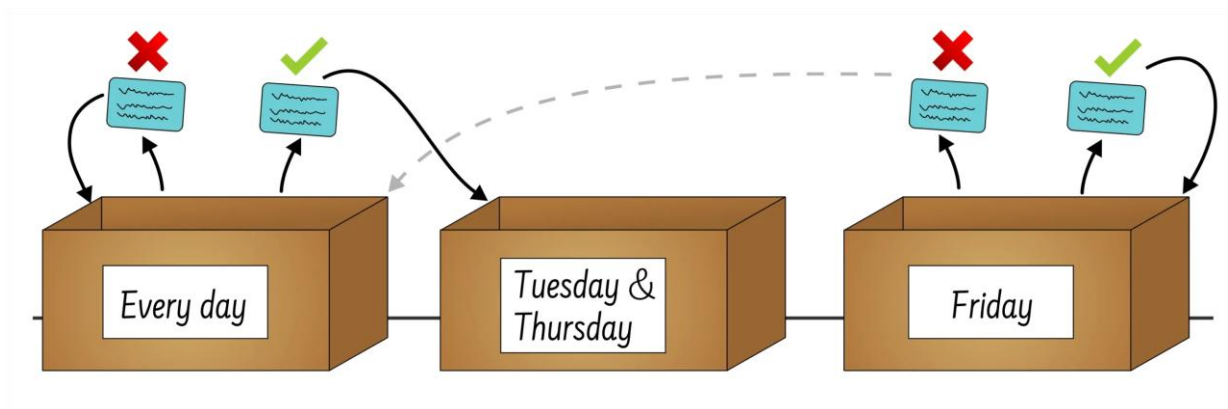
The Leitner method helps you focus on the things you *don't* know yet.

### What you need

- A set of flashcards
- 3–5 boxes or piles

### How it works

1. Put **all cards** in Box 1.
2. Test yourself:
  - a. If you get it *right*, move the card to the next box.
  - b. If you get it *wrong*, put it back in Box 1.
3. Review each box at different speeds:
  - a. Box 1 → review every day
  - b. Box 2 → review every 2–3 days
  - c. Box 3 → review weekly
  - d. Box 4 → review before the test



### Why it works

- You spend less time on things you already know.
- You revise tricky topics more often.
- It's perfect for vocabulary, definitions, and key facts.



## 3. Mnemonics – Memory Tricks That Stick

Mnemonics help you remember information by turning it into a pattern or funny phrase.

### Types of mnemonics

#### Acronyms

Use the first letters of words to create a new word.

- **HOMES** → The Great Lakes (Huron, Ontario, Michigan, Erie, Superior)

#### Acrostics

Create a silly sentence.

- **Never Eat Shredded Wheat** → North, East, South, West

#### Rhymes and Raps

Turn information into something catchy.

- “i before e except after c...”

#### Chunking

Break information into small groups.

- Phone numbers
- Key dates

### Why mnemonics help

- They make boring facts easier to remember.
- They work well for long lists, sequences, and rules.



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## Putting It All Together: A Sample Revision Plan

### Step-by-step example

**Topic:** Medieval England (History)

1. **Mind map** the main events, people, and causes.
2. Create **flashcards** for key terms like “feudalism” or “Magna Carta” and use the **Leitner method** to review them.
3. Use **mnemonics** to remember lists (e.g., causes of the Black Death).

## Quick Tips for Better Revision

- Revise in short bursts: **25 minutes work + 5 minute break**.
- Switch topics to avoid boredom.
- Teach a friend or family member—explaining boosts memory.
- Start early, not the night before!
- Sleep, eat, and take breaks—your brain needs them.



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## Mathematics

Contact: [scarffj@cornerstoneacademy.org.uk](mailto:scarffj@cornerstoneacademy.org.uk)

Students will sit two exams; one non-calculator exam, and one calculator exam. They will both last 45 minutes.

Topics to be covered in the exams:

- 8.01 Powers and Roots
- 8.02 Prime Factorisation
- 8.03 Rounding
- 8.04 Fractions
- 8.05 Solving Equations
- 8.06 Angles in Parallel Lines
- 8.07 Circumference
- 8.08 Direct Proportion
- 8.09 Fractions, Decimals and Percentages
- 8.10 Percentage Calculations
- 8.11 Ratio
- 8.12 Area of Circles
- 8.13 Statistics
- 8.14 Averages and spread

Revision resources to help students revise and prepare:

Over the May half term, we will provide the students with sparx codes to cover all topics on the ROA. This will be in addition to one SPARX task. If students are finding questions challenging, it is encouraged that they reinforce their learning by watching the video and copying down a model example.

All homework will be requested for submission on their first lesson back after the May half term break.

## How can you revise Maths?

Students should aim to complete additional revision on sparx independent learning each week. Staff will provide all students with a list of sparx codes prior to their exams that can be used on sparx maths to access specific topic revision. Students will all have a lesson where staff guide them through this process and highlight the best topics for students to work on.



## English

Contact: [smithl@cornerstoneacademy.org.uk](mailto:smithl@cornerstoneacademy.org.uk)

Students will sit two 45-minute assessments, one reading assessment and one writing assessment, that will assess the skills and knowledge that have been taught in lessons so far and will re-cap basic knowledge that students will have from previous key stages. Students will be asked to answer a mixture of shorter multiple choice questions and longer written responses.

Topics covered in the exam:

**Reading:**

- Comprehension of small extracts of text
- Inference – explicit and implicit
- Characterisation
- Ability to carefully select meaningful evidence
- Writing about a writer's choice of language

**Writing:**

- Using the correct conventions for a piece of creative writing Including language, language features and structural features for effect spelling, punctuation, grammar and ambitious vocabulary
- Ability to control narrative voice (first person, third person etc)
- Use of implicit and explicit characterisation.

Resources to help students revise and prepare:

- Class exercise books.
- Models for responding to the text questions (in student's English books and revision booklet that will be brought home).
- Reading widely outside of school
- Completing Sparx Reader

## How can you revise English?

Students should be reading frequently and from this, practice making inferences about what they have read. It is helpful if someone can question students on what they have been reading using leading questions that prompt students to think about why a writer has presented characters/places in different ways etc. Students should also practice writing creatively in different themes and ways.



## Science

Contact: [bennettb@cornerstoneacademy.org.uk](mailto:bennettb@cornerstoneacademy.org.uk)

Students will sit three exams in Science: one Biology exam, one Chemistry exam, and one Physics exam. Students will have 30 minutes to complete each exam. The exam is synoptic and consists of topics that have been covered in Year 7 and Year 8 lessons with an emphasis on working scientifically skills developed during practical lessons.

Students will need a calculator for these exams. Topics to be covered in the exams:

Biology – 30 minutes	Chemistry – 30 minutes	Physics – 30 minutes
<u>Plants and Their Processes</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Parts of the plant and their adaptations</li><li>• Photosynthesis</li><li>• Uses of sugar</li><li>• Transport in plants</li><li>• Plants and the atmosphere</li><li>• Plants as food</li></ul>	<u>Earth and the Atmosphere</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Structure of the Earth</li><li>• Rocks and the Rock Cycle</li><li>• Fossil fuels</li><li>• The Atmosphere</li><li>• The Greenhouse Effect</li></ul>	<u>Heating and Cooling</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Temperature</li><li>• Energy Transfer</li><li>• Conduction</li><li>• Convection</li><li>• Radiation</li></ul>
<u>Interactions and interdependence</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Food Chains and Webs</li><li>• Decay &amp; the Carbon Cycle</li><li>• Competition &amp; Adaptation</li><li>• Natural Selection &amp; Evolution</li></ul>	<u>Acids and Alkalis</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Acids and Bases</li><li>• Indicators and pH</li><li>• Neutralisation</li><li>• Reactions with metals</li><li>• Acid Rain</li></ul>	<u>Forces, Motion &amp; Work</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Speed</li><li>• Motion</li><li>• Compression</li><li>• Tension</li></ul>
<u>Life Cycles (Yr 7)</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <u>Inheritance and Variation</u></li><li>• <u>Reproduction in Animals</u></li><li>• <u>Reproduction in Plants</u></li></ul>		<u>Electricity</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Series Circuits</li><li>• Charge</li><li>• Voltage</li><li>• Power</li><li>• Energy costs</li></ul>

In addition to this, knowledge from year 7 topics will be assessed in each exam.

## How can you revise Science?

Use the independent learning sections on Sparx Science to review key concepts. After you have revised a topic, use [KS3 Science Revision Quizzes for Years 7, 8 and 9](https://www.educationquizzes.com/ks3/science/) (<https://www.educationquizzes.com/ks3/science/>) to check your understanding.

Resources to help students revise and prepare:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Class exercise books</li><li>- <a href="#">BBC Bitesize</a></li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- <a href="#">Continuity Oak Lessons</a></li><li>- <a href="#">Seneca Learning</a></li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- CGP revision guide (This can be purchased from Amazon)</li><li>- Sparx Science</li></ul>
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## History

Contact: [HuskinsonF@cornerstoneacademy.org.uk](mailto:HuskinsonF@cornerstoneacademy.org.uk)

Students will sit a 50 minute examination which involves the following formats and skills:

- Multiple choice questions
- Closed quiz questions
- Sequencing activity which involves placing events in a chronological order.
  
- What two things do you learn from source A about X?
- Which of the below statements best describes the message of source A?
- Using the provenance (origin) what is the purpose of source A?
- Identify the argument made in interpretation 1.
- Use your own knowledge to support interpretation 1.
- Identify what a counter-interpretation may argue?
- Extended writing and second-order concepts.

Topics that will be covered in the exam:

- The Reformation
- Henry VIII and the Break from Rome
- The Religious Rollercoaster
- The Causes of the English Civil War
- The Slave Trade
- The Industrial Revolution.

## How can you revise History?

**Building, perfecting and memorising your mental models:**

1. Create 'mental models' [e.g a mind map/list/time line] of topics, e.g causes of World War One. Then add information to these models, e.g Militarism/Imperialism/Alliances/Nationalism.
2. Then add further information in order of: what it is/when it was/examples of it/why this was a cause of WW1.
3. Then use existing information that you know to be **complete to improve** your mental model by **making corrections and adding information**.
4. Once your mental model is complete and correct, you can then use it as your model example. Over increasing spaces of time, try re-writing your perfect mental model from memory.
5. Once you have finished return to your original perfect mental model – have you missed any of the key information?
6. Add missing/incomplete information in a different colour pen to your partial mental model so you know which information you are struggling to remember.
7. Repeat this process over increasing spaces of time.

This process is backed up by **cognitive science** and will enable your child to improve their medium and long-term recall for **all subjects**.



## Geography

Contact: [fosterr@cornerstoneacademy.org.uk](mailto:fosterr@cornerstoneacademy.org.uk)

Students will complete a 45 minute exam which contains 4 sections on Population, Coasts, Ecosystems and Tectonics

### Topics that will be covered are:

<p>1. Population:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Population distribution</li><li>• Population growth and its impact</li><li>• Factors influencing birth and death rates</li><li>• Population pyramids</li><li>• Ageing population</li><li>• Youthful population</li><li>• Migration</li><li>• Voluntary migration: India to the UK 1</li><li>• Impacts of migration on the host and source countries</li></ul>	<p>2. Coasts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Waves</li><li>• Weathering and Erosion</li><li>• Headlands and Bays</li><li>• Caves, Arches, Stacks and Stumps</li><li>• Beaches</li><li>• Managing Coastal Erosion</li><li>• Coastal Erosion in Happisburgh</li><li>• Managing Erosion in Happisburgh</li><li>• Other Threats to Coastal Areas</li></ul>
<p>3. Ecosystems:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Global Temperature</li><li>• Global Precipitation</li><li>• Climate Graphs</li><li>• Location and Features of the Taiga</li><li>• Threats to the Taiga</li><li>• Management of the Taiga</li><li>• Location and Features of Coral Reefs</li><li>• Threats to Coral Reefs</li><li>• Management of Coral Reefs</li></ul>	<p>4. Tectonics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Geological timescales</li><li>• Structure of the Earth</li><li>• Movement of tectonic plates</li><li>• Constructive plate boundaries and shield volcanoes</li><li>• Destructive plate boundaries and composite volcanoes</li><li>• Living near volcanoes</li><li>• Conservative plate boundaries and earthquakes</li><li>• Responding to earthquakes</li><li>• Earthquake in Nepal 2015</li></ul>

## How can you revise Geography?

### Resources to help students revise and prepare:

- A3 revision sheets done in class (2 weeks prior to exams)
- Seneca (website - <https://senecalearning.com/en-GB/>)
- Knowledge organisers - [Knowledge Organisers | Academy Life | The Cornerstone Academy](#)
- Exercise books
  
- Use the resources mentioned above to focus on weakest areas. Once you have revised a section try and practice your knowledge retrieval by creating a revision clock, mind map or flash cards from memory, then add anything on that you missed.
- With each piece of knowledge you have revised (where applicable) practice your double development, using 'this means that...' and 'due to this...' to construct PDD points.
- Quiz yourself/ each other. Do you know your key facts and figures ('plc' information) to get top level marks for extended question.
- Students will also receive 2x revision lessons prior to the ROAs to revise content and practice exam skill



## French

Contact: [duffy@cornerstoneacademy.org.uk](mailto:duffy@cornerstoneacademy.org.uk)

### Paper 1- Reading and Listening. 45 minutes

The Reading paper will involve comprehension of short paragraphs that cover the topics from year 8. Basic knowledge from year 7 is also covered. Students will answer questions to show what they have understood.

The listening paper covers the same content, and students will answer questions in English about what they hear.

### Paper 2 – Writing. 45 minutes

In the Writing paper students will be asked to write about a topic covered this year, using as many tenses as possible. Students will need to show a range of opinions and use a variety of adjectives to justify their opinions.

Vocabulary and structures that will be covered are:

- Holidays. Past, present, and future tenses.
- Hobbies and free time. Invitations.
- Health and fitness
- Daily routine
- School and future plans.
- Opinions. 3 tenses, sequencers, adjectives.

Resources to help students revise and prepare:

- [Knowledge organiser](#)
- Extended pieces of writing practiced in class and available in exercise books.
- [Languagenut](#) Students have passwords for the online platform. They will find revision exercises for relevant vocabulary.

## How can you revise French?

Students should aim to complete some Languagenut exercises each week. Students can practise listening and reading on this platform.

Students will all have revision lessons where teachers will go over key vocabulary and grammar required for both papers.



## RE

Contact: [RoastC@cornerstoneacademy.org.uk](mailto:RoastC@cornerstoneacademy.org.uk)

Students will sit one 45-minute paper. The paper will be divided up into two sections:

Section 1: Islam (22 marks total)

Multiple choice questions – select the correct answer (5 marks total)

State questions – provide a correct answer (3 marks total)

Describe Question (3 Marks) x2

Explain Question (4 Marks) x2

Section 2: Hindu Dharma (22 marks total)

Multiple choice questions – select the correct answer (5 marks total)

State questions – provide a correct answer (3 marks total)

Describe Question (3 Marks) x2

Explain Question (4 Marks) x2

This assessment will be based on Islam & Hindu Dharma and the following topics need to be revised:

### Islam

- Key Beliefs of Islam
- Pre-Islamic Arabia
- The Qur'an
- The Prophet Muhammad
- Sunni & Shi'a Split
- The Five Pillars of Islam – Shahadah, Salat, Zakat, Sawm, Hajj
- Jihad

### Hindu Dharma

- Brahman – ultimate reality
- The Trimurti
- Hindu sacred texts
- Hindu worship (puja)
- The Ramayana
- Diwali
- Rituals – birth and funerals
- Ahimsa
- Caste system

## How can you revise RS?

Students can utilise their revision notes from lessons, as well as the resources below to create mind maps or flash cards and ask family or friends to test key knowledge:

Knowledge Organisers:

[Knowledge Organisers | Academy Life | The Cornerstone Academy](#)

Oak National Lessons (Please check they are from the topics listed above)

[Religious education, secondary, Year 8 - Lesson listing | Oak National Academy](#)

[Religious education, secondary, Year 8 - Lesson listing | Oak National Academy](#)

[Religious education, secondary, Year 7 - Lesson listing | Oak National Academy](#)



Please use the following pages to plan out what you are going to revise over the coming weeks to help you get prepared and feel confident going into the ROAS. I have left the date part blank for you to fill out.

EXAMPLE	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Topic to revise	Probability ✓	////	Inference ✓	////	Civil Rights (UK) ✓	French - Hobbies ✓	The Trinity ✓
Break							
Topic to revise	Aerobic resp. ✓	////	Impacts of climate change ✓	////		Jesus' Death ✓	
Break							
Topic to revise	Anaerobic resp. ✓	////		////			
Break							
Topic to revise		////		////			
Break							
Topic to revise		////		////			
Break							
Topic to revise		////		////			













