

Study Techniques (all)

The following useful study advice and techniques have been suggested by a group of senior Aboyne Academy pupils who were successful in their exams last year.

At Home Revision

- HIDE YOUR PHONE – Give it to a parent to look after or leave it in another room to reduce possible distractions lets you focus on your revision.
- Colour coordinating notes can be helpful when organising notes, makes it more enjoyable and for some visual learners they'll associate the colour with the topic.
- Making flashcards with factors for certain types of questions (eg. History and the possible points that could be discussed) Helpful because even making them if using the knowledge. Get parents involved to test/go through makes sure the factors are there at the tip of your tongue.
- Spider diagrams with all the factors/knowledge that you need to know for certain questions or topics. Thought it was useful because they could then be put up as posters so you saw them on a daily basis helps to ingrain must-know facts.

Online Revision

- BBC Bitesize tests give basic knowledge a test so you know what you maybe need to go back and look over. Motivational if you get good scores, lets you know that what you're doing is right.
- Scholar – English and Maths for N5. Useful notes and worked out questions.
- SQA Practice Papers – free online access to very similar questions that will be in the exam. Let's you know how the questions will be presented or asked. Also useful because marking them will let you know what areas you aren't as confident with. Marking schemes also show you were or what you'll get marks for.

In School Revision

- Lots of subjects offer in-school help with revision. (Physics, Maths, English, etc) Many of these took place during lunchtime which gave pupils a chance to ask teachers questions or just have that one to one opportunity to have things explained. These very useful as even if people don't need help with the work it gives them an opportunity to use the classrooms as a study space with few distractions.
- Art even held the school open later of some days during the week to allow pupils to catch up on folio work and again have the teachers there to help with certain areas of the course.
- I'd strongly advise attending these as you really want to be making most of the support and supplies that the school have on offer to help with pupil's exams.

Study Techniques (Highers)

The jump from National 5 to Higher

- NOT easy!
- Try to stay on top of all the work you're given throughout the year, DON'T FALL BEHIND or you will spend the whole time on catch-up.
- Revise what you have gone over in class whenever you can.
- Gradual revision throughout the whole year will make it much easier to cope.
- Teachers are always happy and willing to help.
- ASK if you don't understand something because the majority of the time what you are learning will link to something else so you need to understand what you're doing.

Revision techniques (What I did over study leave):

- Split the day – Morning, Afternoon, Evening and work 2
- Need to figure out what works for you, each pupil is different (how they study and attention span (1, 1.5 or even 2 hour sessions))
- Remember to take breaks!
- Need to listen to yourself as well, if you feel like what you're doing is not productive then don't waste your time.
- Good to get out the house, go for a walk, try to get some fresh air as it can be difficult to sit inside day after day.
- Day before exam: 1 past paper, prepare bag the night before, good night's sleep!
- Day of exam: Substantial breakfast (nothing worse than spending all of your time revising if you can't focus in the exam because you're hungry!), limit speaking to people about the exam before (STRESS)!

- PAST PAPERS; SQA, OLD HIGHER, ANY QUIZZES (BBC BITESIZE, SCHOLAR ETC)

Scholar

- Scholar really useful - Heriot Watt University, complete course notes divided into units free of charge. Been updated over last few years.
- Live online sessions with a teacher and a live chat to ask questions
- Gives practice nabs with instant feedback as well as shorter quizzes and worked examples
- Also has a revision planning programme

- Bright red digital zone has quizzes and activities to build on the content covered in the book. Both as serious quizzes and more fun ones

- BBC bitesize is also good for notes and quizzes with a wider range of subjects than Scholar