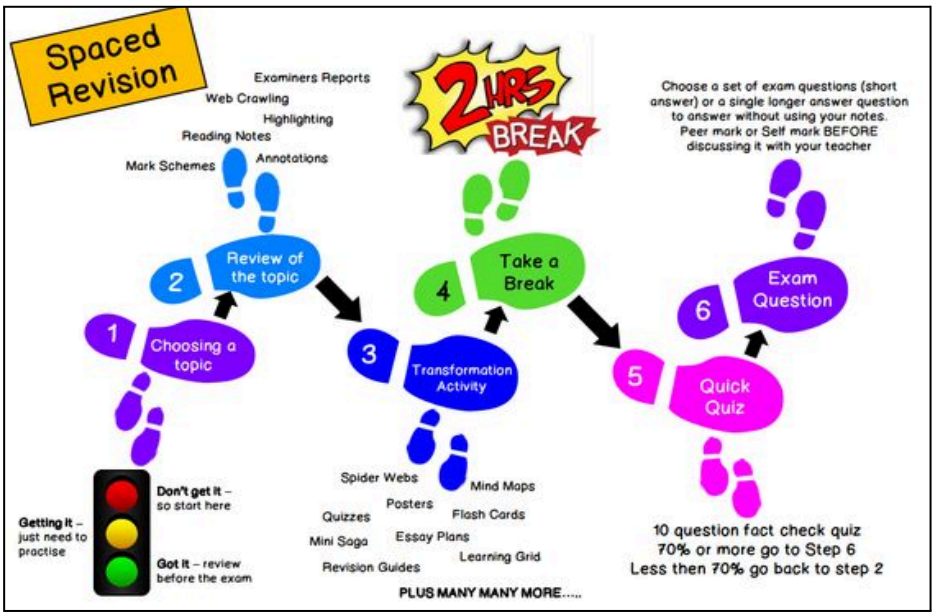
Be Prepared for GCSE Chemistry

Routine consolidation

- **Finish** any work you didn't complete in class. **Catch up** if you have been absent. All assignments are on the GC.
- **Read ahead**, in preparation for future lessons.
- **Create your own notes/mindmaps/flashcards/slides**. Use different colours/drawings to help remember your notes. Try a range of methods to find what works best for you.
- **Use quizzes** to learn specialist terminology and key ideas: e.g. Quizlet. Review your flashcards routinely.
- **Talk to people** about what you have learned, even if they know nothing about the topic. Get them to ask you questions and see if you can explain the content in simple terms.

Revision activities



- **Choose a topic**
  - **RAG rate** different topics, prioritising revision of those you find most difficult. Use the checklists in your booklets.
- **Review the material**
  - **Reading** - If you haven't understood something or want a refresher,

re-visit lesson slides, or see Physics and Maths Tutor for useful summaries.
    - **Videos** - As an alternative to reading, watch Free Science Lessons or Cognito Seneca
- **Engage with the material**
    - **Blurt:** Blurt topic content on a whiteboard/A3 paper. Use a textbook to spot the gaps.
    - **Create mindmaps/flashcards/slides**. Use different colours/drawings to help remember your notes. If you find it difficult to remember evaluation points, then prioritise these.
    - **Talk** to a friend/family member about your work - explaining ideas to a novice is a great way to see how much you have understood.
    - **Write 6-marker plans -** Plan 6 mark responses.
    - **Seneca Learning** - A quick and interactive way to review key content. Access for free here.
- **Take a break - then practise retrieving your knowledge!**
- **Quick Quiz**
    - Use Quizlet multiple choice quizzes or your own flashcards to check your understanding of a topic and your confidence with specialist terminology.
- **Exam Questions:**
    - You can download past exam papers and mark schemes via the AQA website. Use the mark schemes to help further your understanding. Also, find exam questions by topic on the Physics and Maths Tutor website.

Extension activities

- **Wider Chemistry Reading:** GCSE Chemistry Reading List
- **Magazines in the Library:** such as Focus Magazine, New Scientist, Biology Today
- **Podcasts**: AHS recommended Chemistry podcasts
- **Jstor:** AHS has an online subscription to the academic database JSTOR, which provides access to more than 12 million academic journal articles, books, and primary sources in 75 disciplines.
- **Research videos:** Chemistry Career Videos
- **Apply Chemistry to everyday life:** When you see or hear claims about plants, animals and ecology made by friends/in the news/on social media, ask yourself:

Claim: What is the claim that is being made here?
Support: What evidence is being presented? How valid/reliable/generalisable is it?
Question: What questions do I have? How could I research this?

Core Resources

- AQA Chemistry GCSE Specification
- Topic List and Assessment Information
- Key Words
- Learning Mats
- PMT mindmaps
- Grade descriptors
- Online Textbooks on Kerboodle
- CGP Revision Guides and Flashcards
- BBC Sounds Chemistry podcasts (10 mins. each)
- Chemistry Clinic (Mondays)
- Chemistry Intervention ON DEMAND (book time with staff or Ambassadors, using the Google Form on the year group Google Classroom)
- Y12 and Y13 Student Tutors

Interested in A Level at AHS?

Key Stage 5
Students choose A Level Chemistry because they have a keen interest in Chemistry as an academic subject and/or they wish to pursue a career in a Chemistry related discipline.

The OCR A level course builds on any KS4 Chemistry course and develops further the mathematical, practical, analytical and evaluative skills in each topic.

Students also complete a series of practical assessments to enhance their experimental skills. These assessments contribute to the award of a Practical Endorsement.

- Requirements:
    - Meet AHS entry criteria (44 points from top 8 GCSEs)
    - Either: 7 in GCSE
    - Or: Grade 7 in the Chemistry components of Trilogy (double science)
    - If you have 7 or lower for Maths, you are required to do the bespoke AHS Maths For Physical Sciences CourseOCR
    - Chemistry A Level OCR A Specification (H432)
- Chemistry A Level video
- Chemistry Induction ppp