

# Working together.... Helping your child with revision

**Ideas and techniques to  
help you support your child  
to achieve their potential.**

WELCOME!



# What is revision?

I've read all my notes  
but I can't remember  
any of it!

It means actively looking over work on an ongoing basis:

1. To remind you of things you have forgotten
2. To make links with other learning so you have the bigger picture
3. To reinforce learning
4. To identify what you don't know
5. To check your understanding

# Should I help with revision?

- Research and experience shows that children whose parents/carers take the opportunity to be frequently interested in their child's learning make most progress.
- You will get to know your child's strengths and difficulties and find out what they are studying.
- Helping them do their work is not the same as doing it for them!!!
- Discussing work with them strengthens their understanding.

**Let them be the teacher - if you don't know anything about what they need to know in a subject - ask them to teach you!**



# How do I begin to help?

- Does your child know what they need to do?
  - What will be actually tested in the exam? (Revision list)
  - What day is the exam? (Exam timetable)
  - When does the exam start and how long is it?
- Do they have the materials to do it?
  - Exercise books, textbooks, folders...
  - Revision guides
  - Access to internet (websites)
- If there are any gaps encourage them to ask their subject teacher.
- Have you actually seen them revising???

# What and how?!?!

- Try asking them to highlight everything they feel confident about in a subject in one colour.
- Then highlight all the topics they need to revise in more depth in another colour.
- Use this information to create a revision list.

Talk to your child about what their subjects are about, what they have to do in them, what they feel confident/less confident about. Talking to you about their learning will help them to think about their learning needs.

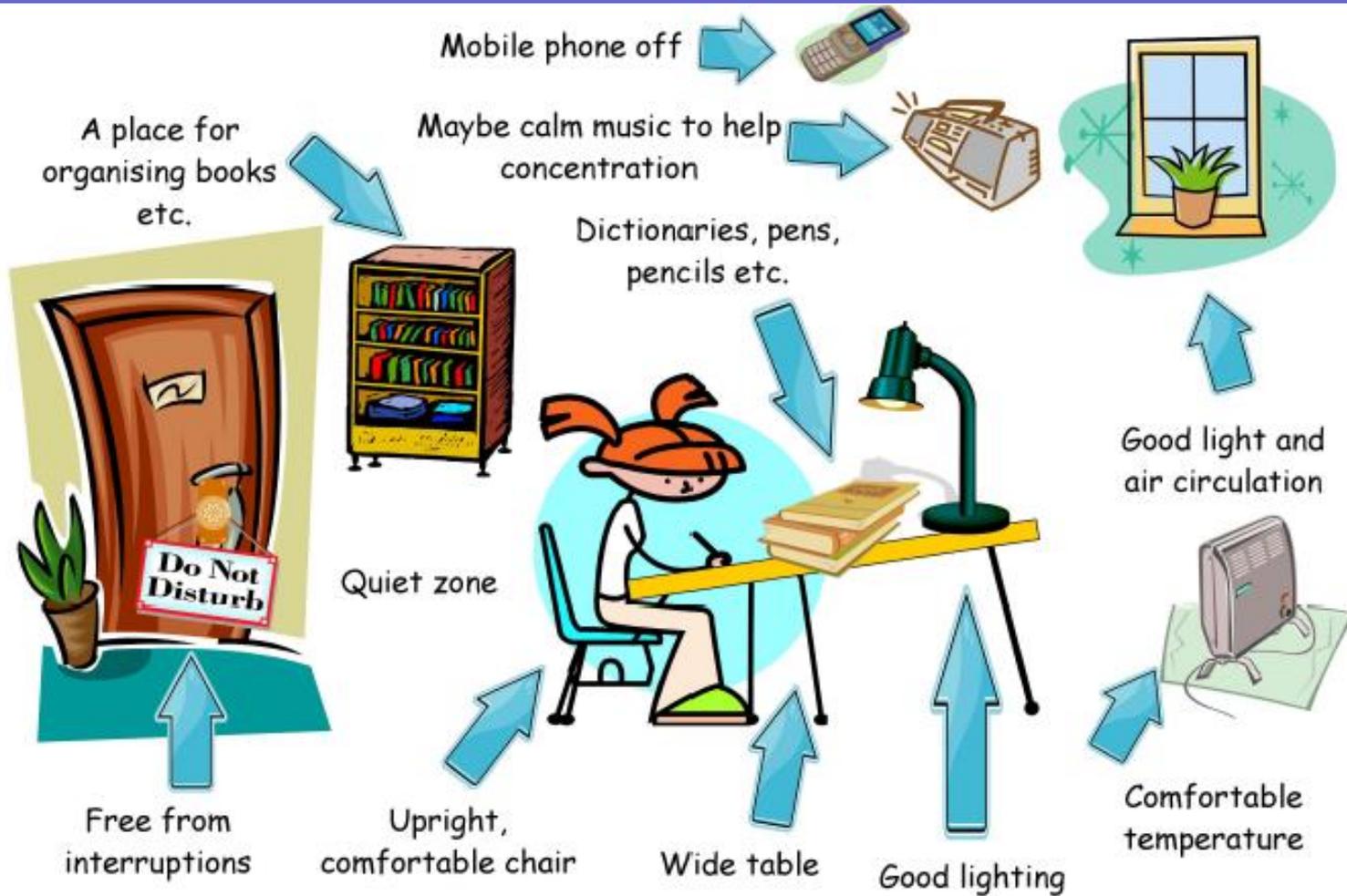


# Resources to revise

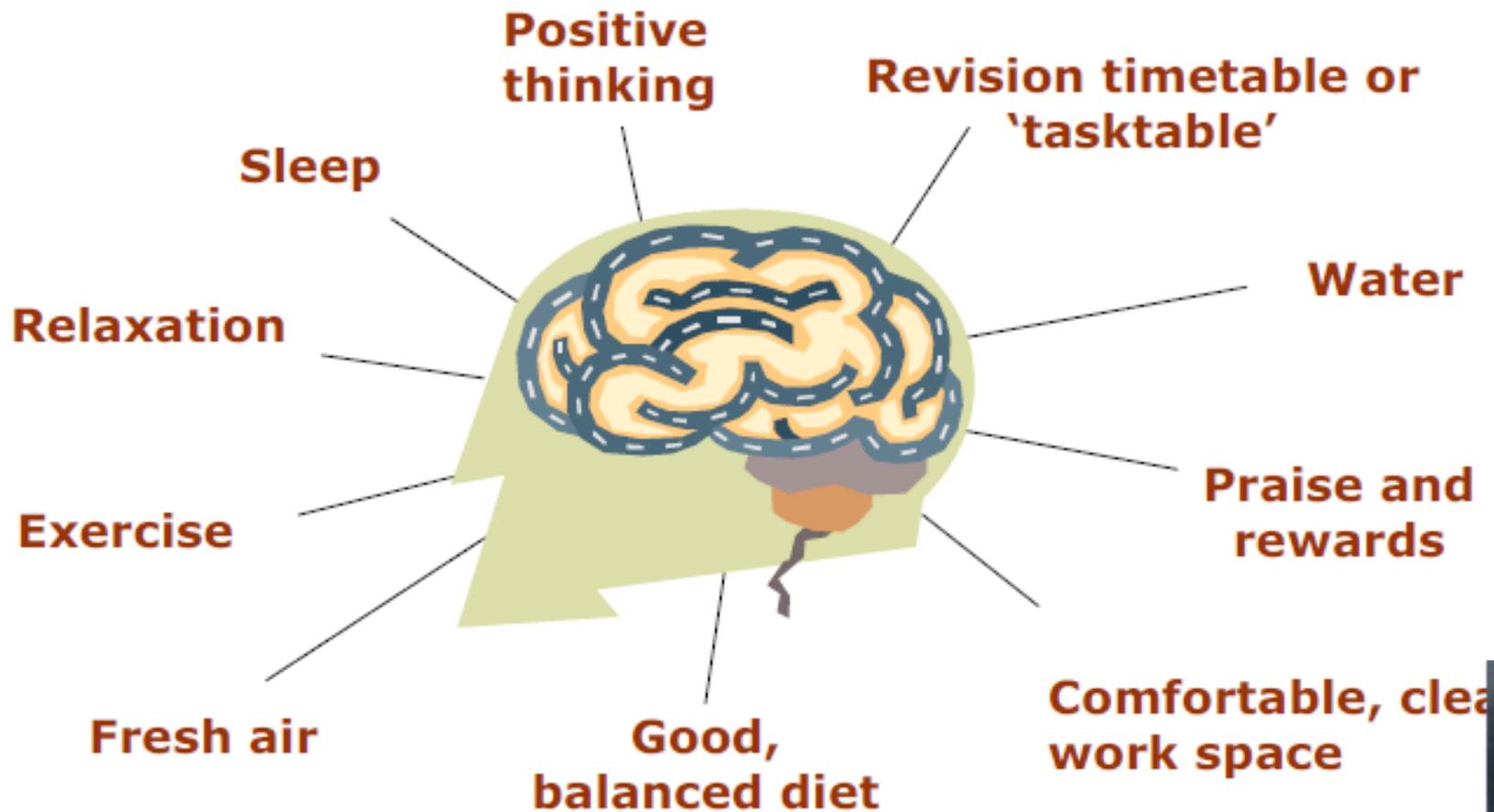
- Help provide the right resources for your child to revise actively:
  - Pen, rules, pencils, paper, glue, scissors
  - Post-it notes
  - Coloured pens
  - Highlighters
  - Dictionary
  - Revision guides, CDs & Podcasts
  - Food and drink!!!



# Hints for an ideal revision area!



# 10 tips to keep their brain happy (and productive!!)



# Ask the right questions!

- Help your child by asking the right question:
  - When is your exam...?
  - What are you likely to be tested on...?
  - What do you need to take on the day...?
  - What strategies are helping you most..?
  - You've been studying...What can you teach me...?
  - What support do you need...?
  - Do you need a drink/food?
  - Is it time for a break yet?



# When should my child start revising?

- According to studies, 76% of students start revision, on average, four weeks or less in advance of a test.
- So, students are 'end loading' their revision; they are cramming. This isn't the most effective way to revise!
- Instead of 'cramming', it is more effective to space out smaller chunks of learning over time. It's the effort that must be made to recall the information that allows "true learning".



# Where to start? When to do it?

- Help them work out **how much time** they have - being realistic.
- Don't forget to factor in a bit of **play time** also!
- Break it down into manageable "**chunks**" e.g. 'revising French verbs' sounds more manageable than 'revising for GCSEs'.
- Make "**To-Do**" lists. These are very useful in helping to organise themselves. Prepare the list every evening for use the next day. Cross off items as they complete them. Put any left over items on tomorrow's list.



# Creating a revision timetable

- A week in your child's life:

Eat...sleep...socialise...relax...work...play



Before you start planning, think about the commitments your child already has, e.g. sporting clubs, family commitments, meal times, etc.

Make sure they use their planner/timetable to keep up with revision and encourage them to attend revision sessions outside school hours where offered.

# Creating a revision timetable

Day	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
9am-12 noon	<i>School</i>	<i>School</i>	<i>School</i>	<i>School</i>	<i>School</i>	1. 2. 3.	1. 2. 3.
1pm-4pm	<i>School</i>	<i>School</i>	<i>School</i>	<i>School</i>	<i>School</i>	1. 2. 3.	1. 2. 3.
Session 1: From ____ To ____							
Session 2: From ____ To ____							



# How long should they revise for?

- 37 hours is a working week..... So that is 25 hours at school and 12 hours at home each week.
- **Encourage your child to take breaks = They will remember more!** Never let your child work for more than an hour without a 10 minute break.
- The advice given is to revise for \_\_\_\_ and then have a \_\_\_\_ break.
- Break subjects down into topics so they have more manageable chunks.
- Change subjects frequently.



# Final pieces of advice...

- **Be positive** about your child's attempts. Make an appointment with school if you are concerned about their progress.
- **Be patient!** Help your child to become an independent learner. Explain how to look up information or find a word in a dictionary rather than simply giving them the answer in order to get the task finished.
- Don't let working together become a chore. Make it a **special time** that you can both enjoy.



# Advice cont..

- It doesn't need to be a marathon session; **little and often** is usually best.
- Recognise your own **emotional state** - if you are tense or worrying about something else, it might not be a good time to work with your child.
- Don't be afraid to **STOP** if it isn't going well. Try to agree what the difficulty is and when to come back together later.
- **ALWAYS** end with **praise** (they'll feel good, you'll feel good) It should be enjoyable... for both of you!

'That's a hard thing to explain. Well done.'

'Be proud that you didn't give up when you were stuck...'

'You're really good at ...'



CALDEW  
SCHOOL