

**Scarborough UTC News Flash
Friday 8th February 2019**

INTRODUCTION

Dear parent/carer

As we get in to PPEs over the next two weeks and ever closer to full GCSE and A level examinations (just 10 working weeks from Monday), it is essential that your son/daughter has a structured approach to their revision. Cramming until late at night is not the answer.

So How much to revise? And when?

Under the pressure of looming exams, there is an understandable urge to work harder and harder. It seems to make sense to us that the more we revise, the more knowledge we will cram into our brains and the better we will perform in an exam.

The key to effective revision is not hours of cramming in the final few weeks/days before an exam, but regular, concentrated but shorter periods of revision. Revision sessions should be little and often.

Students' revision sessions should therefore target regular deliberate practice; that is, every day.

We know, from over a century of studying the human brain, and our flawed memory, that we need a little forgetting to learn. Cognitive scientists call it "spacing". We also know that we should aim for "interleaving".

This fancy term describes the practice of mixing up revision topics, so that the brain is forced to remember and sort the learned material. Our students are prone to the easy approach of blocking – spending all day on one subject or topic.

We need to ensure that we support students to interleave and space out their revision.

We don't need students to be spending every waking hour revising – we just need them to be revising better for shorter periods. By focusing on quality, we may see a welcome reduction in quantity – easing the stress of students – and strike the right balance for our students to achieve exam success.

A tool to help with this process is to create a revision timetable which plans out your son/daughters weekly schedule to include clubs, sports and social activities and breaks alongside regular short revision sessions every day. If this is done on computer it can be handily printed out and displayed around the house and can be a helpful focus and reminder for parents and child of the expectations for revision. It can also help to reduce tension, stress and the difficult conversations as to why they are not revising.

Thank you for your support.
Mr Kilgour

IN ASSEMBLIES THIS WEEK

We have been focusing this week on Internet Safety Week and Miss Griffiths has delivered assemblies on the importance of ensuring that we stay safe with our digital and mobile devices. It is vital that students never arrange to meet someone over the internet or give out their personal details to strangers who may pretend to be friends online. Students have had LPD lessons on this with Mrs Gething. In our student vote for the LGBT person of most influence SUTC voted for Alan Turing. Well done to all who took part. More details can be found at : <https://www.saferinternet.org.uk/safer-internet-day/2019>

TECHNICAL EXCELLENCE

This week has been a busy one in the engineering workshops with students once again firing up the forge and conducting their welding tests for their technical skills – no other year 10s in our region can say that!

Away from the workshops and it has been another busy week for our 2 F1 in Schools teams as the pressure builds ahead of the national finals which are taking place in Chester, at AIRBUS HQ this year. We are absolutely delighted to say that our partners at The University of Hull have agreed to sponsor both teams, and are covering the transport and accommodation costs for the 2 day event. The Uni was so impressed with the students work and their general approach, manor and technical knowledge when they heard about the competition that they have gone out of their way to support the students, made up mostly of Year 10s. With all the logistics taken care of it has meant both teams have been able to focus on their design and presentations, with members of both teams frequently working over lunch times and staying late in order to tweak their designs and give themselves the best chance possible. We're quietly confident of going one better and making it through to the international finals this year, but there's plenty more hard work to go before then. You can follow both our teams across social media too: Just search for Avidity Racing & Team Orbit to follow their progress.

YEAR 11 STARS

The following students were voted by staff for their hard work and commitment to their studies . they were all rewarded with an early lunch on Friday to recognise their efforts : Ethan Astling, Harvey Houlden, Holly Smithies, Isobel Smithies, Molly Dineley, Charlie Smith, Harry Soulsby, Maclay Arnott, Connor Wilcox, George Spivey, Josh Mearns, Max McNiven, Oliver Ward, Ryan Lester, Ben Marshall, Owen Sygrove.

REVISION

There are many revision resources that students can use to help them with their revision. We have just purchased GCSE POD and all students have access to this valuable resource. Just create an account with your child using their Scarborough UTC email address and it is ready to go. A letter was sent home earlier this week but a copy of it can be found under the parent communications section of the website:

<https://www.scarboroughutc.co.uk/parents/parent-letters/>

TEACHING AND LEARNING

This week teachers at Scarborough UTC have been discussing our Professional Values and Employability Skills and ways of clearly communicating these to students. Every classroom at Scarborough UTC has a poster that shows the key skills we demand of our students and promote within lessons and beyond; the key areas being self-management, understanding, teamwork and communication. Students are rewarded for their performance in lessons within these areas which add up to the awarding of certificates, prizes and extra opportunities both within and at the end of each term. Encourage your son/daughter to demonstrate these valuable life skills beyond the college too.

SIXTH FORM @ SCARBOROUGH UTC

On Friday 8th February York and Hull University gave presentation assemblies to students on Student Finance and the University FREE Summer schemes. These are excellent opportunities for your child to develop their employability skills. If your child is in Year 12 do encourage them to apply.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Pre Public Examinations for year 11 and 13 begin	Thursday 14 th February 2019
Open evening	Thursday 21 st February 2019
Spring half term	25 th February – 1 March 2019
End of Spring Term	12 th April 2019
Easter holiday	15 th April – 26 th April 2019
INSET Day	Monday 29 th April 2019
First Day of summer term for students	Tuesday 30 th April 2019
First day of GCSE and A level examinations	Monday 13 th May 2019