

9 Top Study Tips for Starting Year 13

Study Habits of Successful Year 13 Students

1. Develop A Helicopter View
2. Make the Most Of Study Periods
3. Keep On Top Of Homework
4. Consolidate Your Understanding As You Go Along
5. Start Producing Revision Resources Now
6. Use Exam Board Websites
7. Be Clear About Which Revision Methods Work
8. Revise For All Tests
9. Find A Good Study-Life Balance

1. Develop A Helicopter View

There are two important things to grasp about Year 13. The first is that the workload is much bigger than Year 12, so **commit to working hard from the very beginning of term**. The second is that time will go fast. It's vital from your first day back that you **have a clear overview of the year ahead**, particularly key events such as UCAS applications and mock exams. Get UCAS stuff done and out of the way as soon as possible.

2. Make the Most Of Study Periods

Hopefully, you know by now that it's crucial that you make the most of these sessions. **Get your head down and work**. Enough said.

3. Keep On Top Of Homework

During the Autumn Term, **your first priority for study time should be homework**. Always try to do homework to a high quality and get it in on time. Homework helps you to check that you understand what's covered in lessons and tells you where there are any gaps in your learning. It also helps your teachers to give useful feedback on areas for improvement. Don't let it mount up. Also, if it's part of your course, keep on top of coursework.

4. Consolidate Your Understanding As You Go Along

Once you've done a topic in class, go over it and **make sure you understand it**. Don't leave it until it's close to the final exams to make sense of it or you'll end up with having to understand a heap of topics plus do loads of revision. If you don't get something, go ask a teacher.

5. Start Producing Revision Resources Now

When it comes to the final exams, the most useful revision resources will be the ones you produce yourself. But they can be time-consuming, so **start making your revision resources** (flashcards, mindmaps etc) **early in the year** as you go along. That way, when the real exams come around, you can spend more time revising instead of just writing flashcards.

6. Use Exam Board Websites

Exam board websites are packed full of useful information, so use them. Make full use of the course specification, past papers, specimen papers, mark schemes, examiners' reports and information on UMS/grade boundaries.

7. Be Clear About Which Revision Methods Work

Whatever methods you use, base most of your revision around **practice papers/questions** (sometimes under exam conditions) and **testing** (flashcards are, of course, fantastic for this). Other good methods include revision apps/guides, watching videos, teaching someone else a topic and mindmaps. Also, make the most of revision sessions run by your teachers.

8. Revise For ALL Tests

It's really important that you use class tests and, even more so, Jan/Dec mock exams to fine-tune your revision skills and exam technique, **so take them seriously**. If you do this, you'll be pleasantly surprised just how much you remember when you come round to the final exams.

9. Find A Good Study-Life Balance

A healthy work-life balance must **allow time for social activities and interests**. If you're worried about anything, ask a teacher or someone else you trust.