



How can I help myself to achieve?*



(*without leaving it all until the last minute....)

Tips from high achieving Redborne students
inside →

Preparing for exams and beyond...

What could you do regularly? (e.g. after each lesson)

Look back at notes and make sure you understand everything covered in lessons: use revision books to help you with this.

Discuss regularly with friends.

Learn vocab/ spellings regularly.



Revise vocabulary from book/websites/school sites.

Write a key points summary from the lesson. It helps with revision to have a simplified summary of points to remember.

Organise notes and check their clarity and depth; with permission, copy someone else's if theirs are better.

5 minutes recap of work done after each lesson.

Read. It helps with the fluency of your thoughts and with deduction and inference. Read a novel, a biography, the newspaper - just read!

Look up words that you don't understand.

Catch up on any work missed through illness etc.

Make sure you understand all the work you have just done so that you do not fall behind.

Familiarise yourself with the mark scheme so that you understand what is being asked of you.



Languages

- Record vocab onto phone or ipod and listen to it.
- Make revision cards with vocab and phrases on them.
- Put up vocab and phrases round your room.

What could you do every now and then?

Make posters to help you remember.

Revisit old work: look up in a revision guide what you're not good at.

Research on the internet for further information.



Sit with a friend and get them to test you.

Find a test online and do it under test conditions at home.

Revise a whole topic and use the Bitesize website to check you understand.

Ask more questions in lessons to get a better understanding.

Review what you have done and practise writing responses to a book you have read.

Do practice tests/exam style questions.



Languages

- Watch a film in German/French/Spanish with English subtitles.
- Watch a film in English with De/Fr/Sp subtitles.
- Use the De/Fr/Sp you know to chat to friends and/or family.
- Learn 10 words a week.
- Contact a pen friend or other native speaker of the language you are studying.
- Put your phone on De/Fr/Sp.
- Talk to yourself in De/Fr/Sp/Latin.
- Borrow a short book or magazine from your languages teacher.
- Go on www.bbc.co.uk/languages or www.languagesonline

Try an (or create your own) educational game.

Read around the subject - read newspaper articles, INTERNET sites or books that are connected with the topic you are studying.

Write answers to specific questions that will be in the exam.

Write a list of key words to learn and try to learn them.



English

- Re-read the book you are studying in lessons.
- Research the area and time in which a book is set.



What could you ask your parents to do?

- Ask you questions at home.
- Test you at random on vocab.
- Give you spelling tests.
- Leave you alone when revising.
- Read through book with you.
- Test you.
- Help you make a revision timetable.
- Get revision materials/copies of the texts/a dictionary.
- Ask questions that you can answer, read over/check practice paragraphs.
- Remind you to do homework.
- Listen to you read.
- Proof read work.
- Get you some post-its or blank postcards to use to make revision notes.
- Ask you what you have learnt.
- Bring regular cups of tea!

What could you ask your teachers to do?

Go over things with you if you don't understand.

Provide recap sheets and have mini quizzes to summarise the lesson.

Give more feedback and targets.

Give you past papers to help you revise.



ICT

Keep emailing you your current progress so you can see what grade you have and how you need to improve.



Email work if you are absent from their lesson.

Set practical homework, e.g. do a test at home and write down results for main homework.

Answer questions you have about certain areas.

Teachers can allocate you time to catch up on work. You can ask them to run through things you didn't understand at the end of each lesson, or to give you extra help with your work at lunchtimes or break times. Teachers can also inform you of the mark scheme so you know what you need to do. Always ask your teachers for help if you need it!

What are the characteristics of a high-achieving student?



Proactive

asks for help without waiting to be asked (but doesn't ask until has attempted to work it out for self)

asks deep questions. Inquiring mind.

Brave enough to share ideas in class

What would a 'deep question' be in a particular subject?
Who would you ask it of? (the teacher? Yourself?)

Challenges ideas – asks 'what if....?'

Independent

- Acts on feedback
- Seeks explanations that may go beyond the basic confines of the specification
- Reads around the subject/watches relevant clips on the internet
- Catches up any missed work; pushes self in class

Resilient

Doesn't give up, even when receives disappointing grade or feedback. Learns from mistakes.

Aspirational

Has career aspirations – knows what he/she wants to be high expectations of self – not satisfied with the minimum grade required

Skills

- Good background knowledge
- Explores different approaches to problem solving

English

- ✓ Avid reader
- ✓ Able to bring in own knowledge when looking at a text
- ✓ Has made the jump from explain → explore

Science

- ✓ Able to make links/see 'the whole picture' (eg the unifying nature of the periodic table)
- ✓ Able to link different aspects of the course together and/or from other subject areas & apply them to new area of study