THE BRITTONS ACADEMY

YEAR 11: REVISE SMARTER, NOT LONGER

A practical plan for turning what you know into marks in the exam.

Consistency beats intensity. Focus on progress, not perfection.

1. The aim is progress, not panic

2 min

- You do not need to revise all day or get every subject perfect in one sitting.
- Start with one subject, one topic and one clear goal.
- Short, focused sessions with proper breaks beat distracted hours.

Your next 25 minutes can make a difference.

2. Make your brain do the work

2 min

- Retrieval practice: close your notes and test what you can remember.
- Brain dump: spend 5 minutes writing everything you know about one topic.
- Check in a different-coloured pen: tick what is right, fill gaps and correct mistakes.
- Revisit the gaps a few days later. They tell you exactly what to revise next.

Don’t just read it. Retrieve it.

3. Try a 30-second brain dump

2 min

Choose a topic from any GCSE subject.

1. LOOK AWAY

Close your notes.

2. RECALL

Write or think of as many facts, key terms, steps or quotations as you can.

3. CHECK

What did you remember? What do you need to revisit?

The gaps are useful: they show you what to work on next.

4. Practise the exam, not just the topic

2 min

- Use real past-paper questions and work under timed conditions.
- Pay attention to the command word: describe, explain, compare, evaluate or justify.
- Use the mark scheme to identify missing knowledge and precise key words.
- Correct in green pen. Keep a short mistake log and try the question again later.

A mark is feedback. Use it to improve the next answer.

5. Make a realistic revision plan

2 min

- Try 25 minutes of focused work, then a 5-minute break.
- After four sessions, take a longer break of 20–30 minutes.
- Choose a specific topic or task for each session; give extra time to difficult topics.
- Include all subjects across the week, but make room for friends, exercise and rest.

Plan the session before you start it.

6. Use AI as a coach, not a shortcut

1.5 min

- Ask it to explain a mark scheme or generate extra questions on a difficult topic.
- Ask for feedback on your answer and two specific ways to improve it.
- Check AI feedback against your teacher’s guidance and the official mark scheme.
- Attempt the question yourself first. The learning comes from thinking and improving.

Try first. Check carefully. Improve your answer.

7. Your next step starts today

1.5 min

Before you leave, decide:

ONE SUBJECT	Which subject needs your attention?
ONE TOPIC	What exactly will you revise?
ONE ACTION	Brain dump, flashcards or an exam question?

You don’t need a perfect plan. You need a plan you can stick to.

Consistency beats intensity. Look after yourself as well as your revision.