



The
Cardinal Wiseman
Catholic School

Preparing for Exam Excellence

- Reviewing your exam performance for each subject
 - Reviewing your exam preparation
 - Planning your revision schedule

Name..... Tutor Group.....

Reviewing your exam papers, grades and marks for each subject

In order to move forward and make improvements, you must be able to learn from the December exams and identify what worked well as well as where you made mistakes, the gaps in your knowledge and the skills you need to develop.

Identify the subjects in which you wish to improve your exam performance and see if you can complete the tables for each one.

Identify which topics or questions you lost marks in and explain why:	What can you do to improve this?:
History Example: <i>The source question on question 2 of the Cold War – I only used the source to answer the question and didn't use my own knowledge to develop the question</i>	<i>Practise writing about the author, the dates, the context and the provenance instead of just describing the content</i>
Identify which topics or questions you did well in and explain why:	

Some strategies to help you improve your Exam Performance:

Use Practice papers to develop your knowledge and skills:

- Practise the skills you've not yet mastered such as structuring extended answers or understanding questions
- Answer questions whilst referring to your notes
- Refer to model answers
- Answer questions under timed conditions
- Complete sections at first, not the whole paper
- Get the paper marked and address the mistakes
- Re-do questions where marks are lost
- Go through the papers and highlight errors
- Identify your weaker topics to fill in the gaps in knowledge
- Ensure you always use the correct subject specific language and key terms
- Identify your strengths in your stronger topics and transfer these skills
- Keep all your assessments to show where you are improving

Take note of your teacher's advice:

- You must see your teacher if you are not sure why you lost marks for a question
- Ask for specific feedback on what you can improve on
- React to your teacher's written feedback and targets
- Ask for example model answers
- Ask for work to be re-marked once you have made changes
- Ensure you are absolutely clear on the structure expected for each style of question

FOLLOWING YOUR REVIEW OF THE DECEMBER EXAM PAPERS, IDENTIFY YOUR STRENGTHS AND AREAS FOR DEVELOPMENT FOR EACH SUBJECT

ENGLISH LANGUAGE

Identify which topics or questions you lost marks in and explain why:	What can you do to improve this?:
Identify which topics or questions you did well in and explain why:	

ENGLISH LITERATURE

Identify which topics or questions you lost marks in and explain why:	What can you do to improve this?:
Identify which topics or questions you did well in and explain why:	

MATHS

Identify which topics or questions you lost marks in and explain why:	What can you do to improve this?:
Identify which topics or questions you did well in and explain why:	

BIOLOGY

Identify which topics or questions you lost marks in and explain why:	What can you do to improve this?:
Identify which topics or questions you did well in and explain why:	

CHEMISTRY

Identify which topics or questions you lost marks in and explain why:	What can you do to improve this?:
Identify which topics or questions you did well in and explain why:	

PHYSICS

Identify which topics or questions you lost marks in and explain why:	What can you do to improve this?:
Identify which topics or questions you did well in and explain why:	

RE

Identify which topics or questions you lost marks in and explain why:	What can you do to improve this?:
Identify which topics or questions you did well in and explain why:	

LANGUAGES /IT CNAT/Sports Btec

Identify which topics or questions you lost marks in and explain why:	What can you do to improve this?:
Identify which topics or questions you did well in and explain why:	

OPTION SUBJECT.....

Identify which topics or questions you lost marks in and explain why:	What can you do to improve this?:
Identify which topics or questions you did well in and explain why:	

OPTION SUBJECT.....

Identify which topics or questions you lost marks in and explain why:	What can you do to improve this?:
Identify which topics or questions you did well in and explain why:	

REVIEW YOUR EXAM PREPARATION: Following the December Exams, would you be confident if you applied this same standard of exam preparation to the Final Exams?

Answer yes or no to these questions:

1. Did you plan a revision timetable? Y/N
2. Did you access the practice papers for all the appropriate subjects? Y/N
3. Are you pleased with the amount of preparation you placed into the exams? Y/N
4. Did you know how to answer the different types of questions? Y/N
5. Did you focus on some subjects more than others and did that show in your results? Y/N
6. Did you cram your revision into the night before? Y/N
7. Did you spend more time preparing your revision resources than actively using them? Y/N
8. Did you use revision techniques which didn't help you? Y/N
9. Were you unsure what to revise? Y/N
10. Did you spend more time worrying about the actual revision than actually doing it? Y/N
11. Did you 'waste time' revising topics which didn't come up in the exam? Y/N

If you answered 'No' to questions 1 - 4 and 'yes' to any of the questions from 5 – 11, what could you do differently to improve your revision skills?

1

2

3

4

WHAT YOU NOW KNOW FROM REVIEWING YOUR EXAM PERFORMANCE:

1. What you know – *knowledge*
2. What you can do – *skills*
3. What you don't yet know – *knowledge*
4. What you can't do yet - *skills*

KNOWLEDGE AND ACTIVITIES: *Understanding and Summarising*

Making sense of information and transferring into different formats:

- Don't fully understand a topic? There will be a taught lesson on it on Youtube
- Mindmaps
- Flashcards
- Summary notes
- Post-it note display
- Active Reading e.g. read a question first then extract/identify the relevant info only

SKILLS ACTIVITIES: *Testing*

- Practise planning questions
- Practise parts of the question
- Use practice papers
- Design your own questions and marking criteria
- Mark and feedback for a friend – be the examiner
- **Practise writing questions under timed conditions – this is essential**
- Speaking aloud:
 - Hearing yourself aloud doubles the impact
 - Prepare a perfect answer and record yourself. Play this back at a different time

NOW YOU ARE READY TO PLAN YOUR REVISION FOR THE REST OF THE TERM.....

- Plan your subjects across the week and cite the specific *topics* you need to revise e.g. French: revise verb endings
- Revise no more than two subjects each weekday and make sure you take regular breaks
- Use a variety of revision techniques e.g. mindmaps, study cards, post-it notes, highlighters etc. – simply reading your notes is not the most effective way to revise
- Make sure you have revision materials for all of your subjects – *if not, or you are not sure, please ask your teacher!*

REVISION TIMETABLE	Subject and Specific Topic to Revise		Subject and Specific Topic to Revise
Monday	Geography: practising 6 mark questions (<i>cite specific topics e.g. population, development</i>)		ENGLISH: practise using unseen texts for language. Practice modelling answers for main characters in A Christmas Carol
Tuesday	CHEMISTRY: practising 8 mark questions (<i>cite specific topics</i>)		SPANISH: revising for 'writing' exam on March 25 th
Wednesday	MATHS: revision class. Use maths watch to revise topics for paper3		BIOLOGY: revise past paper questions (<i>cite specific topics</i>)
Thursday	MUSIC: exam questions from past papers (<i>cite specific topics</i>)		RE: St Mark's Gospel questions (<i>cite specific topics</i>)
Friday	BREAK		BREAK
Saturday	Geography: population questions	SPANISH: revising for 'writing' exam	
Sunday	MATHS: mathswatch clips of questions not answered in exam	ENGLISH: practising timed questions	PHYSICS:(<i>cite specific topics</i>)

Example of a Weekly Revision Schedule