



KS4 Study Guide

Step-by-step: remembering it under exam conditions

Goal: remember it under exam conditions.

1. Know exactly what you're aiming for

- Find the spec point / checklist for the topic
- Turn it into questions (e.g., “Explain...”, “Compare...”, “Evaluate...”)

2. Chunk the content into exam-sized pieces

Split into:

- Definitions / key facts
- Processes / methods
- Case studies / examples
- Common exam questions

3. Create a “one-page core” (dual coding + chunking)

One sheet per topic:

- Key terms + meanings
- A diagram/flowchart/timeline
- 3–5 key examples

4. Retrieval first, always

Start every revision session with:

- Brain dump OR
- 10 flashcards OR
- 6-question mini quiz

Only then check notes.

5. Do exam practice early (active learning)

- At least 2–3 questions per topic: short answers first, then longer responses
- Mark with mark schemes and improve

6. Connect topics to boost grades

- Make a “link list”: “This connects to Topic X because...”
- Helps with “explain” and “evaluate” questions

7. Space + mix (spaced + interleaving)

- Timetable: 20–40 mins per subject, repeat weekly
- Mix topics (don't do one whole topic then move on forever)

8. Review mistakes like a system

Keep a “mistake log”:

- What went wrong?
- Correct answer
- Why that answer earns marks

Re-test those mistakes weekly.

9. Sleep + routines

- Use consistent bedtime near exams
- Short sessions beat late-night cramming

At KS4, the aim is to move from knowing to performing: spec point → chunk it → practise it → mark it → fix your mistakes — every week.