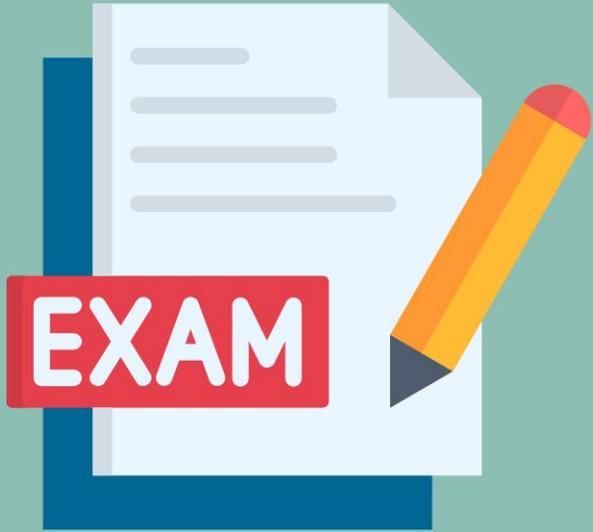


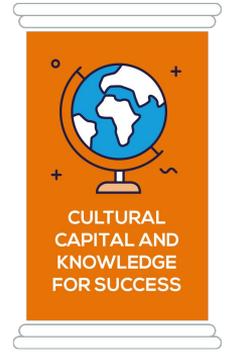
# Year 11 Parents: Preparing for Your Child's Exams



# Welcome

Wednesday 6th November





- **Our current Year 11s are a fantastic year group**
- **They show respect to their peers and their own learning**
- **They have shown improved focus in lessons**
- **They have shown good resilience during lesson time**
- **However, hard work is required between now and June to ensure they meet their full potential**



# Reflection

- All pupils need to understand it is impossible to ‘fluke’ a good grade, or rely just on ‘natural ability’
- Grades cannot just be achieved with last-minute revision
- Pupils need to work hard each and every lesson
- Pupils need to attend any interventions on offer
- They need to regularly do additional home learning
- With hard work, dedication and the right support, all pupils CAN and WILL achieve
- We are excited by the potential this year group have



## How the new grades compare with old ones

# GCSE Grading

- All pupils can achieve at least a grade 4
- Achieving at least a grade 4 in English and Mathematics helps support college and future careers
- Achieving good grades now requires **EVEN MORE** focus and additional effort

Old grades	New grades
A*	9
A	8
B	7
C	6 5 Strong Pass 4 Standard Pass
D	3
E	2
F	1
G	1
U	U

Source: Ofqual



# Attendance

<b>Full Attendance</b>	<b>100%</b>	82% of students achieve 5+ Good GCSE Grades
<b>Good Attendance</b>	<b>97% - 99.9%</b>	79% of students achieve 5+ Good GCSE Grades
<b>Attendance Requires Improvement</b>	<b>96.9% - 95%</b>	53% of students achieve 5+ Good GCSE Grades
<b>Worrying Attendance</b>	<b>94.9% - 90%</b>	45% of students achieve 5+ Good GCSE Grades
<b>Serious Concern</b>	<b>Below 90%</b>	36% of students achieve 5+ Good GCSE grades



# Exam Information

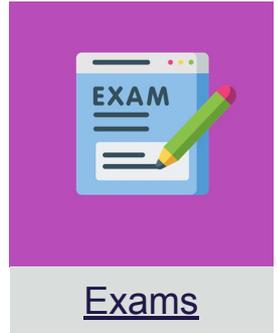
**SCHOOL WEBSITE PAGE >> [Exam information](#)**

**A timetable for the year is on the website as well as a detailed GCSE timetable.**

**Behaviour and malpractice (key points)**

- **Phones and devices not allowed. Having them on your person WILL lead to a loss of exam grade for at least that paper**
- **Pupils must be on time to exams, they cannot just turn up late**
- **Pupils cannot leave exams early, this can lead to a loss of marks for that paper**
- **Contraband items (e.g., vapes) are also not allowed to be on a person's body during exams**

**Any concerns, let a member of staff know as soon as possible.**

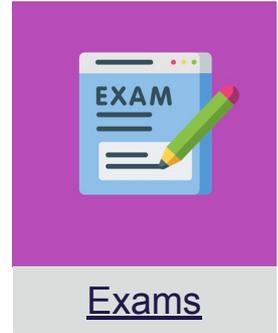


Exams



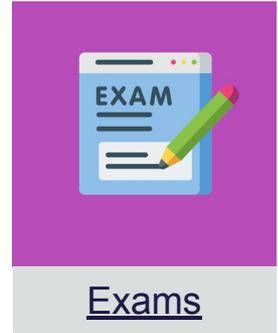
# Exam Dates and Timetables

- Exams cannot be moved, they are fixed by the exam board
- Any issues or problems, let us know as soon as possible
- There will be ONE set of PPEs (mocks) in January and February
- These are critical to checking pupils' understanding and are undertaken in strict exam conditions
- Access arrangements
- The National Contingency Days are Wednesday 11th June - PM and **Wednesday 25th June** - all day. Pupils must be available up to and including the final date in case of any rescheduling.



# Exam Dates and Timetables

- There are two clashes where exams take place in the same session. Pupils will sit one examination at the allotted time, they then have a 20 minute supervised break before proceeding with the next one.
- These are: Media Studies and Cam Nat Sport Studies on Wed 14th May PM and Engineering and French on Wed 21st May AM.
- To allow pupils to be used to this way of working we are replicating this in our PPEs taking place in January.



## Key Dates

**PPEs (Practice GCSEs)**

Mon 27 Jan - Fri 14 Feb

**Y11 Parents' Evening  
(Face-to-face in school)**

Thursday 8th Feb 2025

**GCSEs Start (written papers)**

Thu 9 May 2025

**GCSE Contingency Day (pupils  
must be available UP TO this date)**

Wed 25 June 2025



[Exams](#)



[Calendar](#)

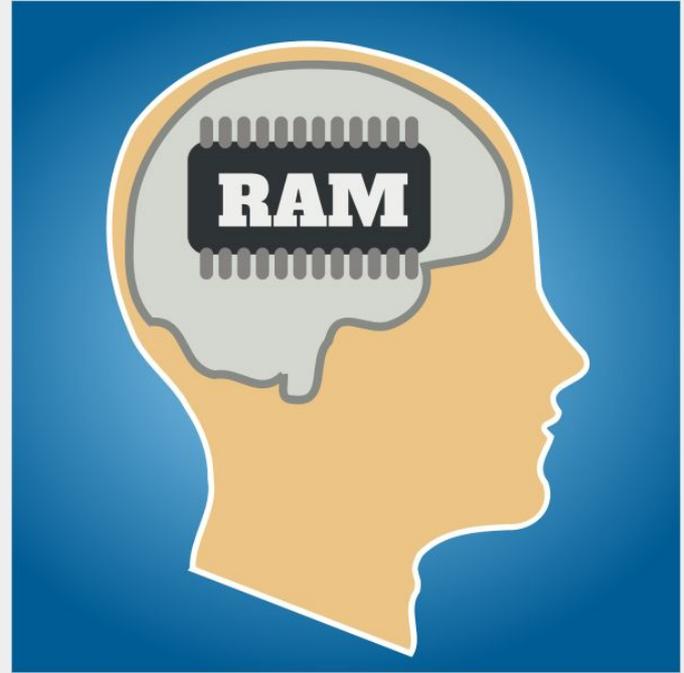


# How should my child revise?



# Revision

What is the aim?



It's all about  
**MEMORY**...knowing &  
remembering more



## Effective or not?

- Reading through notes/revision guides X
- Creating a mind map/knowledge organiser for a topic ✓
- Testing yourself regularly ✓
- Reading through notes and highlighting X
- Cramming intensively the night before X
- Spreading revision over time ✓
- Teaching/explaining it to someone else ✓



# The Pomodoro Technique

Step 1 → Assess Prior Knowledge (5 minutes)

Step 2 → Checkpoint (5 minutes)

Step 3 → Apply knowledge (10 minutes)

Step 4 → Checkpoint (5 minutes)



Revision

## THE POMODORO TECHNIQUE®

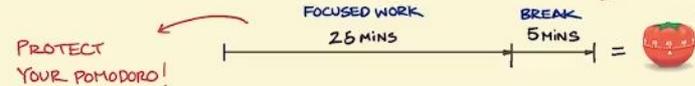
A SIMPLE METHOD TO BALANCE FOCUS WITH DELIBERATE BREAKS



1 PLAN YOUR TASKS  
How many pomodoros might you need?

2 DO 1 POMODORO  
Time for 25 mins then take a 5 min break

NO SNEAKY  
WORKING!



3 REPEAT x 4 POMODOROS  
Then take a longer break



CONCEIVED BY FRANCESCO CIRILLO

sketchplanations



**RISEDALE** A family of learners

# Regular quizzing / tests

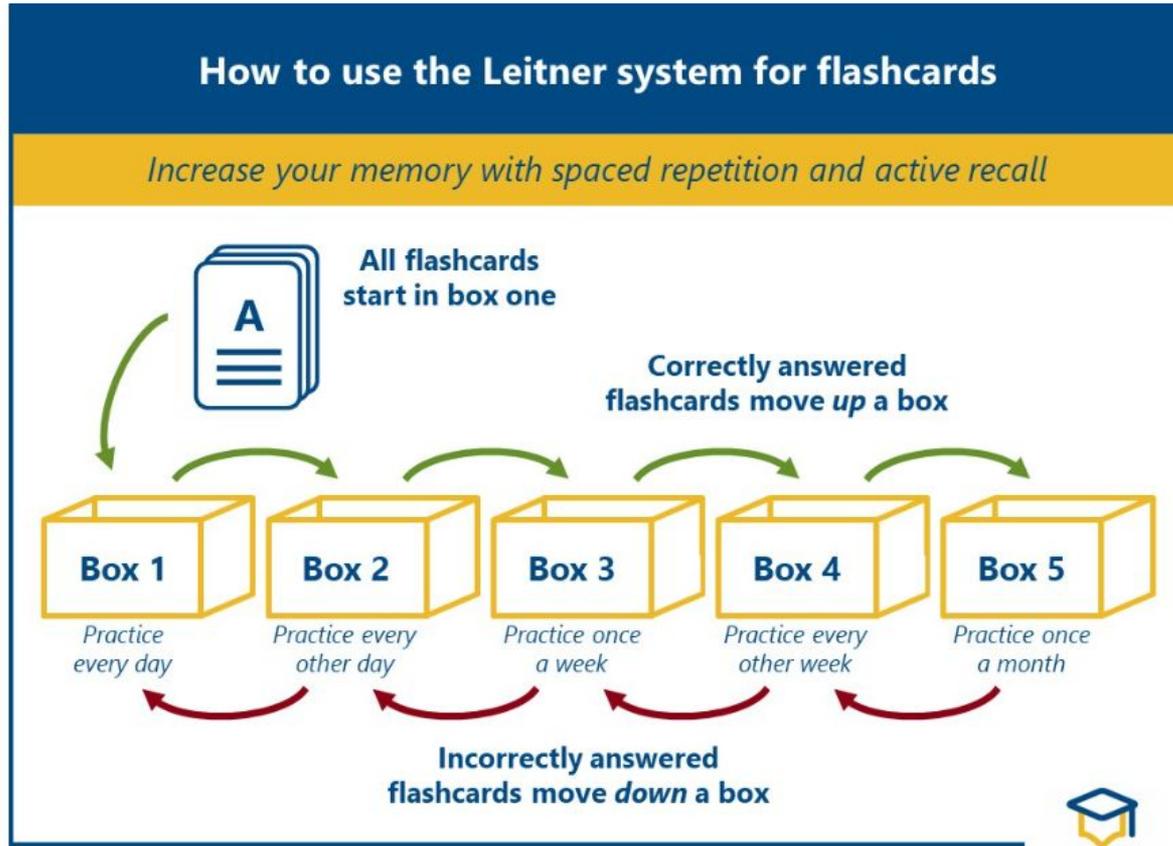




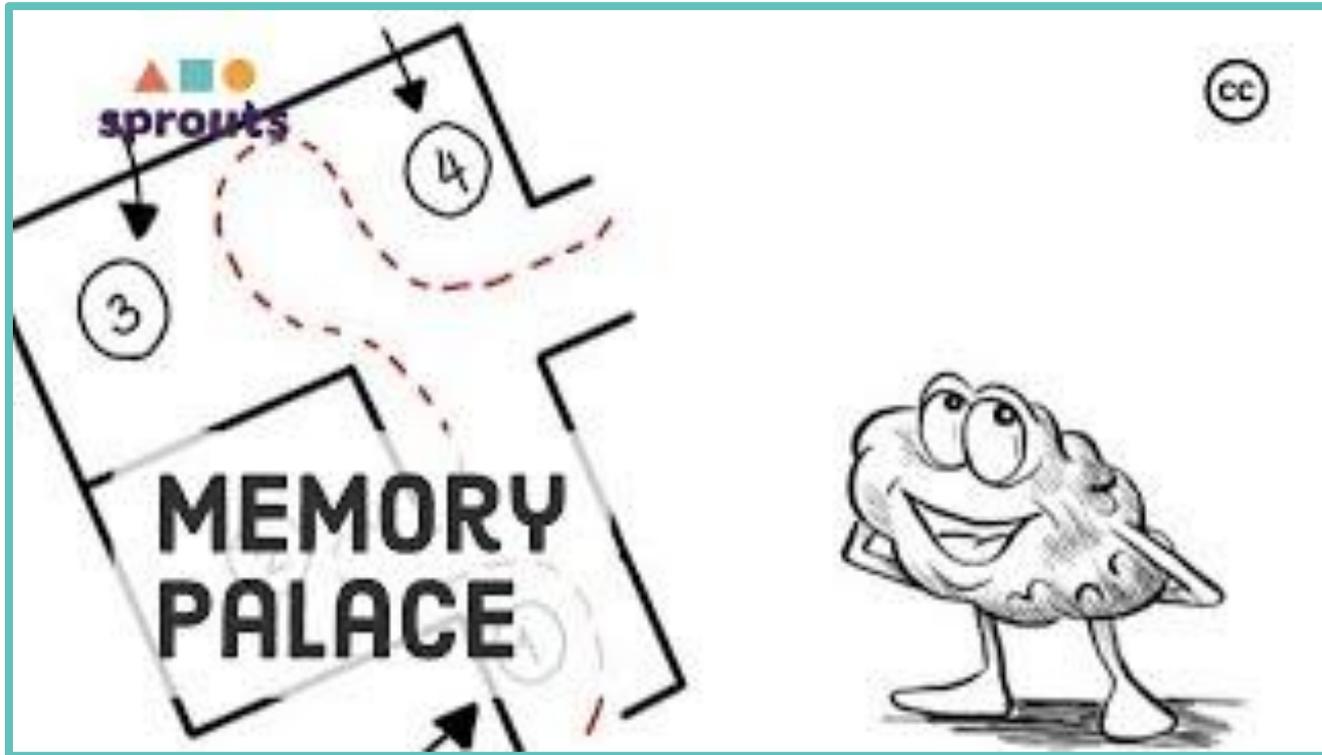
## Flashcards



# The Leitner Method: let's demonstrate an example



**Memory Palaces:** [Click the link below to play the video.](#)



# Practice exam questions



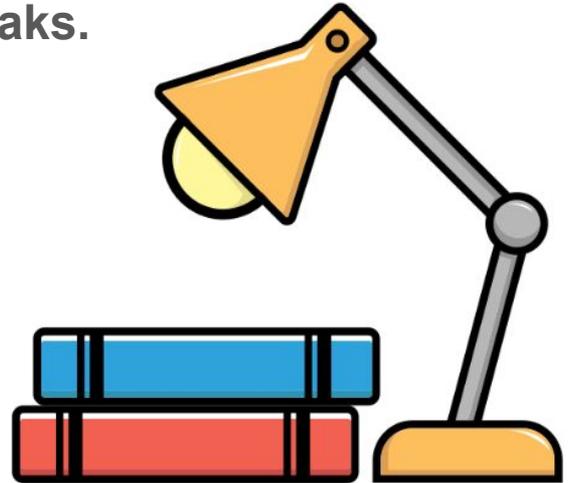
# Revision

Go to our dedicated [Revision](#) website page for lots of helpful links and resources.

Revision should be little and often with regular breaks.

Make use of.....

- Flashcards
- Mind Maps
- Past papers/questions



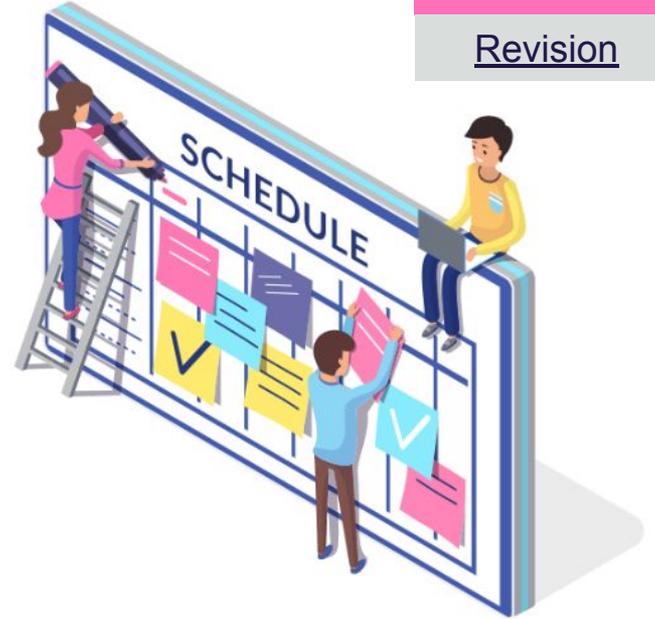
# Revision Sessions

Revision sessions are following 2 strands:

- 1) Small group revision - invitation only
- 2) 'Open to all' revision

These sessions are either during registration, at lunchtime or after school.

A [timetable](#) has already been shared with you and your child.



# Meet the SEND Support Team



Miss Burke  
SENCo



Mr Higham  
Assistant SENCo

Main Contact Details: [send@risedale.org.uk](mailto:send@risedale.org.uk)



SEND



Health & Wellbeing



# Coursework (Non Exam Assessment: NEA)

The NEA accounts for differing percentages of the overall mark depending on the subject.

NEA normally includes a practical element.

Although the NEA is completed in school, pupils can complete preparation work and research in their own time.

Pupils WILL be expected to attend intervention if they are falling behind.





# Coursework (Non Exam Assessment: NEA)

## Subjects with NEA:

- Art, Craft & Design
- Cambridge National in Sport Studies and GCSE PE
- Design and Technology
- Drama
- Engineering
- English Language Spoken Language Endorsement
- Food Preparation and Nutrition
- French/German Speaking Practicals
- Media Studies
- Music



# Health and Wellbeing (CLANGERS)

- **C**onnect with people
- **L**earn something new
- **B**e **A**ctive
- **(T)**ake **N**otice
- **G**ive
- **E**at well
- **R**est
- **S**leep

Avoid exam stress ...

1. STOP PROCRASTINATING
2. Look after your mental wellbeing, think CLANGERS!



Wellbeing



Revision



# MCAS Parent Portal - Online Parental Engagement

- [MyChildAtSchool \(MCAS\)](#) is an online portal for parents that enables you to view your child's performance at school in real-time via the web.
- Please check MCAS regularly as this facility allows you to access your child's timetable, attendance, behaviour and reports whenever you wish to see the latest available information. Parents can access MCAS via the school [website](#) or can use the MCAS App which can be downloaded from the app/play store.
- When your child joined Risedale you were sent details to allow you to access your account. If you have forgotten your Parent Login details click [HERE](#).
- If you have any problems accessing your MCAS account please contact the Admin Team.



MCAS



Forgotten Password



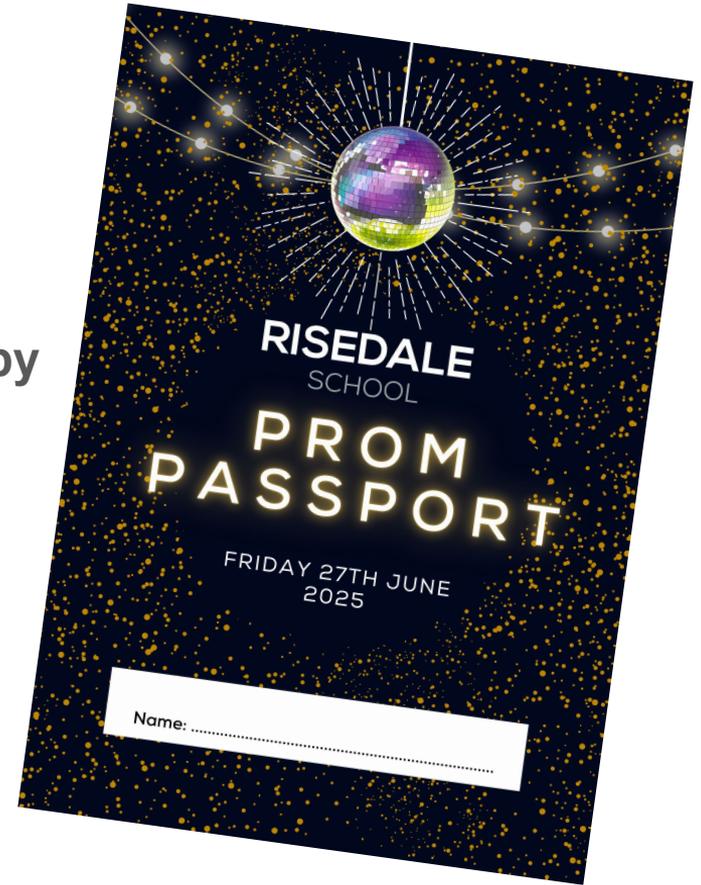
# PROM 2025

FRIDAY 27TH JUNE

THE  
*Blackwell Grange*  
HOTEL

# Year 11 Prom 2025

- To reward pupils who make the right choice we hold an annual prom
- This is always an incredible night, enjoyed by all
- However, to attend, pupils need to consistently make the right choices
- Attend school
- Attend intervention sessions
- Behave positively
- This will be given out in the new year



# College and next steps...

- At Risedale, all pupils have access to their own [Unifrog](#) account, which will continue to provide thousands of resources on career pathways available after secondary school.
- Please visit our dedicated [Careers](#) website page which provides lots of information for parents/carers and pupils.
- We also have a [Careers Parent Portal](#) which contains lots of helpful resources and information.
- Please also refer to the [LETTER](#) from our Careers Leader, Mrs Porritt, which includes a list of local college Open Evenings/Days.



Do you know your options post-16?

# WHAT QUALIFICATIONS ARE THERE?

This graphic shows each qualification and its level of study. For example, both T Levels and A Levels are Level 3 qualifications, along with Applied General Qualifications and Advanced Apprenticeships. The level of a Foundation Degree is not as high as that of an Undergraduate Degree, but it is the same as a Level 5 Diploma



**RISEDALE**

A family of learners

# Apprenticeships

An apprenticeship is a job where you learn while working.

It gives you skills necessary for you to learn and gain experience of a specific job role whilst getting paid.

Apprenticeships start at the equivalent of a GCSE and can progress to degree level and beyond.

All apprentices have contracts of employment, a salary and full employee rights. Apprentices are valuable to employers because they contribute to the success of the business. Whilst working you will also improve your skills and be of greater value to your employer.

An apprenticeship will not cost an apprentice anything, even at degree level – meaning there is no debt, and you get a wage too!

## At Risedale:

All of our Y11 pupils have been given assemblies to learn about different types of apprenticeships, and those interested in finding out more were invited to attend a workshop in Y10. There is another opportunity to a follow-up workshop, with an emphasis on finding an apprenticeship and applications over the next few weeks.

There are many different apprenticeships out there and some might surprise you - it's worth investigating.

Please speak to Mrs Porritt our Careers Leader who is here tonight, for more information. Places tend to be quite competitive, so do your preparation well.



C E I A G

Careers Education  
Information Advice  
Guidance

Careers



**RISEDALE** A family of learners

# T-Levels

A T-Level is classroom-based technical training for 16-19 year olds, equivalent to three A-Levels. It focuses on building the vocational skills you need to enter skilled employment in a particular occupational area, and takes two academic years to complete.

- Management and administration
- Building services engineering for construction
- Design, surveying and planning for construction
- Onsite construction
- Digital production, design and development
- Digital support services
- Design and development for engineering and manufacturing
- Maintenance, installation and repair for engineering and manufacturing
- Engineering, manufacturing, processing and control
- Education and childcare
- Health
- Healthcare science
- Science
- Accounting
- Finance
- Agriculture, land management and production
- Animal care and management (starting September 2024)
- Catering
- Craft and design
- Hairdressing, barbering and beauty therapy
- Media, broadcast and production
- Legal services



# Other Technical Training Opportunities

There are a range of other technical qualifications that offer practical learning programmes that relate to specific job roles or employment sectors.

VTQs:

- BTECs: level 1 to 7 qualifications
- Cambridge Nationals: level 1 and 2 qualifications
- Cambridge Technicals: level 2 and 3 qualifications

What are the benefits?

- Receive recognised qualifications
- Practical experience
- Development of transferable skills



# Study Programmes

Study Programmes offered by both colleges and ITPs are available for 16-19 year olds (or up to 25 with an Education and Health Care Plan).

They provide tailored learning that supports your development and progression in line with what you want to do for a career.

Each Study Programme is built around what you want and need, but typically they can involve:

- Substantial qualifications (this includes some of the options explained earlier, such as T-Levels)
- Work experience placement
- Other non-qualification activity to develop your skills and confidence
- English and maths (if you haven't achieved a GCSE Grade 4 in either subject)
- Study Programmes are fully funded by the government. Neither learners nor employers are required to make any financial contribution to them. Some learners may also be eligible for 16 to 19 Bursary Fund



# There is still time to attend some open evenings:

## Darlington College:

Wednesday 20th November 2024, 5.30PM – 7.30PM

Thursday 23rd January 2025, 5.30PM – 7.30PM

Thursday 20th March 2025, 5.30PM – 7.30PM

Monday 23rd June 2025, 3.30PM – 6.30PM

## QE Sixth Form:

Saturday 23rd November 2024 (10.30am – 2.00pm)

Wednesday 19th February 2025 (5.00pm – 7.30pm)

## Richmond Sixth Form:

Contact them directly to arrange a visit.

## MPCT, Darlington:

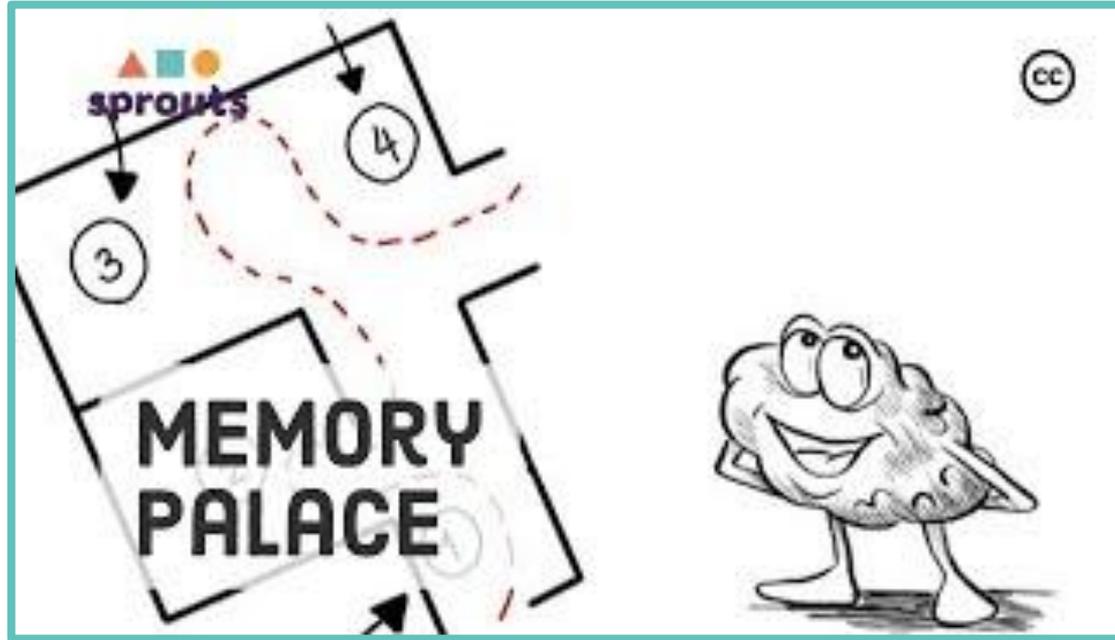
Pupils have a special assembly in a few weeks to find out more.

*Mrs Porritt will be coming round Tutor groups in the next few weeks to offer support completing application forms for all colleges. Interviews then take place in the new year.*



# How much do you remember?

Click the link below to play the video.



# thank you

for attending our  
**Year 11 Parents:  
Preparing For  
Your Child's  
Exams event**



**RISEDALE** A family of learners