

# STUDY TECHNIQUES

There are a number of different techniques that you can use to help support your child's studying.

Here are some ideas to try:

## MEMORY CARDS

Using memory cards is a good way to help you remember vocabulary and terminology

Some suggestions for using them:

For each topic, write up one set of index cards with the word on the front, and the definition on the back. Shuffle them and let your child test themselves, then you test them.

## MINDMAPS

Mind Mapping is an important technique that improves the way children take notes, and supports and enhances their creative problem solving. By using Mind Maps, they can quickly identify and understand the structure of a subject and the way that pieces of information fit together, as well as recording the raw facts contained in normal notes. Help them make some mind maps.

## USING ACRONYMS

This is a good strategy to remember information in any order that can be remembered. An acronym is a word that is formed from the first letter of each fact to be remembered.

## DECORATE THEIR ROOM

Let them make their room a revision centre – on their walls they can put up notes, post its and bright diagrams. This way, whatever they are doing, they are looking at their revision notes

## FRIENDS

It can be great to get together with friends and revise, let them invite their friends round, as long as that is what they actually end up doing – not just having a chat. If you want to get involved try quizzing them all!

# USEFUL BOOKS AND WEBSITES

## THE SCHOOL BLOG SITE

<http://rhs-exams.blogspot.com/>

Leckie & Leckie past papers

Study Skills – Leckie & Leckie

[www.bbc.co.uk/schools/communities/onions\\_treet/skills](http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/communities/onions_treet/skills)

[rhs-exams.blogspot.com](http://rhs-exams.blogspot.com)

[www.bbc.co.uk/scotland/education/bitesize/](http://www.bbc.co.uk/scotland/education/bitesize/)

[www.ltscotland.org.uk/resources](http://www.ltscotland.org.uk/resources)

[www.neo.org/parents/index.html](http://www.neo.org/parents/index.html)



# Study Guide



# FOR PARENTS

# GETTING INVOLVED

In study after study, researchers discover how important it is for parents to be actively involved in their child's education. When parents are involved in their children's education, kids do better in school.

## HOW?

There are a number of ways that you can get involved and when parents are involved in school, children go farther in school – and the schools they go to are better.

Some ways to get involved:

- Encourage your child to aspire to do well.
- Read to your child
- Check homework every night
- Discuss your child's progress with teachers
- Help the school to meet targets set
- Limiting TV viewing and use of the computer on school nights
- Ask "How was school today?"

You may not be able to do all of this but getting involved makes the difference. Whatever you're level of involvement make it consistent and stick with it because YOU will make an important difference to your child's education.

## A GOOD PLACE TO STUDY

**When your child is studying it is important that the place they are studying will be somewhere that:**

*IS AVAILABLE*



Can they use it when required? You may need a timetable of times they can use it.

*IS FREE FROM INTERRUPTIONS AND DISTRACTIONS*



They may need to put a do not disturb sign on their door.

*HAS ALL THE MATERIALS YOU NEED*



Make sure they have enough pens, pencils etc. If using a computer, it should be in the study place.

*HAS THE SPACE YOU REQUIRE*



Do they have storage space for your books? Is the desk/table big enough?

*A COMFY CHAIR*



Not too comfy, that might make them sleepy!

*A COMFORTABLE TEMPERATURE*



Too warm? Makes them sleepy.  
Too cold? Might slow them down.



## MANAGING STUDY TIME



They only have so many hours in a day – we can not change that, but we have to make sure your children decide how to use them best!

They need to have a STUDY PLAN. It is important they you are involved in this and can support your child to stick to it.

When making the plan make sure they are:

- Realistic about the time they have
- Making the study sessions reasonable in length with regular short breaks
- Spending time on all of their subjects

## LEARNING STYLES

A learning style is a way of learning. Not everyone learns in the same way, your child will have their own style and its important they know how they best learn.

Help them to identify the way that suits them.

There are 3 learning styles often identified in student:

### 1 AUDITORY

Auditory learners learn best when information is presented in an auditory language format. This would mean that they learn best when the teacher talks and there are class discussions. It may help if they make audio tapes of notes or read aloud. You could help to make these.

### 2 VISUAL

Visual learners learn best when information is presented in a written language format or in pictures or diagrams. This would mean that they learn best when the teacher does writing on the board, gives handouts or uses the projector.

### 3 TACTILE/KINESTHETIC

Tactile/Kinesthetic learners learn best in hands-on learning setting where they can physically manipulate in order to learn about it. This would mean that they learn best when you move out and learn better when they have an actual object in their hands rather than a picture of it.

**Their learning style is their strength. Help them identify it and use it when they can!**

