

Your Summer Transition Challenge

Welcome to your Summer Challenge! Year 11 is the most important year of your school career, and the secret to success is preparation. By completing these three phases, you will arrive in September 2026 confident, organised, and ready to succeed.

Boost Your Prom Passport!

While completing this summer challenge is not compulsory to get your Prom Passport, it is an **excellent way to earn valuable points** toward it! Your form tutors will check Google Classroom in **September 2026**. To claim your passport points, simply upload photographic evidence for each phase and weekly task as detailed below.

Phase 1: Master the Science of Revision

Most students "revise" by highlighting notes or simply re-reading textbooks. However, cognitive science proves that these passive methods are the least effective way to study because they keep your brain on autopilot. To make information actually stick in your long-term memory, you must force your brain to work actively. This trial activity is designed to teach you **Active Recall**—the ultimate revision technique you will use across all your subjects next year.

Your Task: "The Feynman Explainer"

This technique involves breaking down a complex topic into simple, easy-to-understand language. By trying to explain it simply, you instantly highlight the gaps in your own understanding.

1. **Pick a tricky topic** that you struggled with or covered in Year 10 (for example, fractions, cell structure, or a key historical event) and read through your notes or a guide.
2. **Close your resources completely.** On a blank sheet of paper, write a simplified explanation of that topic as if you were teaching it to a 10-year-old. Do not use complex language or jargon.
3. **Open your notes again.** Compare your explanation with the facts. Use a red pen to correct any mistakes and fill in any gaps or details you forgot.
4. **Evidence:** Take a clear photo of your red-penned explanation sheet and upload it to the Phase 1 folder on Google Classroom.

17 Phase 2: Design Your Perfect Dual-Purpose Routine

A revision timetable is not about scheduling eight hours of studying a day or locking yourself in your room. It is about building a realistic, healthy routine where study blocks co-exist with your normal life, hobbies, and relaxation. Designing your routine now serves **two vital purposes**: first, it helps you balance these six weeks of summer holidays; second, it acts as a direct template you will use to schedule your study blocks when GCSE exams begin next spring. Establishing this habit now ensures that scaling up your revision next year feels completely natural.

Step 1: Map your life non-negotiables first

Using a blank weekly planner grid, block out sleep (aim for 8-9 hours!), family meals, hobbies, socialising with friends, jobs, and relaxation. Always schedule your life and rest first to prevent burnout.

Step 2: Schedule your "Power Hours" & "Buffer Zone"

Find two slots on weekdays and three slots on weekend days to label as "Power Hours". These are your focused study slots where your phone goes into another room. Block out Sunday evening completely as your "Buffer Zone" to use for catching up if your week got busy.

Step 3: Annotate & Upload

At the bottom of your weekly routine, write a short paragraph explaining how you plan to scale up these study blocks next spring when your actual exam revision begins. Take a photo of your annotated timetable and upload it to the Phase 2 folder on Google Classroom.

Phase 3: The 6-Week "Ticking Over" Menu

This menu is designed to keep your brain sharp and active without causing burnout before the school year even starts. Each week is built around a single theme, offering three logical steps: a core action, a deep dive to develop the skill, and an active output to prove your understanding. These tasks target core literacy, numeracy, and retrieval skills that will make you successful in **every single one** of your WJEC GCSE subjects. Submit your evidence weekly to Google Classroom.

Week / Theme	Task 1: The Core Action	Task 2: The Deep Dive	Task 3: The Active Output	Evidence to Upload
Week 1 Active Reading	Locate and read a high-quality newspaper or magazine article in full. Read actively and highlight the main arguments. <i>Use this WalesOnline Obesity Article.</i>	Create a structured table listing the main arguments for and against the topic. Write down three specific persuasive techniques the writer used to influence the reader.	Identify three ambitious words from the article. Look up and write down their definitions, then draft a short paragraph using all three words correctly.	Photo of your handwritten table and vocabulary paragraph.
Week 2 Maths Skills	Log into your school MathsWatch account. Select a core Year 10 topic (such as fractions, percentages, or ratios) and watch the full instructional video, taking structured notes.	Complete 10-15 interactive practice questions on MathsWatch on your chosen topic. Ensure you show your step-by-step working out on a physical pad as you go.	Create a permanent "Maths Revision Card" summarizing the key steps, a model question with working, and common pitfalls to avoid in your own words.	Screenshot of MathsWatch score AND photo of your revision card.
Week 3 Communication	Think of a major change you would like to see in your school or local community. Create a detailed mindmap listing at least five arguments for and three counter-arguments.	Draft a formal three-paragraph letter to an authority figure (such as your Headteacher or local councillor) persuading them to make the change. Use formal sign-offs.	Edit and polish your letter. Intentionally insert rhetorical questions, a rule of three, emotive language, and advanced punctuation like colons and semicolons.	Photo of your polished, final handwritten letter.
Week 4 Science Core	Go to the official WJEC Blended Learning website. Pick one Biology, Chemistry, or Physics unit. Read through the interactive slides carefully to review the content.	Complete the "Knowledge Check" quizzes and activities at the end of the module. Re-read the interactive slides for any questions you dropped marks on.	Close your screen. Create a visual, one-page summary sheet (with diagrams, equations, and key definitions) of the science topic entirely from memory.	Screenshot of completed quiz score AND photo of summary sheet.
Week 5 Bitesize Prep	Access the BBC Bitesize WJEC GCSE portal. Choose any subject you are studying in school. Read through three consecutive study guide pages.	Complete the interactive revision test at the bottom of the Bitesize guide. Retake the test if you score below 80% to ensure you understand.	Close your device. On a blank page, write a 10-point bulleted summary of the core facts entirely from memory. Highlight the top three most vital facts.	Screenshot of Bitesize score AND photo of your 10-point summary.
Week 6 Organisation	Clear and clean your home study workspace. Recycle old folders, test papers, and loose notes. Organize your stationary and find a quiet space away from distractions.	Set up physical lever-arch folders with dividers (or digital desktop folders) labeled clearly for each of your GCSE subjects to store your Year 11 resources.	Write your "September Blueprint": set three specific academic goals you want to achieve in Year 11 and list one immediate action you will take in week one.	Photo of your clean workspace, organized folders, and your goal sheet.